

Dear Families,

I'm sure you'll agree with us that this half term has absolutely flown, we all know the saying about time! What a time it has been this first half term: new teachers, new friends, trying a new club, Harvest Festival, Open Afternoon, to name but a few.

The weather this week has certainly made us feel that half term and all Autumnal things are in full swing.

We wish you a happy, healthy and fun half-term and look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday 30th October.

Best Wishes
Darren Heatley

Harvest Festival

What a wonderful time our Year 1 & 2 children and families had at the Harvest Festival last week. The children really made us all so proud and we're sure that you felt the same. The singing and poetry recital raised the roof at Busbridge Church and the reflections gave us all time to think about the meaning of Harvest. Yet again we were blown away by the vast amount of donations for the Godalming Food Bank and we know how thankful they are for your generosity.



Open Afternoon and future events

It was wonderful to see so many families on Thursday who came into the classrooms to celebrate the children's learning. The children loved showing their families, friend's family or school staff their learning from this half term. It is an important, yet difficult, (as I'm sure some of you will agree) skill to reflect on one's own achievements and being proud of them. All our children should be proud of what they have achieved this half-term and it was wonderful to see this collaboration with families in full swing.

As part of our Parental feedback, we will be welcoming families into school more frequently this year. There will be two events each term, one being a sharing of learning and the other promoting our SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural development) aspect of school life. This will be as follows:

Spring:	Stay & Read	Open Afternoon
Summer:	VIP Picnic	Open Afternoon

Dates for these will be published in due course.

Book Fair



After half-term we will be welcoming back the Scholastic Book Fair. This will be in school from Monday 30th October until Thursday 2nd November. Books will be available to buy before school (from Tuesday 8.30am) and after school (3.10- 3.30pm) in the hall. Books will also be available to purchase during Learning Together Meetings. Please note that we cannot accept cash. Every book that is purchased at this fair, gives us a book for school. There is an excellent selection and it is never too early to start thinking about Christmas presents!

In honour of the fair, Mrs Jones will be running a competition and the winners will each get a £5 voucher to spend at the event (there will be one winner per Year group). All you need to do to enter this competition is to create a poster (A4 paper) to encourage reading for pleasure. Let your child be as creative as they wish with this brief. Please send entries in clearly labelled with your child's name and class. The closing date will be **Monday 30th October**. Lastly, if you can help run the Book Fair, Ros Lodge (PTA Chair) will be adding a rota to class list. Thank you for your support in advance.

After "Cool" Club

Our wrap around care is growing in popularity and we are very proud of what we offer. We're pleased to share that Mrs Bingham has now increased her hours at "Cool Club" and joins Ms Walker every day after school from 3.30pm to 6pm. Having familiar adults in a familiar environment means that your child benefits from a 'home from home' feeling. There are lots of wonderful opportunities on offer at "Cool Club" as well as a chance to try different foods. To help with the carousel of activities and to give children further enjoyment the "Cool Club" team have asked if any families have the following items at home that they would like to donate:

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| *Playmobil | *Construction toys (no Lego or Duplo needed) | *Dominoes |
| *Children's magazines (in good condition) | *Dressing up clothes (aged 4+) | *Puzzles |
| *Play Doh | *Marble Run | *Step by step drawing books |
| | | *Top Trumps |

Woodland School

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their Woodland School sessions this half-term and this continues to be a highlight of school life. Thank you for bearing with us with the trial of changing at school and thank you to those of you who have provided feedback. From next half-term children can wear their jogging bottoms or leggings into school on **their** Woodland Day. That means they will then only have to change their footwear, which should be brought in a separate bag clearly labelled. As the weather gets increasingly colder you may wish to layer your child up and they can wear a long-sleeved top/thermal under their school jumper. Please ensure that joggers/leggings are plain navy or black and school jumpers are worn, **not** alternatives. You may also wish to send in waterproofs and we would advise spare socks!

Please check the website for details but a little reminder that Year 2 are doing Woodland in the first week back.

