

Dear Families,

Coming up in this edition, are reminders and information about the next few weeks before the festive holiday season ends – even though it feels as if it hasn't yet started!

Apologies for starting with a negative message but please, please, please do not use mobiles phones in the playground. This is to safeguard yourself and to prevent any accusations that photographs or recordings of children are made. It would be really appreciated if this was respected. I will, of course, finish on a thank you to the many of you who understand and comply with this expectation, so 'Thank you'.

On an even better note, there is fantastic news to share about the Year 2 results from Summer term...

Best Wishes
Darren Heatley

Another Year of Fantastic Children's Results

We'd like to share our achievements and successes for last academic year, 2022-23. We are now able to share these figures, in comparison to recently published national data. ***Yet again our results are well above national for both the Expected Standard and at the Greater Depth Standard.***

Here are our results for children achieving the Expected Standard:

- Reading 90% compared to 68% Nationally
- Writing 90% compared to 60% Nationally
- Maths 93% compared to 70% Nationally

Our results for children achieving the Greater Depth Standard were:

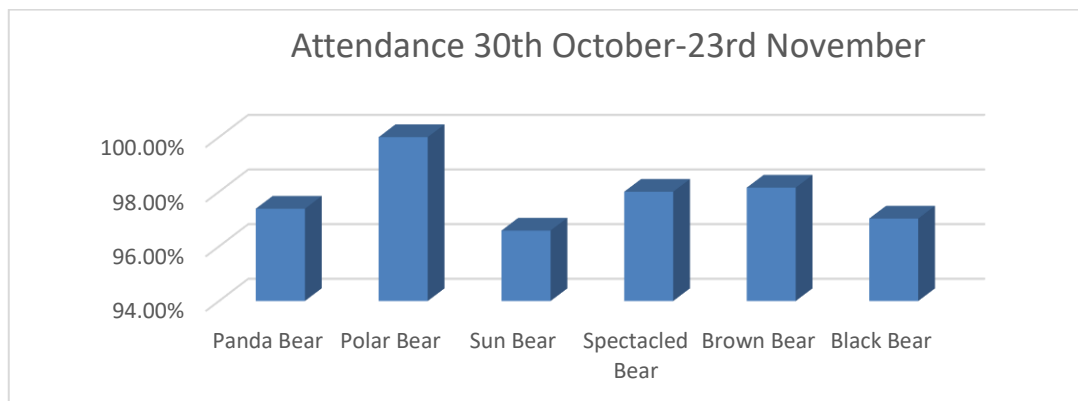
- Reading 41% compared to 19% Nationally
- Writing 22% compared to 8% Nationally
- Maths 39% compared to 16% Nationally

We are so proud of our results and for our children, who are now in Year 3, for showing resilience and determination on their path to achieving such fantastic results. We hope they are continuing to shine wherever they may be.

It was a similar picture for our Year 1 children (now in Year 2) who did a fantastic job in their phonics check. A staggering 96% of children met the required mark for their phonics compared to 79% nationally and they too are continuing to shine!

Attendance

The attendance at Busbridge Infant School is another proud achievement. This week saw a visit from the Local Authority's Inclusion Service who was very impressed with the children's attendance and how closely it is monitored at school, so another very well done all round!



This chart shows the children's attendance for the period from 23rd October - 23rd November.

Christmas Performance Tickets

Firstly, thank you for booking your tickets. I appreciate that the introduction of making a **suggested donation** may have been a surprise, so please be assured that it was never meant to upset any families and apologies that the communication omitted to indicate that any money raised will go towards the PTA. Refreshments will be available at the start of each performance and from the rehearsals I've seen and heard so far, you won't be disappointed!

We Love Reading!

At Busbridge Infants we are incredibly passionate about reading. Reading continues to be a firm feature on our School Development Plan and to support your child with learning, this Little Wandle page has a [video](#) which may help you.

Our Little Wandle Phonics scheme continues to be driving our fantastic reading results. As part of the programme your child gets sent home with their Little Wandle reading book once a week which is used to celebrate the skills your child is developing and is fundamental in teaching reading. We understand that wear and tear happens and sometimes accidents happen. If you have a book in your care and it does get accidentally ripped, wet or damaged then we would please ask that you log into ScoPay and pay for a new one. We would also ask that you would add a note in the reading record, to say that a book has been damaged and a new one has been purchased.

