



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

Newsletter Term 1 Number 1 Friday 6th September 2024

Values of the term: Unity, Courage, Peace

Corinthians 1:10. I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

Dear Parents, welcome back after the summer holidays – it has been lovely to hear about the children’s many adventures and to see them all back at school well rested and ready to go! We have had a calm and settled first 3 days back, it has been wonderful to see children playing in the playground again, hear their laughter and watch them engaged and working in lessons.

Zones of regulation

During our inset days, our staff team revisited the Zones of regulation, which is a strategy we use to help children understand and manage their emotions, behaviour, and sensory needs. It divides feelings and states of alertness into four color-coded zones:

- **Blue Zone:** Feeling low, tired, sad, or unmotivated.
- **Green Zone:** Calm, focused, and ready to learn (the ideal state for school).
- **Yellow Zone:** Excited, frustrated, or anxious – emotions that are starting to escalate.
- **Red Zone:** Extremely upset, angry, or out of control.

Throughout the autumn term, children will be having lessons about the Zones, which will help them to recognise which "zone" they are in, supporting them to learn strategies to regulate their emotions, helping them make better choices and to thrive in school. The Zones of Regulation supports emotional development and encourages self-regulation, contributing to a positive learning environment - they are a key part of our Positive Relations (Behaviour) Policy, which is available on our school website.

Parents

Timings of the day - please note school is open from 8.45am (not earlier as staff are preparing for the day) and finishes at 3.15pm. Children and parents are welcome to stay on the grounds for children to have a play, however, please can you have left the grounds by

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3.45pm, as this is when our After School Club children come outside. Many thanks for your continued support and understanding with this.

Cars

Thank you for helping us to keep everyone safe through using the memorial hall car park and surrounding roads rather than Summerside road. If you are driving down Summerside, please can you keep to a snail's pace – a few cars have been coming past quite quickly – it is such a busy time during drop off and we all need to work together to keep children and adults safe as they are walking to school.

Open Tuesdays

On a Tuesday after school, you are welcome to pop into your child's classroom and have a look around and see their books. It is a lovely chance for children to share their learning with you and talk about what they have been doing. Please bear in mind that teachers will be busy with after school activities – just let your child show you – they know where everything is!

Safeguarding

Please note that Mrs Brown is now the Designated Safeguarding Lead in school (DSL), Ms Hatton and Ms Betts are our Deputy DSLs (DDSL). Mr Stevens and Mrs Elliott will be doing the Deputy DSL training soon – we will notify you when they are also DDSLs. Please share any concerns about children with one of the DSLs; ensuring children's safety and well-being is everyone's responsibility.

Office

Calendar -

Next week we will be sending out key dates for the year – please look out for this. Mrs Johnson will be updating the website calendar over the next few weeks, which can be linked to your own calendar – always handy. Any changes to the diary will be communicated as early as possible but hopefully everything will go ahead as planned! You will be able to see how the events link with our curriculum this term and the extra-curricular opportunities the children will benefit from. Thank you, as always, for supporting - some activities will have a small parent voluntary contribution.

Curriculum

Class teachers have sent out curriculum overviews which will offer a sense of what your child will be learning during the Autumn term and how their learning fits with our current curriculum values – Unity, Courage, Peace. Please feel free to share any thoughts or input

you may have. We always appreciate having additional resources or external visitors in school to further enrich our experiences.

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Staff

We are delighted to welcome Mr Henry as our new Sycamore teacher and Mrs Bull who is working as a TA in Acorns class – many of you will know Mrs Bull from working here before as well as having had children in the school. We are counting our blessings that she has joined us again and to have found such strong additions to our Buckland team.

Staff emails

We understand that parents may need to contact class teachers from time to time, and we welcome your communication. However, please be mindful that teachers are often very busy with their responsibilities during and after the school day. We kindly ask that you consider the timing of your emails and understand that responses may not always be immediate, especially outside of working hours. Your patience is greatly appreciated as we work to balance all children's needs.

Our staff emails have changed – below are the new ones - although the old emails still work – they just come through to our new email accounts – the wonders of modern technology!

Class teachers:

kihatton@buc.cambrianlt.org
haelliott@buc.cambrianlt.org
degorham@buc.cambrianlt.org
johenry@buc.cambrianlt.org
jastevens@buc.cambrianlt.org

Our school office:

office@buc.cambrianlt.org

Ms Betts:

cabetts@buc.cambrianlt.org

Mrs Brown:

embrown@buc.cambrianlt.org

Mental health

Each week a child in Oak class will share a mental health/wellbeing message in the school newsletter. The aim is that children will try to incorporate the message in their day-to-day activities the following week. Please share the message with your child at home and discuss what the meaning is.

This week's message is from James in Year 6 "Be yourself and you shall succeed"

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Achievements

Next Friday, we will start adding up achievement points (house-points). These are rewarded to children for working hard - we reward effort as well as excellence in work. During the Autumn term, children are working towards achieving their bronze Buckland School badge which requires 30 house points. We aim for most children to have achieved this by Christmas. Every child is also part of either - Ox, Horse or Dragon house. Across the academic year, there are three badges to be earned: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Our pastoral awards are recognised by the Fruits of the Spirit tree cards, which are awarded to one child per class each day.

This week's certificates have been awarded to:

All of Big Acorns, All of Beech, Leo, Orest, Nestor and Thea.

Have a lovely weekend, I hope that the weather is kind for us all!

Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team.