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Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to our STARs (Success, Teamwork, Aspiration, Resilience, Respect and Responsibility) of the week from each class. The class teacher chooses one child each week who has demonstrated one or more of our core values. Last week's winners were:

Kestrel	Alfie L
Sparrowhawk	Frida
Buzzard	A tie! Ivan and Zoey

## Covid update

Thanks to everyone's efforts in keeping Covid at bay our whole school attendance is really strong at present. Nationally, for the same period in 2019 (pre-Covid) average attendance was **96.07%**. In that same period this year, our attendance currently stands at **98.27%** - this is testament to everyone for their efforts so far this term. I have no doubt this figure is very easily subject to change as we hear of more cases locally, however it is worth highlighting how well we are all doing at getting the children into school where it is possible and therefore supporting them with their learning.

## Honey Raffle

**Not long left to get your tickets to win this piece of modern history! Bring in your £s for your chance to be entered into the competition (see below for how to enter)**

By now I would imagine most of the jars of honey that the children brought home are empty (please do send back the jars so that we can sterilise and hopefully use them again next year) and the taste of the sweet golden nectar is but a distant memory – but fear not. After we had filled the jars for the children and staff, we found we had enough honey to fill 3 x 1lb (454g) jars. This week and next we are giving everyone the chance to win one of the three jars and all it will cost you is a 'ticket' for £1. To avoid the exchange of tickets, in return for each £1, the teachers will write your name down (i.e. £5 = 5 x your name) and then add all names to a raffle to announce the winners on the 30<sup>th</sup> November newsletter. Most local honey is sold in smaller jars (340g) for £6. Given that this is the first ever batch of Bees Of Bury School Honey, I am sure it will only go up in value\* so I'd see your ticket as a potential investment opportunity.



## Staffing Update

As previously mentioned, Mrs Gammon's maternity will be taken on by Mrs Braun increasing her hours to full-time.

For Miss Willett's maternity cover we have been lucky to appoint another experienced teacher who is relocating to the area, bringing a wealth of experience teaching Year 3 and 4. Mr Lake will be joining the Bury team from January as Sparrowhawk's class teacher and is already in regular contact virtually and by email.

Whilst we will of course miss Mrs Gammon and Miss Willett over the next 12 months, we are also really pleased to have been able to bring in such high quality staff in their absence.

## Christmas

Despite Covid, we are trying to keep as many of our Christmas related activities as possible. Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December is Christmas lunch day (please book as soon as possible). We will also be 'Christingling' with Fr Peter. This will also be a day for the children to come to school in Christmas themed clothing – this could be a jumper or just some Christmas colours. We are not doing it as a fundraiser, it is just a chance for the children to come in in Christmas clothes.

The whole school will be watching Kestrel Class' Nativity on the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup> and we will also be sharing this with parents via a link sent out.

## Christmas Cards

Our usual central post box for Christmas will live in Kestrel Class this year as part of their post office. We are buying two other post boxes to be placed in Sparrowhawks and Buzzards. We will be receiving post for the **week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> December**. We will then leave the post for three days before sorting it and handing it out.

## A couple of requests

- Excellent to see children with hats and scarves etc – please make sure these are named along with coats and other items of clothing
- Please ensure the children's class water bottle contains water



**FOBS Raffle – FOBS have joined forces with PTAs across the country for your chance to win some money during December. See the note below from Mrs Creber.**

Welcome to Friends of Bury School's raffle page. We're excited to join The Big PTA Raffle 2020, this has been a really tough year for everyone and this is an opportunity to have some fun and raise money for our school.

For every ticket you will have 12 chances to win up to **£5,000!** At the same time we will raise 50% from every ticket sold supporting our PTA. It's a fantastic way to bring Parents, Carers, Teachers and the wider community together, in partnership with our PTA, and at the same time give something back. We hope to raise funds that can support and enrich the education of our children - we aim to provide extra resources for the children, improve the school environment as well as run extracurricular activities such as music, art and sport.

Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish you good luck!

Yours sincerely,

*Kim Creber*

**For your chance to win, follow the link here [FOBS Raffle](#)**

**The following remains unchanged but is here for your quick reference**

## **Covid guidance**

Symptoms for Covid-19 remain as:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you believe your child has any of these symptoms, then you need to get them tested or need to self-isolate for the 10 days (and 14 for the other family members). This is undoubtedly going to be a regular occurrence as we enter cold and flu season but is something we will all work through together. There will be many times when you will be unsure if the cough is continuous – if you are in any doubt, please err on the side of caution.

With regards to work being provided through Google Classroom, this will only be the case in where a child needs to isolate. If your child is absent for non-Covid related illness we will not be providing additional work as your child is unwell. Please also remember that the staff are teaching all day and therefore will not be able to get work to your child the same morning you call – the resources will be put together at the end of the school day and will be available through Google Classroom the following day.



## 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 – clearly this is not in-keeping with our Covid-19 Risk Assessment. In its place, we 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. If there was a message inscribed it would keep 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 don't 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 is something they are particularly interested in.

Please do add your views to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>. 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.



## 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. Unfortunately, a lot of what we had planned for this term is currently under review. As we are able to confirm additional things we will let you know.

Please keep checking these dates and times as I will update them every week. New dates added are in bold.

16 <sup>th</sup> November	NSPCC Assembly Week (see separate letter)
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Flu Vaccines
7 <sup>th</sup> – 18 December	FOBS Raffle – chance to win £5000
7 <sup>th</sup> December	This week for children to bring in Christmas cards and post them in their class letter box
14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Jon Edgar (sculptor) working with Buzzard Class (as long as guidance permits)
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch (this will be in two sittings to ensure children remain in bubbles)
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas themed clothing day
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle (in school only this year)
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Live (we hope) singing to the village and parents
21 <sup>st</sup> December	Start of Christmas Holidays
<del>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2021!</del>	<del>Bury Wassail 3 – 6pm Canceled</del>
Monday January 4 <sup>th</sup>	INSET
Tuesday May 4 <sup>th</sup>	INSET

Thank you for your continued support.

Thomas Moore,  
Headteacher

\*I am not at all sure about the honey increasing in value, this is purely an attempt at advertising – besides, the likelihood of you saving it and not devouring it is slim at best!