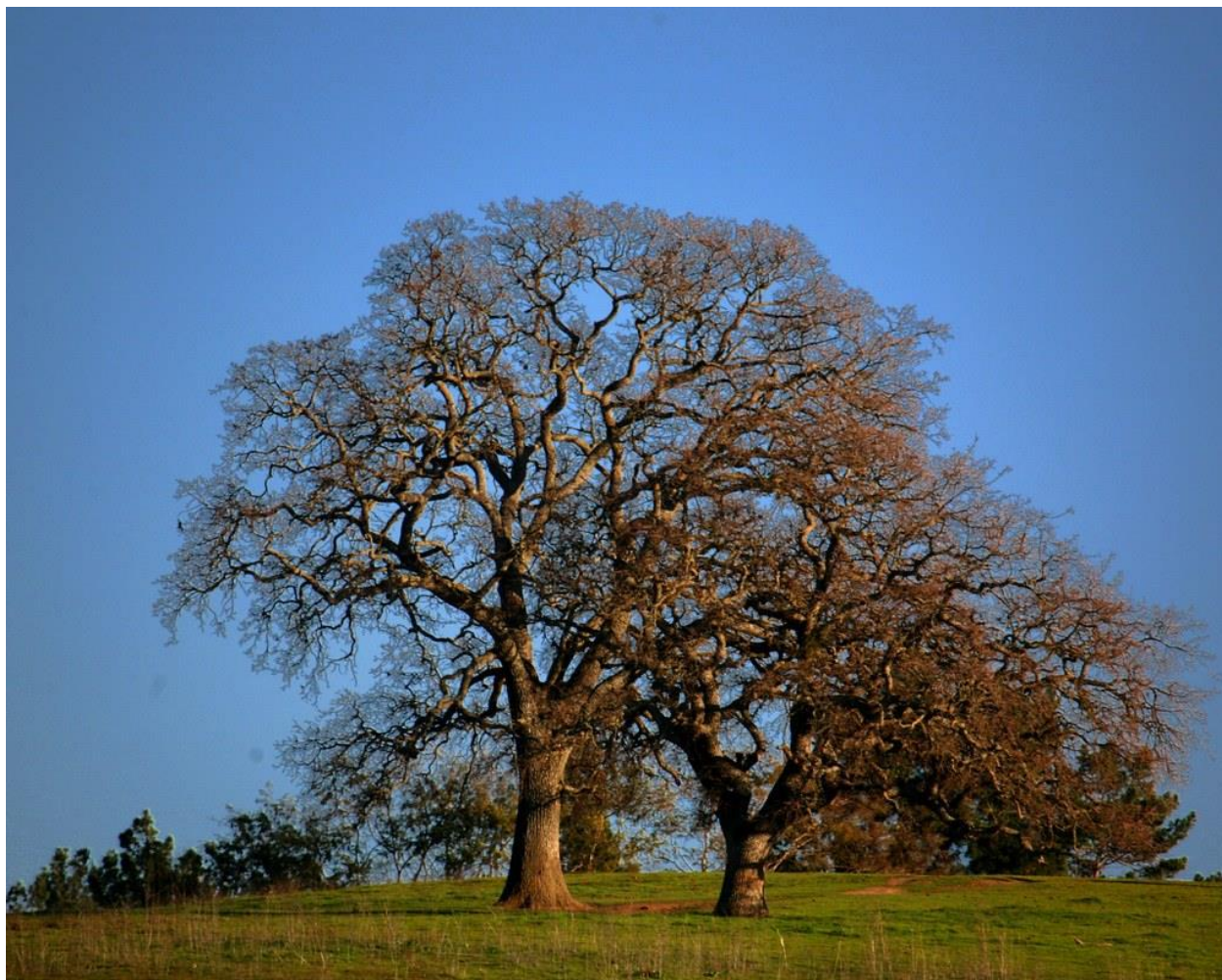




Newsletter – Friday 3rd July 2026

Dear Families.

What a busy, hot and successful month it has been at Busbridge Infant School! It is hard to believe that there are only a few weeks left of this academic year, and what a wonderful few weeks they promise to be.