Each book costs about £7.50 and we currently have 25 books that need replacing. We thank you for your cooperation with this to ensure that all children are able to take home the book that they have been reading. Reading for pleasure is equally as important as decoding and the teaching of reading. To support this we need your help! After Christmas, Mrs. Jones is planning a new slot on a Friday afternoon called "The Mystery Reader". For this she will be liaising with the class reps and looking for willing volunteers to come into the children's classrooms and read the whole class a story. This could also be a grandparent or family member. This is to help the children understand that everyone is a reader and it will also be exciting as to who the reader will be! Watch this space for more details.

Wrap Around Care – Late Pick Up Charge Notification

The school's wrap around care provision continues to be used effectively to support all families, which is great and we are very proud of it's success. Your attention however is drawn to how late pick up charges will be applied to your child's ScoPay account, should you arrive after the expected deadline of 6.00pm. A charge of £10 per child will automatically be added to your child's account and no further bookings can be made until the charge is paid. This brings us in line with the Trust's expectations for wrap around care provision.

Help with a Shout Out!

The new furniture for Early Years has begun to arrive and more is expected in the next few weeks. With this in mind, I would like to know if there are any budding builders willing to help assemble the flat packed deliveries. If you are able to spare some time in the New Year, sometime in the Spring Term and once the deliveries have arrived, your support will be much appreciated! Please contact the school office to register your interest and we will get back to you. Thank you.

The Big Ambition – Children's Survey

This message has come from the Children's Commissioner for England to ask that the survey is available to all children from Years 1 & 2 so that they can have their say on what is important to them ahead of the general election. If you feel that this is an opportunity for them to get involved in and learn a little bit about politics then click [here](#) but they will need your help to complete it.

Lost Property

The lost property has been removed and either washed and recycled or rehomed with the right owner but this has only been possible because it has a name in it. In one day, there have been many items with no names on which have been put back in the box. An adult will take the property around the classrooms but children often can't remember if it belongs to them which could be avoided if a name was evident. Thank you.

Reminders

Are you applying for a place for your child to start in Year 3 or Reception 2024? Applications are now open [here](#). If you need any support with this please contact the school office. Thank you.

Children in Need - Friday 17th November

Thank you for your support for Children in Need, the cake sale events raised over £381.95.



Safeguarding Update

There was a recent Learning Walk visit from the team of Safeguarding Governors who continue to monitor the school's progress by meeting with the named designated safeguarding lead (DSL), Mrs. Jones, as part of their responsibilities to hold the school to account for its decision making and safeguarding practices and protocols. They visited different classrooms to talk with children about how safe they felt at school and to see that every class has a worry box which is checked regularly. There is a strong safeguarding culture now embedded within the school.

South Farnham Educational Trust have developed a Trust wide faculty group meeting for all Trust DSLs as part of sharing best practice and up to date information and as part of this initiative, publish a newsletter for all the schools.

The parents who walk from the Infant School to the Junior School have to use a pedestrian crossing. Brighton Road is a very busy and often fast road. Quite regularly there are adults who will cross the road when the red man is illuminated causing a child to step out to follow them or they could be watching the adult and learning that's okay when clearly it is dangerous.

The ask is this: **"Could everyone using that crossing, do so in the correct way and lead by example to ensure the children's safety?"** Thank you.

Upcoming Christmas Events

With a busy schedule of festive fun on the horizon, this section should answer any questions about what's expected for these events:

1st December - Elfridges - See the flyer in children's book bags.

7th December - Dress children in a Christmas jumper, Christmas lunch & Year 2 Christingle church service - Yr 2 Parents please arrive at the Church from 2.15pm for a 2.30 pm start.

12th & 13th December - Christmas performances. Please bring your tickets!

14th December - Christmas Church Service

15th December - Christmas parties. Please provide your own child with a small snack pack in a labelled container and their party clothes for this occasion.

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 15th April 2024 (after Easter Holidays)

Summer Term: Monday 22nd July 2024 & Tuesday 23rd July 2024.