

Newsletter – Friday 3rd October



Dear Families,

As we step into October, it's really starting to feel autumnal – the crisp air, colourful leaves, and a fresh new term well underway. It's been a busy and exciting time in school, with plenty to celebrate and look forward to.

Our children have settled beautifully into their new classes and are immersed in their learning. It's been wonderful to see them so engaged, enthusiastic, and living out our school values each day. From thoughtful class discussions to creative work and kind interactions, they continue to make us incredibly proud.

Today we say goodbye and good luck to Ms. Matthews who has been a valued member of the Bear Cub Team since she started last September. We wish Ms. Matthews all the best as she leaves to become a room leader at a private nursery. We thank her on behalf of all the children and staff.

This term has brought some very special moments, including a visit from the Mayor of Godalming to mark our recent *Outstanding* Ofsted judgement – a significant achievement for our whole school community. With Harvest celebrations coming up, Parents' Evenings just around the corner, and many more events on the horizon, there's a real sense of energy and excitement in the air.

With warm wishes,

Mrs. Chalk & Mrs. Jones



1 - The Continual Pursuit of Excellence

Harvest Celebrations



We are excited to invite families to join us as we celebrate Harvest together. This is a special time for our school community to come together, give thanks, and support others.

We warmly encourage families to bring along a donation for the **Godalming Food Bank** on the day of your child's celebration.

Year Group Celebrations

- **Year 2** - Tuesday 14th October, 2.30pm at the local church. Families to be seated by this time.
- **Year 1** - Wednesday 15th October, 2.30pm at the local church. Families to be seated by this time.
- **Pre-School and Reception** - Thursday 16th October, 2.30pm in the school hall. Families to be seated by this time. *Entry via the Hambledon Road gate only and gates will open at 2.15pm.*

Food Bank Donations

The Food Bank has kindly asked for items such as:

- UHT milk, tea bags, coffee
- Tinned vegetables, hotdogs, meats, potatoes
- Pasta sauces, noodles, rice, cereals
- Custard, rice pudding, fruit, biscuits
- Toiletries and household essentials

Your support will make a real difference to local families—thank you and we look forward to seeing you at the celebrations.

Parents Evenings

These will take place for all year groups on **Monday 20th & Wednesday 22nd October.**

Appointments are ten minutes each and will run from 3.30pm to 6.30pm for Reception to Year 2 and 3.30pm to 5pm for Pre-school.

Bookings can be made via school cloud **from Monday 6th October from 6pm.** An email will follow to give you information about how to gain access to the school cloud.

This appointment is an opportunity to discuss how your child is settling in and their learning so far. These appointments are for **parents only** and will take place in your child's classroom with books being available to view beforehand in the hall. We ask that you arrive early to view books and browse the book fair before moving into the "waiting area" outside your child's classroom a few minutes before your appointment.

A reminder that enrichment clubs are not running this week but after school club care is. For this reason, entry for Parents Evening appointments is **via the school office.** During both evenings, the scholastic book fair will be available for you to purchase books from.

Our Pre-school Team appointment days will be dependent on your child's key adult. Mrs. Daniels appointments will be on Monday 20th and Mrs. Hodnett's will take place on Wednesday 22nd at the same time.

Scholastic Book fair

We are excited to share that this will be in school, the week beginning **Monday 20th October**. This is essentially a pop-up book shop. The beauty is that for every book you purchase, we get one book for the school. There is a wide range available pictures. Please note that the book fair can only take card payments and doesn't accept cash.

As well as being open at Parent's Evenings, the book fair will also be in school all week. The timings of when it will be open are below....

Monday		3.10pm – 6.00pm
Tuesday	8.45am – 9.00am	3.10pm – 3.30pm
Wednesday	8.45am – 9.00am	3.10pm – 6.00pm
Thursday	8.45am – 9.00am	3.10pm – 3.30pm

The **Book Fair** will be located in the "**Creative Cave**". This is the outdoor hut next to the Pre-school.

During parents evenings it will be in the school hall.

Zones of Regulation Workshop - Tuesday 7th October



At Busbridge Infant School, we use the internationally renowned Zones of Regulation programme to help children manage difficult emotions and develop self-regulation skills.

We will be hosting a Zones of Regulation workshop for parents on **Tuesday 7th October** at **9.00 am** in the School Hall. Please come to the main entrance to sign in. The session will last approximately 45 minutes and will cover the following:

- An introduction to the colour zones and their associated emotions
- How and why we use Zones of Regulation as a whole-school approach
- Tools for self-regulating in each zone
- Strategies for supporting your child's emotional regulation at home

If you would like to attend the workshop, which is also suitable for our Pre-school families, then please complete the Google Form [here](#).

