

Dear Families,

There is a feel of Autumn in the air and those noticeable changes to the trees and weather are just around the corner. This week saw many new families come and visit the school to learn more about how well things are done here and what we have to offer for the children who will be starting in September 2024. The events were well attended and represented by several members of the SFET, Governors and staff, so a big thank you to all for your continued support.

Best Wishes  
Darren Heatley

### Shout Out!



In response to the shout out, we have had several of you come forward to offer ways in which you can help, so thank you. Mrs Jones will be in touch soon to organise this with you. Last Thursday & Friday a team of parents worked within our school garden. We really appreciate their hard work and efforts. A very talented bunch who have made a huge difference.



### Staff Update

Mr Steer has worked hard to improve the school's premises and will be leaving us next week to take up another position as part of a team of caretakers at Edgeborough School. He is wished all the best in his new role and is thanked for all his help.

The post is advertised on [eteach](#) and if you know of anybody who may be interested, please make them aware of this and our fantastic school! In addition, South Farnham Educational Trust are promoting more fantastic opportunities on their website.

### CENSUS Day 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

This year the CENSUS day is 5<sup>th</sup> October and for this day only, there will be a [special menu](#) to encourage all children to have a school lunch on that day. If your child usually has a packed lunch, please encourage them to try a school meal on this day. If, however they do not like the lunch having tried it, they can of course eat their usual packed lunch which you provide.

## Autumn Menu Update from Twelve Fifteen

The new [Autumn Menu](#) is available on the school website.

## Open Afternoon 19<sup>th</sup> October 2.30 - 3.00pm

You are invited to come into your child's class to have an opportunity for them to show you their classroom and see their learning in their books. This will be instead of looking at books at the Learning Together Meetings (Parents Evening) as books will not be available.

Gates will open at 2.30pm and you will be able to enter via either gate. Please then look at your entry point below:

**Year 1 & Year 2** will need to ***enter in the usual way for drop off and pick up.***

**Year R** will need to ***enter the doors by the hall***, where an adult will direct you to your child's class.

Once you have seen your child's learning then you are welcome to wait on the playground until it is time to collect your child at 3.15pm. If you have children in different year groups, then you can visit both classrooms you can choose which order to do this in.

Please fill in this [form](#) to RSVP. This then allows us to buddy up children whose families are unable to attend.

## Learning Together Meetings - 31<sup>st</sup> October & 1<sup>st</sup> November

You are invited to attend a ***Learning Together Meeting*** where you can speak to your child's class teacher in a 10 minute 'slot'. Appointment slots will be available between 3.30pm and 6.00pm on both days in the school hall. Please look out for an email from the Office, alerting you that the slots have been released. Unfortunately, with this arrangement there will be limited space to wait, so if you can make arrangements for childcare, it would be very much appreciated. There is no expectation for children to attend these meetings following your feedback. Lastly, on these dates there will be no teacher led enrichment clubs. After "Cool Club" and TA led enrichment clubs will run as usual.

## Harvest Celebration

This year parents from Year 1 and 2 are separately invited to attend the Harvest Celebration which will take place at Busbridge Church. This promises to be a wonderful event full of singing, poetry and an address from one of the Church clergy.

Year 2 families are invited on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October and Year 1 on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October. On both days the service will start at 2.15pm. Please ensure you are seated before this time. Space is limited so please be considerate.

This year the Church will again be supporting the "Godalming Food Bank". They have made an appeal for the following items: cleaning products, toiletries and non-perishable food items. So please bring in any of these items on the day. We will be carrying these down to the Church, thank you in advance for your generosity.

## House Captains and School Council

Congratulations to our first house captains and school councillors. This year we have decided (and with the democratic vote from the children) to change these roles on a half termly basis. This is to give more children an opportunity to carry out these important school roles. Well done to the children below who have been voted into these roles.

The House Captains for this half term are:

**Team Baloo:** Emily & Sebbie

**Team Paddington:** Luna & Millie

**Team Rupert:** Alexander & Olivia

The School Council team for this half term are:

**Sun Bears:** Freya & Pandora

**Spectacled Bears:** Florence & Monty

**Brown Bears:** Emilia & Dougie

**Black Bears:** Cam & Tabs

Please watch this space for the eco-team representatives who are currently being decided.

## Parent Survey

Feedback from the parent survey last term has resulted in sharing the school's priorities. Here is a summary:

The curriculum continues to be a priority with an emphasis on subjects such as:

- **English** with fidelity to Little Wandle Reading and Phonics. Writing is also included, particularly with boys.
- **Mathematics** with a focus on calculations and speed retrieval of number facts.
- **Science**, which includes Woodland School that enriches the children's experiences of Science.
- **Early Years** with a drive to improve the learning areas both inside and outside and this has been shared at the PTA's AGM.
- **SEND** to ensure that expectations are high of all children and that early identification is understood.

In addition, Safeguarding vigilance remains a strong and key part of the school's culture and you have a role to play in this too – which is why the use of mobile phones is not allowed in the playground or around the school.

Other developments to note about the school's improvement journey are:

- Improvements for a stronger community feel to also involve children developing their understanding of British Values, Children's Rights and links to the school's values.