The children have enjoyed a fantastic range of experiences, including trips across all year groups, Sports Day, our Open Afternoon, and a wonderful visit from an opera singer during assembly. We are also incredibly proud of our Year 1 children, who have completed their phonics screening check with enthusiasm and resilience.

Last Saturday, we held our Summer Fete, and what a fantastic start to the weekend it was! A huge thank you to our PTA and to all the families who helped run the individual stalls. Your time, enthusiasm, and support made the day such a success and created wonderful, lasting memories

for our children. We are so grateful to everyone who helped make it such a special event. We often reflect on what a unique and nurturing place Busbridge Infant School is, and events such as these really highlight the wonderful community we have and the fantastic opportunities our children experience every day.

With warm wishes,

Mrs Chalk & Mrs Jones



1 - The Continual Pursuit of Excellence

Amazing Phonics Results



We are absolutely delighted to share that a staggering 98% of our Year 1 children have met the expected standard in the national Phonics Screening Check and 100% of our Year 2 children who took the check, successfully passed.

A huge congratulations to all of our amazing children, who worked with such determination, resilience, and enthusiasm to achieve these fantastic results. We are incredibly proud of every single one of them.

Thank you to our dedicated staff team for their commitment to helping each child reach their full potential, and to our wonderful families for the support and encouragement they provide at home.

This is an incredible achievement for our school community. We are still awaiting the national data, but we are confident that our children's results will once again exceed the national average.

Well done everyone — what a wonderful accomplishment to celebrate!

Staffing News

At the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Walker as she takes up an exciting new role as a full-time Woodland Teacher. We're sure you'll all agree that this is the ideal opportunity for her.

We would like to thank Miss Walker for her hard work and dedication to our school. She has inspired many children through her love of woodland learning, sport, and the care she has shown in our After School Club. We shall miss her energetic presence and wish her every success and happiness in her new role.

Trip Success



Reception visited Windsor Castle, where they were fortunate enough to be there the day before the King's birthday celebrations and were treated to a spectacular marching parade – what wonderful pomp and ceremony! The children also explored the magnificent rooms of the castle and took part in an engaging workshop, with awe and wonder in abundance throughout the day.

Year 1 travelled to Winchester Science Centre, where they immersed themselves in a range of exciting hands-on science experiences. There was plenty of curiosity, discovery and fun to be had as the children explored the interactive exhibits.

Finally, Year 2 enjoyed a beautiful sunny day at West Wittering. The trip provided a fantastic link to their geographical learning and map work, as well as creating a wonderful lasting memory with their friends before they move on to their next adventure.

A huge thank you to all the families who accompanied us on these trips and to our wonderful staff team for the time and effort they put into organising them. These memorable experiences

do not happen overnight and require a great deal of careful planning and preparation behind the scenes.

We were also incredibly grateful to receive so many kind emails of thanks from families. Your messages of appreciation mean a great lot to us and are always shared with the staff team, who are so proud to provide these special opportunities for our children.









Sports Day Celebrations

We were incredibly fortunate to have the perfect day for our Sports Day a few Fridays ago. We began the morning with our Pre-School Sports Day before welcoming Reception to Year 2 onto the field in the afternoon.

The children truly shone as they showcased not only their developing PE skills but also their resilience, sportsmanship and ability to work collaboratively. Taking part in a carousel of activities, it was wonderful to see the different strengths of our children on display – whether that was in throwing, jumping or running.

This year also saw the introduction of our very first adult races, which brought a fantastic sense of fun and community to the day. It was wonderful to see some of our pre-school families take on the obstacle race and our Year 2 families go head-to-head in a team hoop relay. The atmosphere was full of encouragement, laughter and great sporting spirit.

Of course, no Sports Day would be complete without the now infamous staff tug of war, with our staff giving it their all and providing plenty of entertainment!

The results for Sports Day were...

Reception: Baloo

Year 1: Rupert

Year 2: Rupert

Overall winners: Rupert

Staff Tug of War: Paddington

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising refreshments and to Tuesley Farm for generously providing the most delicious strawberries, collected by Miss Eke in the office. We hope all our families enjoyed the day as much as we did – it was a wonderful celebration of sport, teamwork and our special school community.