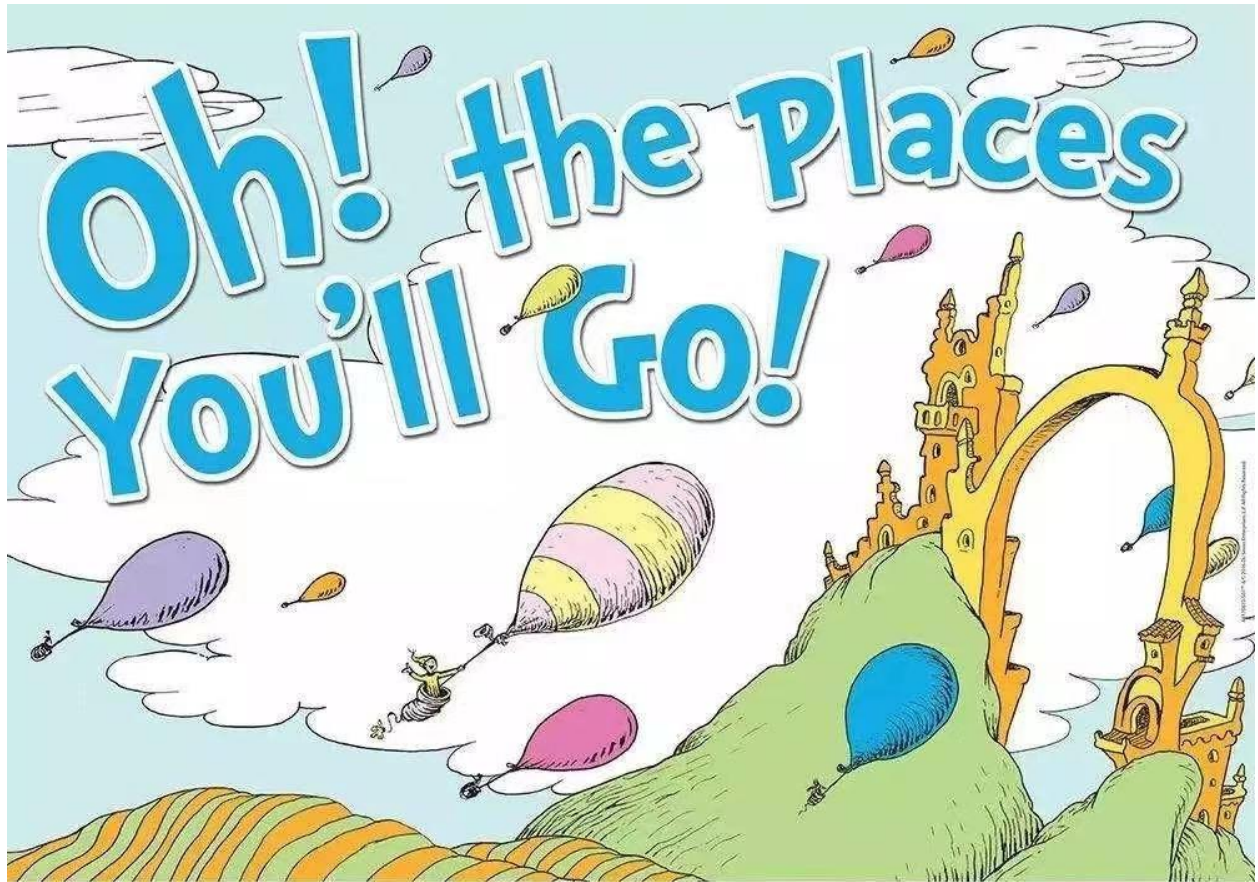
Smartphone Free Childhood Information Session – Tuesday 4th November

We're excited to welcome Smartphone Free Childhood to Busbridge Infant School for an information session on **Tuesday 4th November** at **9am**. Smartphones are changing childhood

and impacting the mental health and wellbeing of our children. Please come along to find out more about the Smartphone Free Childhood movement, healthy screen time for children and tips for parenting in the digital world. The session will last approx. 30 minutes and will take place in the hall.

If you'd like to attend please RSVP [here](#) via this Google form.

Reading at Home



"Reading is to the mind, what exercise is to the body." – Joseph Addison

Reading is now in full swing across the school, and we are so excited to see the children growing in confidence and enjoyment with their books.

Each Thursday, your child will bring home their **phonics reading book**, carefully matched to their level. Children should be able to read this fluently, although this will vary by year group (Reception children are still learning to blend sounds). Please then ensure that the book is returned on a Tuesday (we have a system so we can ensure that all books are collected in to ensure we have full packs for the next group.) A reminder that if you lose a book or it becomes

damaged you can pay for a new one via Scopay - if this does happen please let us know so we can replace the correct title.

