



Bury C.E. Primary School



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September 23rd 2026

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	Lenny
Kestrel	Tommy
Sparrowhawk	Jago
Buzzard	Arthur
Support Staff	Ivy

Whole School Farm Topic – Brilliant Bury

Our great thanks to Southview Farm for welcoming us all this week. Sparrowhawks learnt lots on their visit on Monday. We have had to make a slight tweak to our next visits with Kestrels visiting tomorrow and Little Owls now joining Buzzards on Friday.



Thanks also to Caroline Harriott who has visited the children to talk about farming and to Sophie Polden who shared her sheep expertise with Buzzards.

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Bury C.E. Primary School



A Message from FOBS

FOBS Preloved Uniform Sale Friday 2nd October after school in the Playground

Plenty of donated items available to browse

There will be a sale rail too so come and grab a bargain!

Cash or card accepted

All proceeds go to Friends of Bury School

Friday 25th September – ‘Positive Communication’ Parent Workshop

The Early Help Dedicated Schools Team has been working hard to respond to schools’ requests for additional support for parents. As part of this, they have developed a series of workshops that they hope to deliver to parents in schools across the Rother Valley.

The workshops are designed to be relaxed and informal, providing an opportunity to learn, share ideas and ask questions following the presentation.

Last year, Bury was able to host several workshops on a range of different themes. Parents told us how valuable they found these sessions, particularly the practical advice and strategies they were able to take away and use at home.

 Friday 25th September

 9.00am

 School Hall – please enter via the fire exit doors

This workshop will explore the different ways we communicate with our children, including both verbal and non-verbal communication. It will also look at the important role that play can have in helping us connect and communicate with our children.

We will consider what we say, how we say it, and the importance of truly listening to our children. The session will also explore how communication can be affected when children are feeling overwhelmed and how we can support them during these times.

We hope you will be able to join us and look forward to welcoming you into school.

Kind regards,

Mrs Seymour



Bury C.E. Primary School



Writing Assessment - Using No More Marking to support our assessment of writing

At Bury CE Primary School, we are always looking for ways to strengthen our understanding of children's learning and ensure that our assessment practices are purposeful, reliable and manageable for staff.

Following careful consideration, we have decided to expand our use of **No More Marking**, an online writing assessment system which uses comparative judgement, to include artificial intelligence (AI), to support the assessment of pupils' writing.

We wanted to explain what this means for your child and how we will use the system.

What is No More Marking?

No More Marking uses a method called comparative judgement. Rather than assessing a piece of writing in isolation against a long list of criteria, judges compare two pieces of writing and decide which demonstrates greater success against the assessment criteria. By bringing together many comparisons, the system produces an assessment of the relative quality of the writing.

The system can use AI to undertake some of these comparisons, alongside human judgements. In a small school, this is especially useful as it gives us a larger number of comparisons and therefore more accurate outcomes. This helps to make the assessment process more manageable while providing information that teachers can use to understand pupils' writing.

Why are we using it?

We believe the approach has the potential to provide useful additional information about children's writing. It can help us to identify strengths, recognise areas for development and consider how pupils' writing progresses over time.

It will also give us another source of evidence to inform our teaching and curriculum planning.

Will AI be making decisions about my child?

AI will contribute to the comparisons made through the system. However, it will not replace the professional judgement of our teachers.

Our teachers know the children, understand their learning journeys and consider a wide range of evidence when assessing progress. No More Marking results will therefore be considered alongside teachers' knowledge of pupils, their work in class and other assessment information.

We will not treat an AI-generated score or ranking as a complete picture of a child's ability or use it in isolation to make significant decisions about them.

How will children's work and information be handled?

We will take appropriate steps to ensure that the use of the system is consistent with our responsibilities for data protection and the safe handling of children's work and information. We will also consider the provider's relevant documentation and requirements.

What does this mean for parents?

~~There is no action you need to take at this stage. We simply want to be open about the assessment~~

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Bury C.E. Primary School



approaches we use and how technology may support our work.

Our commitment remains the same: to know each child well, provide appropriate challenge and support, and help every pupil develop confidence and enjoyment in their writing.

If you have any questions about No More Marking or the use of AI in assessment, please do get in touch with the school.

Exciting Upcoming Events

Following an application in the summer term, we were lucky to be chosen for one of a select number of schools to be visited by 'Dennis to the Rescue' on Thursday 22nd October. Dennis is a mobile classroom that has been transformed from a refuse collection vehicle into an educational hub. Dennis will arrive at 9am and the car park will be inaccessible from this point to ensure the children's safety.

On December 3rd we are going to have a circus day – kindly funded by FOBS. This is an opportunity that has only presented itself this week with very limited spaces, so my thanks to FOBS for being able to agree to support it quickly which has allowed us to secure the day.

Nativity performances – 8th and 9th December at 9:30.

Links to Individual Class Pages

[Little Owls](#)

[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
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Bury C.E. Primary School



Monday	Sparrowhawks	
Tuesday		
Wednesday		Everyone
Thursday	Kestrels, Little Owls	
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.

Tuesday 1st September	INSET 1 (26/27)
Wednesday 16 th September	SPLASH
Wednesday 23 rd September	Everybody Read starts. 15:00 for Little Owls and Kestrel parents
Thursday 24 th September	Kestrels visit to Charlie's Farm
Friday 25 th September	Positive Communication workshop for Parents
Friday 25 th September	Buzzard and Little Owl visit to Charlie's Farm
Wednesday 30 th September	Yr 6 MRC Taster Day
Tuesday 6 th October	Phonics Workshop for parents (aimed at Little Owls and Kestrels Parents 8:50 in the School Hall)
Friday 9 th October	14:30 Harvest at St John's
Monday 12 th October	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 13 th October	Emily Nash – colour workshops with KS2
Wednesday 14 th October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 22 nd October	Recycling and Waste Prevention with Dennis Eagle Classroom Vehicle
Friday 23rd October	INSET
Wednesday 19 th November	SPLASH
Thursday 3 rd December	Circus Day! More to follow.
Tuesday 8 th December	9:30 Nativity performance
Wednesday 9 th December	9:30 Nativity performance
Monday 4th January 2027	INSET
Thursday 14 th January	FGB
Wednesday 20 th January	SPLASH
Wednesday 17 th March	SPLASH
Thursday 25 th March	FGB
Week Beginning 12 th April	Bikeability for Buzzards
Thursday 6 th May	FGB
Friday 28th May 2027	INSET
Thursday 8 th July	FGB
Wednesday 21st July 2027	INSET



Bury C.E. Primary School



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% discount if you show him this letter. If you are looking for something that is tricky to find, please email James in advance and he will do his best to help you

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