## PTA Update

Thank you to last year's Co chairs, Secretary and Treasurer who have helped organise and provide events for the school community to raise £14,000.

Thank you to all those parents who joined us for the AGM last week to learn more about how the PTA works and how the funds will be used on improving the quality of the Early Years and its environment e.g. storage, shelters and surface areas.

We welcome a new Chair, Treasurer and Secretary who will be able to support the planned events across the year. Further details will follow about these events and we look forward to hearing more in due course. However, coming home today is a letter about designing a [Christmas card](#) with details such as:

- This year the PTA are working with MyChildsArt.co.uk for the Christmas Card fundraiser and we hope you will support this event.
- Parents should find a BLANK Artwork Sheet in their child's book bag today (Fri 29<sup>th</sup> September).
- Return the completed Sheet(s) via your child's bookbag or to the school office by **Wednesday 11th October LATEST**.
- All the instructions on completing the Artwork Sheets and information about ordering process are outlined on the letter attached or can be found on Classlist.
- Please read ALL the instructions carefully so your child's artwork can be scanned by the company.
- This company has been chosen to allow parents/carers to order direct and have more control over delivery.



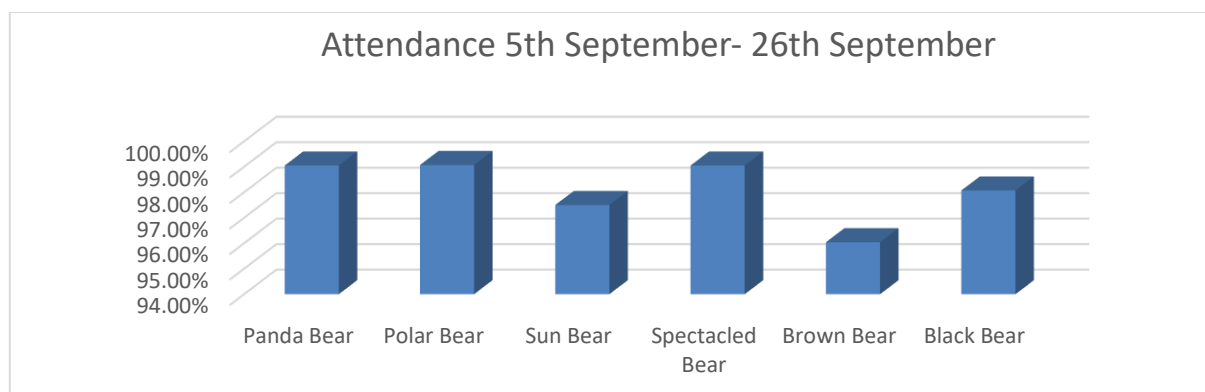
Just in case, you are still to do it and if you are a new parent, then please click on the link below to join the school's Classlist community - a great way to get more information about what's happening or expected at school. You will need to select "New starters 23/24" and then whichever class your child is in.

[Classlist - Kinder school communities](#)  
[classlist.page.link](#)

## Attendance

Excellent school attendance is a top priority at Busbridge Infant School, as attendance has been shown to be a key component in positive academic, social and wellbeing outcomes for children.

At our school, 100% attendance is the expected target and dedicated staff are in place to support with any issues that might impact your child's attendance. Whilst I acknowledge the thinking behind affordable holidays during term time, ***no holidays in term time are authorised***. Although this will not affect your decision to go, it may lead to the issue of a penalty notice. We now have a named Local Authority Inclusion Officer who visits termly.



## LATEST DATE CHANGES UPLOADED TO WEBSITE

New dates for your diaries including:

30<sup>th</sup> October - Book Fair  
31<sup>st</sup> October - Scare the teacher day.  
13<sup>th</sup> November - Anti- bullying week  
17<sup>th</sup> November - Children in Need  
24<sup>th</sup> November - Create & Make

Please make sure that you have checked the calendar on the website for any upcoming events for this term [here](#).

Teachers will update their class pages for the weeks ending:

**Autumn 1:** Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September & Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

**Autumn 2:** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December & Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

## Safeguarding

A few reminders:

- All staff and Governors have received up to date safeguarding training to reflect the latest changes and revised legislation and guidance.
- Please remember to refrain from using mobile phones whilst in the playground when you drop off or collect your child.
- Unfortunately, children are not allowed to play on the climbing frame and trim trail equipment at the end of the day.
- Please see attached poster explaining [Live Streaming](#) which you may find useful for older children.

C-SPA on: [0300 470 9100](tel:03004709100)

Alternatively, please see the link below: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/contact-childrens-services>

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR 2023 -2024

### AUTUMN 2023

Start of Term: 5 September 2023

Half Term: 23 to 27 October 2023

End of Term: 15 December 2023

### SPRING 2024

Start of Term: 2 January 2024

Half Term: 12 to 16 February 2024

End of Term: 28 March 2024

## SUMMER 2024

Start of Term: 16 April 2024

Half Term: 27 May to 31 May 2024

End of Term: 21 July 2024

## INSET Days for 2023-24

**Spring Term:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 (after Easter Holidays)

**Summer Term:** Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 & Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024