Children are expected to read their book aloud to an adult at home **at least three times per week**. After each read, please record your comments in your child's **reading record**, underneath that week's sticker. This is vital for us to see the support your child is getting at home and helps us to plan their next steps.

You'll also find ideas in the front of the reading record to guide your comments. Feel free to add if your child particularly enjoyed a story or wanted to share a favourite part. Staff will always acknowledge your notes and add their own comments when needed.

News from Busbridge Pre-school



The pre-school children have continued to grow and develop a good understanding of pre-school routines. They are quickly getting used to all the class rules, which help to keep them safe. We have been focusing on *walking feet, little voices inside, and 'choose it, use it, put it away'*, to help them learn where resources belong in pre-school and to tidy up when they finish playing.

One of the three prime areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage is **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**. We have been focusing on **emotions** - exploring them to help the

children develop a better understanding of how they feel and begin learning how to manage these emotions using the zones of regulation.

We have also been focusing on the importance of hygiene and how it helps us to stay safe, healthy, and happy. The children have shown great curiosity as they explored where germs might be hiding and how we can protect ourselves from them by washing our hands well with warm soapy water.

We're excited to welcome you to our next Stay and Play session on Monday 7th October 14.00-14.30. It's a lovely opportunity for little ones to explore, play, and make new friends. If you know a friend, neighbour, or family member who might enjoy joining us, please feel free to spread the word.

Safeguarding

We remind families that they should not enter the school building before school or at pick up (including pick up for clubs and after school club). This is to ensure the safety of our children and to safeguard each other. If items are lost for example please ask your child's teacher or teaching assistant to have a look, check lost property or send an email. We will be happy to help. At this point may we also urge every family to label school belongings clearly. The lost property box, located under the canopy next to the Nest is already quite full.

Children's Services

If you have a concern about a child or young person being abused or neglected, or an adult who is concerned about a young person's safety and wellbeing during the weekend or school holidays, please remember that you can contact Surrey Children's Services' Single Point of Access, also known as CSPA. Lines are open between 9am and 5pm from Monday to Friday.

The telephone number for CSPA is 0300 470 9100 or for out of hours, the emergency number is 01483 517898.

Attendance



Attendance

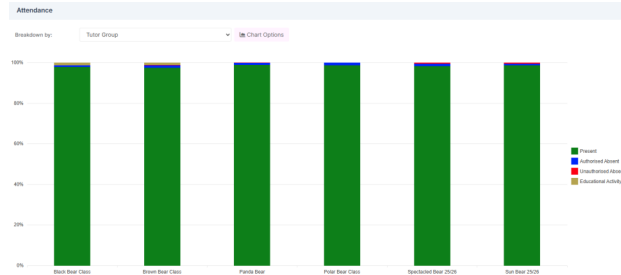
Attendance is a safeguarding priority.

Let's make sure every child has the chance to shine! Regular school attendance is crucial for academic success, building friendships, and developing essential life skills

Please book any routine appointments during the school holidays. If this is not possible, please make sure children are missing the least amount of education as possible by just leaving school for the allocated appointment time. Where possible, children should attend school before or after their appointment. **Every minute counts.** Better still, please try to book the appointment for the end of the school day.

Please remember, as per our policy, that we do not authorise term-time holidays and that we do fine families accordingly.

Attendance 15.09.2025 - 03.10.2025



Events and dates for Autumn 1



October

Tuesday 7th at 9am - Zones of Regulation Workshop: how to help your child at home.

Tuesday 14th at 2.30pm - Harvest celebration for **Y2** at the Church

Wednesday 15th at 2.30pm - Harvest celebration for **Y1** at the Church

Thursday 16th at 2.30pm - Harvest celebration for **EYFS (Pre-school and YR)** in the school hall

Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd October (3.30 - 6.30pm) - **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** Parents Evening in the school hall

Monday 20th, Wednesday 22nd October (3.30 - 5.30pm) - **Pre-school** Parents Evening in Bear Cubs

Monday 27th - Friday 31st October - Half Term

Remember to check our website for dates further ahead and for Woodland days

Dates for the Academic Year 2025 -2026

AUTUMN 2025

Start of Term: Friday 5 September 2025 **Half Term:** 27 October to 31 October 2025 **End of Term:** 19 December 2025

SPRING 2026

Start of Term: 5 January 2026 **Half Term:** 16 to 20 February 2026 **End of Term:** 27 March 2026

SUMMER 2026

Start of Term: 13 April 2026 **Half Term:** 25 May to 29 May 2026 **End of Term:** 17 July 2026

*** Remaining Inset Days for 2025-2026 are Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st July 2026*

**** In October 2026, in line with Surrey schools, we will be closed for a 2 week half term between the 19th and 30th October.*