Bump Up Day and next year

Here is the revised version with the Year R and Year 1 transitions included:

Earlier this week, we were delighted to welcome our new Reception and pre-school starters to Busbridge Infant School, while also sending our Year 2 children off to visit their new junior schools for the afternoon. At the same time, our current Year R children enjoyed their first experience of being Year 1 children, and our Year 1 pupils excitedly moved to the top of the school as Year 2 pupils in waiting.

The children all had a wonderful time and very quickly seemed at home in their new classrooms and environments. They took part in a range of activities to help them get to know their new adults and created something special that will help them feel settled and familiar in their new rooms when they return in September.

Over the coming weeks, there will be more opportunities for the children to spend time with their new teachers and teams, helping to ensure a smooth and confident transition into the next academic year.

Looking ahead to September, we will also be holding our Meet the Teacher information afternoons, giving families the chance to get to know the staff and receive valuable information about the year ahead. The dates for these sessions are as follows:

Year 1 Tuesday 8th September at 2.30pm

Year 2 Wednesday 9th September at 2.30pm

Can you help?



We are always looking for ways to enrich the experiences of our children, and we know our wonderful school community is full of generosity and helpful connections! If you or someone you know might be able to support us, we would be incredibly grateful for donations of the following items to help develop our woodland area. Likewise, we understand that some parents have access to employee volunteering schemes through their workplace, which enable them to volunteer. A day during the summer holidays, while the children are off school would make a huge difference and would not require a DBS certificate. If this applies to you and you are able to offer some of your time to help with projects around the school, please do get in touch with the school office. We would love to hear from you and greatly appreciate any support you can offer.

Donations

- Bark chippings
- Topsoil
- Shade loving plants

Voluntary work with Mr Gratwick

- Painting classrooms
- Constructing flat-packed resources
- Digging/planting

If you have any of these items to donate, or if you have contacts with local businesses or organisations who might be willing to support the school, please do get in touch via the school office.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support—it really does make a difference to our children's learning and opportunities.

Our PTA needs you

As you know, we are incredibly fortunate to have such an active and fantastic PTA at Busbridge Infant School. Our current committee has worked tirelessly to create so many wonderful experiences and lasting memories for our children and families. However, as some of our committee members are now standing down, we are looking for some new recruits to take on these important roles. Please do contact them if you are able to help or if you would like to find out more information about what is involved.

The PTA is not just about the committee – every family is automatically part of the PTA and can contribute in whatever way they are able. However, we do need a committee to help orchestrate, organise and delegate so that these fantastic events can continue to happen.

Your support would make a huge difference and help us continue to create the special moments that make our school community so unique.

News from Busbridge Pre-school



This month, our pre-school children have been focusing on school readiness and transition, developing the key skills and confidence needed for the exciting move to school or being the oldest in pre-school next year. Through daily routines and play-based learning, the children have continued to build their independence, from preparing their own snacks to managing everyday tasks, helping them feel more capable, and self-assured.

We have also been exploring the theme of change, discussing the emotions that can come with new experiences and encouraging children to share their thoughts and feelings. These

conversations have helped them understand that it is normal to feel both excited and nervous about change, whether that means starting school or welcoming a new cohort of friends into pre-school.

A particular highlight has been our time spent with our Year 1 buddies. These sessions have provided reassurance, inspiration and valuable opportunities to build relationships, helping our older pre-school children feel excited and confident about the next stage of their learning journey.

Meanwhile, our younger pre-school children have benefitted from learning alongside their older peers, developing new skills through observation, play and shared experiences. Whether practising teamwork in PE, developing fine motor skills through food preparation, or building confidence through friendships, all our children have made fantastic progress as they prepare for the opportunities ahead.

Safeguarding

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



New attendance rules!

There are new rules for unauthorised absences, whether this is due to holiday, irregular attendance, or otherwise. Don't get caught out!

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for 5 days.

Make sure you use the absence request form. Your holiday will not be authorised. Let the school know before you book anything. As your child will miss 5 school days, you'll be given a penalty notice fine.

1 parent & 1 child = £160
Reduced to £80 if paid in 21 days



For each child a penalty is given...