The First Nowell Christmas Project

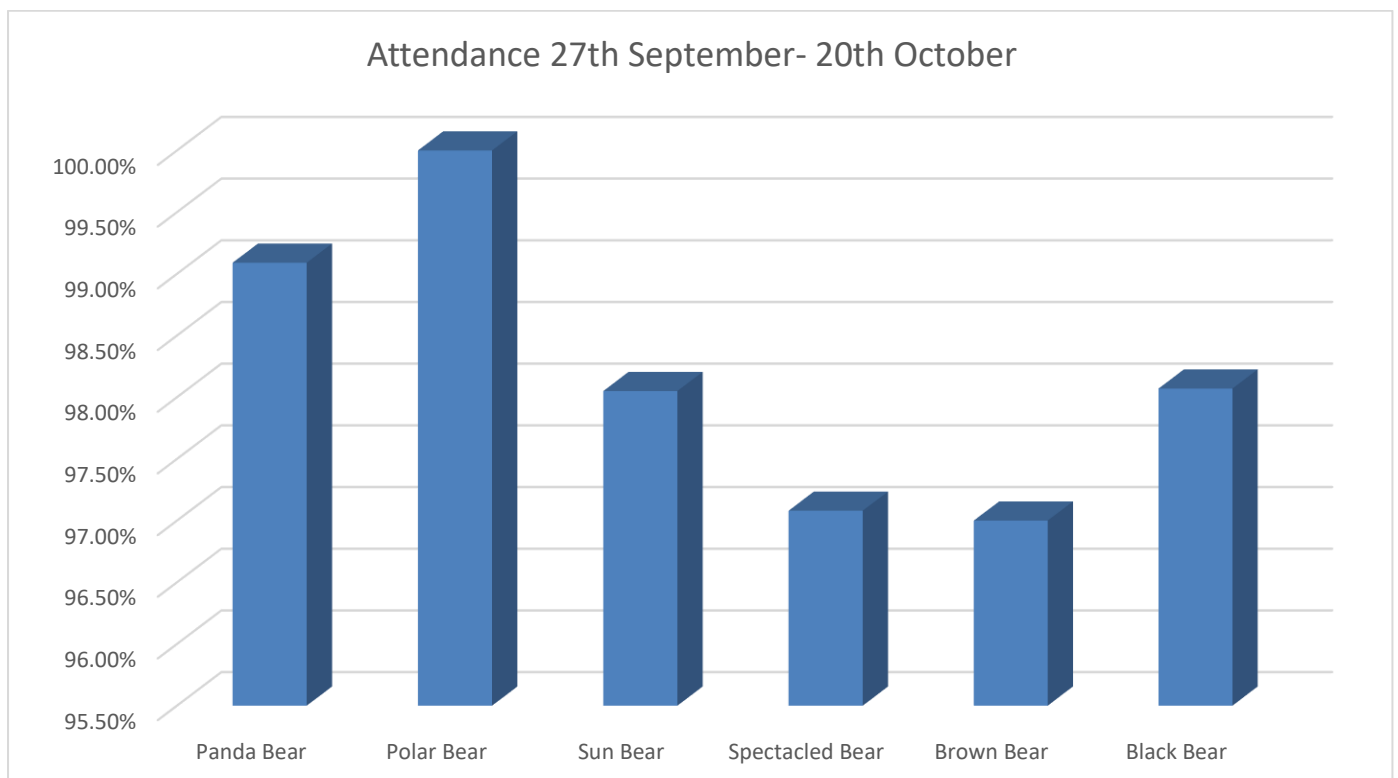
As you aware one of our school values is Collaboration. As part of the Christmas celebrations, we will be taking part in The First Nowell Christmas project with Busbridge Church.

The children will be filmed singing one verse and the chorus of a special version of The First Nowell, written by Reverend Simon Willetts. This recording will then be combined with similar recordings from other schools in our area to create one song and will be shown during the December services. The video will also be available online for families to share. This will include the church websites, YouTube and social media channels – Facebook/Instagram.

If you would prefer your child **NOT** to take part in the recording and this is different to the consent that you have previously given in relation to social media, then please contact the school office as soon as possible. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that you are happy for your child to be included.

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:

Sports Day	June 14 th 2024
Summer Camp	July 13 th /14 th 2024
Summer Fete	June 29 th 2024

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

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
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SPRING 2024

Start of Term: 2 January 2024	Half Term: 12 to 16 February 2024	End of Term: 28 March 2024
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SUMMER 2024

Start of Term: 16 April 2024	Half Term: 27 May to 31 May 2024	End of Term: 21 July 2024
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INSET Days for 2023-24

Spring Term:	Monday 15 th April 2024 (after Easter Holidays)
Summer Term:	Monday 22 nd July 2024 & Tuesday 23 rd July 2024.