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April 15<sup>th</sup> 2024

## Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to our Star of the Week winners from each class. The class teacher chooses one child each week who has demonstrated one or more of our core values of: courage, humility, wisdom, compassion and perseverance. Last week's winners were:

Little Owl	Rowan
Kestrel	Savannah
Sparrowhawk	Ata
Buzzard	Freddie F

#### Summer Term

Welcome back to the summer term (hopefully someone tells the weather that at some stage!). This is the term when the National Assessments take place:

- May 13<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> Yr 6 KS2 National Assessment (SATs)
- Any time from June 3<sup>rd</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Yr 4 have their Multiplication Check
- Week beginning the 10<sup>th</sup> June, Yr 1 (and any Yr 2 children who did not reach a score of 32 in Yr 1) undertake their Phonics Check

In addition to the above assessments, Teacher Assessment takes place for Yr 6 writing and for all of Little Owls. In a change this year, there are no National Assessments for Yr 2 children.

## Prayer Tree

Lot of children brought in prayers and added them to the prayer tree in the hall during the last week of term. We will leave the tree in place over the next few weeks so that the children can continue to share their prayers with the rest of the school.

#### Persistent Absence

"Persistent absence is when a pupil enrolment's overall absence equates to 10% or more of their possible sessions."

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Persistent absence is an area that the government are specifically focusing on reducing. There are due to be changes to absence, including the use of fines, from September. A key change is that a school will no longer be able to have a blanket position of not fining. All schools will have to follow National fine thresholds. The following hopefully explains this:

From September, schools will have to consider a fine if a pupil misses 10 sessions (half days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks. They should "not have a blanket position of issuing or not issuing penalty notices".

The threshold can be met with "any combination of unauthorised absence". For example, four sessions in term time plus six instances of arriving late.

The period of 10 weeks can also span "different terms or school years".

But councils "retain the discretion to issue one before the threshold is met". This could include where parents "are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below threshold, or for repeated absence for birthdays or other family events".

Over the next couple of weeks, we will send a letter to the parents of all pupils who currently exceed the 10% absent threshold so that you are aware of the potential impact from September.

## e-Safety

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 5pm, Dorset House are hosting an e-Safety talk and welcoming parents from local schools. No need to book, just turn up at 5pm if you would like to attend.

## Covid Guidance

Most Covid guidance has now been withdrawn. The exception can be found on the NHS website **here**.

## **PE and Bury Rangers**

Please ensure your child has a pair of wellies or outdoor boots that can be worn just for the Bury Rangers session – they will need another pair of shoes for the rest of the day.

A reminder of what children should be wearing for PE Kit:

**PE Kit:** 





Green Bury T-shirt, black shorts (tracksuits may be worn for outside lessons), plimsolls or trainers. Plus shin pads and mouth-guards for Sparrowhawks and Buzzards

Children to attend school in PE kit or Bury Rangers clothes for the relevant days\* as follows:

	<b>Bury Rangers</b>	PE
Monday		
Tuesday	Little Owls	
Wednesday	Sparrowhawks	Everyone
Thursday	Kestrels	
Friday	Buzzards	

\*There will of course be times when these days need to change and we will give as much notice as possible

**Diary Dates** 

I will try to give you as much notice as possible about forthcoming events at school. We will try not to change dates and times, but sometimes we do need to due to circumstances beyond our control.

Please keep checking these dates and times as I will update them every week.

Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Little Owls visit to the farm
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	FGB
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	SPLASH
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Ambassador School Day – Bees (more to follow from Miss Willett)
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Sports Morning
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	School Photos
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Sussex Day
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Transition meeting for new Yr R parents
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Transition Day (including new starters visiting the school)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	FGB
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July – square brackets = evening show only	KS2 Production (2pm and 6pm [Sparrowhawk Parents])
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July – as above	KS2 Production (9am and 6pm [Buzzard Parents])
Tuesday 16th July	Bee Day (more info from Miss Willett to follow)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	INSET 4
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET 5

## **Birthdays**

Children can wear their own clothes for the day (or a day either side of the holiday) when it is their birthday. Please do not send the children in with cakes or sweets to share. In its place, we

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thought that instead of sweets it would be a good idea to buy a book for the school/class. The children then present the book to the school in assembly before placing it in our school library (although most ask for it to be shared in their class first). Please do inscribe a message in the book so that it keeps reminding the child of their birthday every time either they, or a friend, borrow the book. The link below is an Amazon wish list where the staff and children have selected some books that they would like for school.

## Birthday Book wish list

Please do not feel constrained by the list, nor feel you have to get them through Amazon –locally we have great bookshops in Arundel and Petworth both of which have a very good selection of children's books. It is also great to receive a book chosen by your child because it issomething they are particularly interested in.

Please do add your views to <u>https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/</u>. It is incredibly helpful to us for you to share the positives of what is going on at Bury CE Primary; if you have the time and would like to share the good work we are doing then please do add your feedback. Excerpt below taken from ParentView website.

Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected.

We will use the information you provide when making decisions about which schools to inspect and when.

Click 'Give your views' to register and complete a survey to help your child's school improve.

It is parents' responsibility to inform the school of any changes to consent to administer medicine.

It is parents' responsibility to keep us informed of changes to your personal data and where the school process personal data solely on the basis that you have consented to the processing, you have the right to withdraw that consent.

Thank you for your continued support.

Thomas Moore, Headteacher