



Headteacher: Mr T Moore, B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

www.bury.w-sussex.sch.uk Email: office@bury.school

Tel: 01798 831502

December 2nd 2025

Dear parents and 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 the winners were:

Little Owl Quentin
Kestrel Jack H
Sparrowhawk Maggie
Buzzard Logan
Mrs Seymour Nancy

Writers of the Week

Each week, one child from each class will be chosen for displaying an element of excellent writing. Their work will be displayed in school for all to see.

Last week's winners were:

Little Owl Sonny Kestrel Imogen Sparrowhawk Isabella Buzzard Maisie

Mr Moore

I will be working off-site for several days over the final couple of weeks of term following a family emergency. I will be contactable via email as usual, but please bear with me if my response is slower than usual. Thank you for your understanding.

Christmas at Slindon

With many of our families coming from the wider local area, we have been asked to share the following exciting opportunity with you all:

Panto at St Mary's Church, Slindon







This year, in what may be a first for Slindon, there will be a professional panto in St Mary's church on Saturday 13th December at 3.30 p.m. You will find full details in the poster and the FAQ's.

While the panto, entitled "It's a boy!" has a Christian theme, it will be suitable for people of all faiths and none, and will appeal to young and old alike. Performed by a West End cast who specialise in putting on productions in schools and churches, tickets are already selling fast.

Tickets are available to purchase now and you will be able to pay for these by cash, cheque, BACS or card.

You can buy tickets before or after any Sunday service at St Mary's, at many other village events, and at one of our two Box Offices - the Slindon Village Box Office at Wades Cottage, School Hill run by Elaine Foakes or the Slindon Common Box Office at Fairbourne, Bridle Lane run by Debbie Stevens.

It promises to be an afternoon of fun and laughter not to be missed (Oh, no it's not! Oh, yes it is!!!!!) with lots of opportunities for children (and any willing adults) to become the stars of the show, so buy your tickets now before they all sell out!

Please contact Debbie on 07857 307 309 or debbie@stmarysslindonevents.org.uk if you have any questions.

Christmas

On Friday, we received a special visit from our MP, Andrew Griffith. He came to let Emily (Buzzard Class) know that she was one of his winners of his Christmas card competition. Emily chose to create a picture of Christmas trees (very similar to the ones available from Charlie's Farm Shop) in the rolling hills of the South Downs. Andrew confessed that Emily's was actually his favourite of the winning pictures. Emily's picture will now sit in pride of place on both the Prime Minister and King's mantle pieces.

Not only did Emily receive a certificate and copy of the card, she also received a large selections of colouring pencils. It seemed only fitting to ask Emily to draw Friday's cake raffle, where in front of the whole school she successfully picked her own name! If Charlie and Sarah don't already, now might be the time to purchase a lottery ticket and ask Emily to choose the numbers!

We will share a picture of Emily with her winning picture once Andrew Griffith has shared his with his constituents.

Upcoming Christmas dates

16th December - Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers for the day. We will have







Christmas lunch before heading to the village hall to sing for the villagers' annual Christmas Lunch. Pick up on this day will be from the village hall back room door from 3pm. At 15:15 we will walk club children back to school for usual pick up from the school hall.

18th December - Christingle 14.30 at the church. In a change to our usual last day of term, this year we will be having our Christingle on the penultimate day of term. We are hopeful that Dorset House will let parents park in their carpark again and will confirm this soon. Collection at 15.15 from the church. We will walk club children back to school for collection as normal.

Birthday Books

James from The Crow Road Books in Arundel has been in contact in support of our Birthday Books initiative. If you show James a link to our Wishlist he will give you a 10% discount on your purchase. Whilst James doesn't have all of the texts in stock, if you email him in advance james@thecrowroadbooks.co.uk, he will order the book in for you. Of course, your child does not need to pick a book from the list. If they have a favourite book that they would like to share with their friends, please pick it instead – it is all about encouraging a love of reading.

Christmas Lunch - left from previous week

On Tuesday 16th December, we will be having our school Christmas lunch before heading to the village hall to sing to the villagers. If you would like your child to have a Christmas lunch, the **deadline** for ordering is 4th December.

Links to Individual Class Pages

<u>Little Owls</u>

Kestrels

Sparrowhawks

Buzzards

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:

	Bury Rangers	PE
Monday	Sparrowhawks	Buzzards (Autumn 2)
Tuesday	Kestrels, Little Owls	
Wednesday		Everyone
Thursday		
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.

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Buzzards Trip to Planetarium	
Little Owls and Kestrels Nativity (9:30 and 14:00)	
14:30 – Pianists and Keyboardists' performance to parents	
Singing to the village and Christmas Lunch (deadline for payment 4 th December)	
Christingle at St John's (pick up from the church at 15:15)	
INSET 3 (25/26)	
KS2 Children's Concert at Chichester	
FGB	
SPLASH Assembly	
SPLASH Assembly	
FGB	
FGB	
KS2 National Assessments	
SPLASH Assembly	
Sports Morning	
School Photos	
Sussex Day (more to follow)	
Provisional KS2 Camp	
INSET 4 (25/26)	
Transition Day	
FGB	
INSET 5 (25/26)	

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 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 is something they are particularly interested in. James at The Crow Road Books in Arundel will give you 10% james@thecrowroadbooks.co.uk

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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Thomas Moore, Headteacher