



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

Newsletter Term 1 Number 4 Friday 26th September 2025

Values of the term: Belief, Trust, Respect

**‘Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.’ -
Nelson Mandela**

Dear all,

We’ve had a busy and happy week in school, making the most of the lovely sunshine. The children have settled well into the rhythm of school life now, and it’s been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and smiles throughout the week. Here’s what’s been happening in classes this week -

Acorns have continued to find out about our learning to learn characters; Imagination Ivy and Keep Improving Ivan. We have also been sharing our favourite stories. Big Acorns have been enjoying making their arms and fingers strong through our dance moves and threading activities. Little Acorns have been playing lots of turn taking games. We all enjoyed exploring the wheeled vehicles in PE and riding around the playground safely.

Beech class have had a good week in school. In writing, we have been thinking about rhyming and using our rhymes to make bug poems. In Maths, we have been continuing our work on place value. We have estimated numbers on a numberline, compared and ordered numbers. In science, we learned about microhabitats and went outside to see if we could find some. In Art, we were printing using leaves. The children have continued to learn map skills in geography and lots of them enjoyed designing their own bedrooms. Through challenge time, we have thought carefully about our letter and number formations, writing super sentences and drawing minibeasts. We have also been learning about Zones of Regulations. This week we learned about how we feel when we are 'blue' and what we can do to try and get back to green - ask your child at home and see if they can remember!

Sycamore - This week, we’ve been busy writing our own recounts, inspired by The Great Kapok Tree. In Maths, we’ve been consolidating our work on place value by comparing, ordering and rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. Our Geography lessons have taken us deeper into the wonders of the rainforest, and in Computing we’ve been learning all about how to stay safe online.

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Oak class have had another busy week in school.

At the start of the week, we had an excellent Fire Safety workshop, led by Niah's Dad. All children have been provided with a booklet - hopefully your child has shared these with you. In Maths, the Y6s have been solving long multiplication questions. Next week....long division! The Y5s have been solving multi-step addition and subtraction word problems. In guided reading, the class have been analysing the word choices that different authors intend to have on their readers. The class have drafted, edited and then re-written a chapter from Wolf Brother to create their first portfolio piece of the year. Yesterday in Science, the class used fossil evidence to describe how living things have changed over time. They created a fantastic picture showing the types of fossils in different layers. Today in Computing, the class described the impact of reading negative comments about yourself online as part of our Internet Safety scheme this term.

Safeguarding - A note on PEGI ratings

Please find attached a poster with information on PEGI ratings.

These age ratings are in place to help protect children from content that may not be suitable for their age, such as violence or inappropriate language. This is especially important for platforms like Roblox, where a wide range of games aimed at different age groups can all be accessed on the same platform. Please do take a moment to check the rating before your child plays a new game – it's an easy way to help keep them safe online and ensure they're enjoying age-appropriate fun. In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as inappropriate content, peer pressure and online spending.



Attendance

Regular school attendance is vital for every child's education. Each day of learning builds on the last, and consistent attendance ensures that children are able to make steady academic progress, develop essential social skills, and fully participate in the life of our school community. Research shows that even small amounts of absence can have a negative impact on learning and achievement. For example, missing just one day every two weeks adds up to almost a month of lost learning over the school year.

While we understand that absence due to illness is sometimes unavoidable, we encourage families to prioritise attendance whenever possible. Establishing strong routines around punctuality and attendance not only benefits children's current learning but also instils positive habits that will support them throughout their education and beyond. We greatly appreciate your continued support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and arrives on time, ready to learn.

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Next week –

Monday – Flu vaccinations R-Y6

Tuesday – Cross country KS2 – info has gone out to children who are taking part

Acorn's reading meeting in school hall at 2.30pm – all Acorns parents' welcome

Wednesday – Beech reading meeting 3.30pm in Beech class – all Beech parents' welcome

Thursday – 9.30am Harvest Service at St Mary's – all welcome

Art after school club

Lindsay Viner's new art club has been a huge success! Here is an update from Lindsay and a photo of some of the lovely art work.



We've just completed our delicious two-week project inspired by contemporary mixed-media artist **Chila Kumari Singh Burman**. The children explored some of her colourful, playful artworks and we chatted about what inspires her. A lovely detail the children enjoyed was that, when Chila was a child, her dad owned an ice cream van - so ice creams often appear in her work! She's

also known for her love of bright colours, sparkle, and gems, which we carried through into our own creations. Over the past two weeks, the children designed and built their very own **3D ice creams**. Last week, we made the structures using egg boxes, tissue paper, straws, and masking tape, before adding paint. This week, the real magic happened as the children decorated their sculptures with glittering gems and sequins to bring them to life! Those who finished quickly had the chance to begin designing their own **Chila Kumari Singh Burman-inspired ice cream vans**, and anyone who didn't quite get there will have time to finish in the coming sessions.

If you'd like to learn more about Chila Kumari Singh Burman's vibrant work, you can explore it here: [Tate Kids – Chila Kumari Singh Burman](#).

I can't wait to get creative with everyone again next week!

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Lego

Do you have any spare Lego bricks at home that are no longer being used? Our school would love to give them a new home! Lego is a wonderful resource for building creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving in the classroom. If you'd like to donate, please bring any pieces (big or small) to the school office. Thank you for helping us inspire little builders!

Join Our Team!

We are still urgently looking for a friendly lunchtime supervisor (5 days a week) and an enthusiastic after-school club supervisor (Wednesdays and Thursdays). If you enjoy working with children and would like to be part of our school community, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact the school office for more details.

Advert for Lunchtime supervisor: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140278/EDV-2025-BCEPS-42359>

Advert for After School Club supervisor: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/140278/EDV-2025-BCEPS-86507>

Please spread the word!

Achievements

House	Horse	Ox	Dragon
Weekly total	42	80	71
Termly total	153	253	210

This week's certificates have been awarded to:

Acorns – Willis and Aurelia

Beech – Betsy and Emmy B

Sycamore – George and Forrest

Oak – Henry and Orest

Have a lovely weekend all!

Mrs Brown and the Buckland Team.