



*Small school, big hearts.  
Wise, Responsible and Kind  
like the Good Samaritan.*

**Newsletter Term 1 Number 4 Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

*Values of the term: Unity, Courage, Peace*

**“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller**

Dear Parents,

Lots of exciting learning happening in school this week – here is a snapshot from class teachers:

Acorns have been finding out about our learning to learn characters Cooperate Clara, have a go Herb, don't give up Donald, concentrate Connie, imagination Ivy and enjoy learning Eric. We also enjoyed our mystery reader visiting and our first PE lesson completing an obstacle course!

Beech have been starting on their own story based on *The Smeds and The Smoos* by Julia Donaldson – the children have really enjoyed exploring this book. In their challenge time on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, they have been exploring the seasons, crafting with play doh, jumping along maths number lines, skipping and many other activities. Challenge time is part of our continuous provision for our Beech children which is set up as stations where children learn through play and exploration.

Sycamore - we have been learning about the physical features of Scandinavia. We also finished our first portfolio work – the children wrote letters to Professor Brownstone to persuade him to choose them to visit his family vault full of ancient artefacts.



*Quiet reading in Oak*

Oak class have been writing an informal letter based on our key text - *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*, describing how evacuating a country might feel. In science, we identified permeable, transparent and hard materials in the classroom; in maths we have been solving long multiplications questions (Y6) and column addition/subtraction problems (Y5). We have also been busy researching countries that were heavily involved in World War II; in Circle time we have separated our wants and needs in life using Maslow's hierarchy of needs as a talking point – a very busy week!

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## **SEND review**

At the end of the summer term, we had a trust review of our SEND/Inclusion provision here at Buckland. The review covered various aspects of SEND provision, including outcomes for pupils, leadership, teaching quality, assessment, monitoring, resource use, and the overall quality of SEND provision – it was very thorough. The review was overwhelmingly positive, identifying many strengths – here are some of the key takeaways from the report:

- Buckland has a strong ethos and high expectations for SEND students.
- A personalised approaches to SEND support, including a nurture space.
- The school has a relentless and creative drive to identify solutions and make adaptations at an individual level based on need.
- Strong enrichment provision built into the curriculum which means that every week there is something happening- this could be a performance; a spiritual/ creative/ community event.
- Embedded interventions and tailored enrichment activities, including Forest School.
- As a small school, the approach to inclusion is bespoke, tailored and targeted to individuals.
- The community ethos of the school supports those strong relationships between adults and children, and responding to need is just ‘part and parcel’ of how the school runs.
- Inclusion is clearly at the heart of leadership decisions.

The SEND report is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Miss Hatton, our fantastic SENCO, along with our amazing teachers and TAs who work tirelessly to support all our children. Their unwavering commitment ensures that every pupil receives the care and attention they need. While we had a few development points, such as promoting our SEND successes more visibly - we are addressing that right now. The remarkable efforts of our staff deserve to be celebrated, and this is just one way to showcase the amazing work they do every day.

Here is a link to some excellent SEND resources that are designed to support both parents and professionals – we have found them useful – I hope you do too:  
<https://www.newboldhope.com/top-10-tips1>

## **FOBS**

A heartfelt thank you to Charlotte Baxter, who has stepped down as Chair of FOBS after six dedicated years. Charlotte's incredible efforts have raised over £20,000 - an outstanding achievement that has benefited all the children at the school immensely. The Buckland team would like to express our gratitude to Charlotte for all the incredible work she's done – thank you Charlotte!

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### **National Teaching Assistant Day**

Today is National Teaching Assistant Day - though I believe we should celebrate TAs every day! It's a time to acknowledge the incredible work our TAs do for the children, parents, and the entire team. We simply couldn't manage without them - their contributions are amazing. To mark the occasion, we treated ourselves to scones with cream and jam; there were some heartwarming moments as children personally thanked their TAs, reflecting the values of kindness and generosity we hold so dear at Buckland.

### **Parent reps meeting**

Thank you to our parent reps for your valuable feedback in our meeting on Wednesday. It's encouraging to hear so many positives, and we're grateful for your insights on areas where we can provide even more support or make small adjustments. Your input is key in helping us continue to improve and ensure the best outcomes for all our children.

### **Census day menu**

Attached you will find the census day menu for Thursday, 3rd of October. On census day, schools provide important information that helps determine core funding, and one of the key areas reviewed is school lunches in Rec-Yr 3. The more children who have lunch on census day, the more funding we receive. So, if your child would like to try the menu on Thursday, please encourage them to join in!

### **Mental health and wellbeing**

In our Wellbeing worship this week, we watched a short animation called: '5 steps to wellbeing' The 5 steps are abbreviated as MAGIC – Mindful, Active, Generous, Interested, Connected. We also talked about why we have a wellbeing worship every week and why it is just as important to look after our mental health as our physical health. Please share the animation with your child if you are able – it is a powerful message: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6bz\\_ekkrYA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6bz_ekkrYA)

This week's wellbeing message is from Sophia (Y6):  
"Be what you want to be. Not what others want you to be."

### **Cake sale**

A huge well done to James Pugh and family for their awesome Cake Sale. The total amount raised for Rosie's Rainbow Fund will be revealed next week – well done James – we will all be enjoying some cake at home this evening!



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### Vacancies

We currently have a temporary vacancy for a TA for 2 days a week and for a permanent TA 3 days a week. If you know of anyone who might be interested – please share.

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140278/EDV-2024-BCEPS-36245>

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140278/EDV-2024-BCEPS-69434>

### Achievements

House	Horse	Ox	Dragon
Weekly total	93	85	96
<b>Running total</b>	239	227	245

This week's certificates have been awarded to:

Acorns – Noah R and Alex M

Beech – Anna and William O

Sycamore – Lilah and Iris

Oak – Matilda and James T

Congratulations to all.

### Godly Play

Please find attached information from Reverend Talisker for Godly Play which is taking place at St Peter's Church, Charney Bassett Sunday 29th September, 10.30 am.

Have a lovely weekend everyone -

**Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team.**