+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160

1 parent & 4 children = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

For a family of 2 parents & 4 children



+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160

£1280
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

What happens if school suspects children are actually on holiday?

Photos on Facebook?
Foreign mobile dial tone?
Other children talking about your holiday?
Amazing sun tan?
Home visit shows no-one at home?

Please don't be offended if we ask for evidence or mention these questions to you. We're required to do this to ensure a fair system!

2 What about subsequent absences? Is it still the same penalty amount?

No, not anymore. If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence OR pattern of irregular attendance, which is unauthorised, then...

2nd TIME
2 parents and...
1 child = £320
2 children = £640
3 children = £960
4 children = £1280
NO DISCOUNT FOR EARLY PAYMENT

3rd TIME
A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2,500 for each child.
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents and 4 children = £20,000

3 What about irregular attendance? Could I get a penalty notice?

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks, and their absences are unauthorised, then the school is required to consider penalty notices / prosecution.



So, half a day here and day there could all add up to 10 sessions in 10 weeks. If unauthorised, then it would be a penalty notice. Remember, 1 day is 2 sessions (morning and afternoon).

YES

4 What are typical reasons given that won't be authorised?

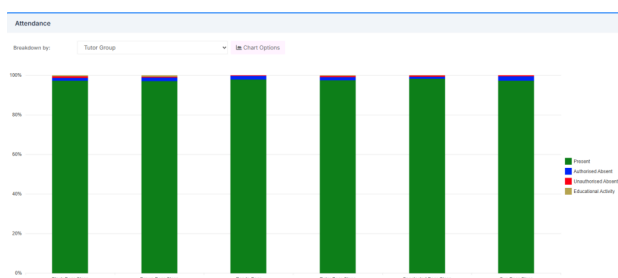
Examples of unauthorised absences

A family member's birthday	Sickness of parent or sibling
Shopping for uniforms	Sibling's school closed
Inadequate clothing for school	Refusing to attend, but able to
Child being used as a carer	Poor family organisation
Problems with transport	Family holidays
	No absence request completed

Where attendance is irregular, or historically poor, sickness absences may be unauthorised unless medical confirmation by a GP surgery is given.



EVERY DAY COUNTS – ATTEND TODAY, ACHIEVE TOMORROW



Attendance is a safeguarding priority.

Over the summer holidays, please do try to arrange any routine dental or medical appointments during the break to avoid your child missing valuable learning time once term begins. We understand that hospital appointments and specialist referrals are often beyond your control and may need to take place during the school day. However, where possible, we ask that routine appointments are booked outside school hours or during the holidays to help minimise disruption to your child's education.

Please remember, that your child's attendance should be viewed on MCAS and as per our policy, we do not authorise term-time holidays and we do fine families accordingly

Dates for the Academic Year 2026 -2027



July

Tuesday 7th 2-3pm - Year 2 Production

Wednesday 8th 6.30-7.30pm - Year 2 Production with drinks/nibbles on the field afterwards

Saturday 11th - PTA Summer Camp

Tuesday 14th at 2.30pm - Year 2 Leavers service at the Church

Thursday 16th at 2.15pm - Pre-school Celebration in the hall

Friday 17th - Last Day of Term

September

Thursday 3rd- First day of term

Tuesday 8th- Year 1 Meet the Teacher at 2.30pm in the classrooms

Wednesday 9th- Year 2 Meet the Teacher at 2.30pm in the classrooms

Remember to check our website for dates further ahead and for Woodland days which will commence week beginning 14th September 2026.

Autumn Term 2026

Events and dates for Summer Term and beyond



First Day - Thursday 3rd September

Half Term - Monday 19th October - Friday 30th October inclusive (two week half term)

Last Day - Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2027

First Day - Monday 4th January

Half Term - Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February inclusive

Last Day - Thursday 25th March

Easter Holidays - Friday 26th March - Friday 9th April

Summer 2027

First Day - Monday 12th April

Half Term - Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June inclusive

Last Day - Friday 23rd July

**Inset Days for 2026–2027 are Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September 2026 and Monday 26th July, Tuesday 27th July & Wednesday 28th July 2027*