Newsletter – Friday 2nd October



Dear Families,

What a wonderful start to the new school year we have had! The first few weeks have absolutely flown by, and it has been lovely to see our school community come back together after the summer break.

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

We have also been delighted to welcome some new members to our school team this term, who have fitted in seamlessly. **Miss Wagerfield and Ms O'Shea** have joined us as SCITT students, and we are also very pleased to welcome our new Teaching Assistants, **Miss Bickmore and Mrs Fletcher**. As shared with families already, we are also delighted to have **Mrs Wilkinson** join us as our Woodland Leader. It has been lovely to see all our new staff become part of the Busbridge team so quickly.

And there is plenty more to look forward to! With our Harvest celebrations coming up, Parents' Evenings just around the corner and lots of exciting events and learning opportunities on the horizon, there is a real sense of energy and excitement across the school. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been a fantastic start to the year, and we are looking forward to all that the term ahead will bring.

With warm wishes,

Mrs Chalk & Mrs Jones

1 - **The Continual Pursuit of Excellence**

☆ Outstanding Attendance at Busbridge!

We are incredibly proud to share that **Busbridge Infant School has been ranked number 1 in Surrey for overall attendance** for the 2025–26 academic year! Even more wonderfully, this places us **within the top 10% of schools nationally**.

This is a fantastic achievement and one that we are delighted to celebrate with our whole school community. Regular attendance makes such a difference to children's learning, friendships and wider experiences at school. Every day really does count, and being in school regularly gives children the very best opportunity to make progress, develop confidence and fully enjoy everything school has to offer.

A huge **thank you to our families** for your continued support in ensuring that your children attend school regularly and on time. Your commitment has played an important part in this achievement.

What an amazing start to the year – and what a wonderful reflection of our Busbridge community!

A few helpful reminders

Just a few reminders to help keep our school days running smoothly:

- Please remember that our **adventure and school equipment is for use during the school day only**, so children and siblings should not use it at drop-off or pick-up.
- For everyone's safety, please help us by reminding children **not to climb on any school fences or railings**, including the brown and metal fence fence at the front of school.
- On **Woodland Days**, children should wear navy blue joggers or navy blue leggings only, their white school polo shirt and their Busbridge school jumper. **Long sleeve trousers and their school jumper are needed all year round** for Woodland.

- A little uniform reminder that **smart black ankle boots are for winter uniform only and royal blue hair accessories** should be worn by anybody with shoulder length hair or longer in Pre-school to Year 2.
- Now the weather is changing, please make sure your child arrives at school with a coat along with their book bag and water bottle.
- We are a **mobile-phone-free-school**. Please refrain from using your phone to call, text or email once you walk through the school gates and onto school property. If you need to make an urgent call, please step off school grounds to make this call.

House Captains and School Council



We are delighted to announce that our **House Captains** and **School Councillors** have now been democratically elected by their peers. The children received their badges during assembly, and we are incredibly proud of everyone who put themselves forward for these important roles.

Our **House Captains** are Year 2 pupils who lead our house teams throughout the term. They act as positive role models, encourage teamwork and school values, meet regularly to discuss house rewards, and take part in a range of important school activities and events.

Congratulations to:

Baloo: Emma & William **Paddington:** Felix & Oscar **Rupert:** Clemmie & Otto

Our **School Councillors** are the voice of the children within our school community. They meet with Mrs Scully to share ideas, discuss ways to make our school an even better place to learn, and represent the views of their peers. **These roles change each term,** allowing a greater number of pupils to contribute to and support our school community throughout the year.

A very well done to the following children:

Reception: Louis, Victoria J, Emilia & Charlie

Year 1: Isabella L, Noah, Teddy & Zara

Year 2: Jacob, Jasper, Layla & Summer

We congratulate all of this term's House Captains and School Councillors and look forward to seeing the positive impact they make. 🌟

A Big Thank You!



A huge thank you to all the families who gave up their time on **Wednesday** to help us move some **very heavy, but very exciting, new equipment!** Led by Mr Gratwick, our fantastic team of volunteers worked incredibly hard to help us get some new things ready for the children.

It was another lovely reminder of what a **wonderful and supportive community** we have around our school. We are so grateful for your help.

Watch this space… exciting things are coming! 👀

Aldro Football Festival

On Friday 18th September some of our Year 2 children went to Aldro School for a Football Festival. They were accompanied by Mr Holmes, Mrs Chalk and many of their families.

The children were fantastic at the Football Festival. They showed outstanding collaboration, teamwork and resilience throughout the day, supporting and encouraging one another in every match. Their determination and positive attitude helped them achieve an incredible result, winning all of their games and making Busbridge very proud.

Thank you to Aldro for their hospitality and to our families who helped transport the children on the day.





Harvest Celebrations



We are looking forward to celebrating Harvest together and supporting **Godalming Food Bank**. Please find the arrangements for each year group below.

Year 2

Tuesday 13th October, 2.30pm | Busbridge Church

Up to **two adults per child** may attend. Please be seated ready for the celebration to begin at 2.30pm.

Year 1

Wednesday 14th October, 2.30pm | Busbridge Church

Up to **two adults per child** may attend. Please be seated ready for the celebration to begin at 2.30pm.

Pre-school & Reception

Friday 16th October, 9.10am | School Hall

Due to limited space and 90 participants, **each child will initially receive one adult ticket** . Please complete the **Google** form by **Wednesday 7th October** to let us know if you will be attending. Any spare tickets will then be released, up to our maximum capacity, with Reception families prioritised, as this is their only Harvest performance in EYFS.

After dropping off your child, please enter the hall via the entrance opposite pre-school.

If your child does not usually attend pre-school on a Friday but would like to take part, please let us know on the Google form. Bring them through the usual pre-school gate and collect them from there immediately after the celebration.

Food Bank Donations

Children are welcome to bring a donation for **Godalming Food Bank** on the day of their celebration.

- **Year 1 & 2:** Bring donations to the church.
- **Pre-school & Reception:** Bring donations to the classroom.

Suggested donations include **UHT milk, tea, coffee, tinned food, pasta sauces, noodles, rice, cereals, custard, fruit, biscuits, toiletries and household essentials.**

Thank you for your support. We look forward to celebrating Harvest with you!

Parents Evenings

These will take place for all year groups (pre-school to Year 2) on **Monday 12th** & **Wednesday 14th October.** Appointments are ten minutes each and will run from 3.45pm to 6.45pm.

Bookings can be made via MCAS **from Monday 5th October at 7pm**.

This appointment is an opportunity to discuss how your child is settling in socially and emotionally, as well as to review their learning and progress to date. 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 your child's books and browse the book fair before moving into the "waiting area" outside your child's classroom a few minutes before your appointment. Please note that Pre-school families will wait in the cloakroom of Bear Cubs (entry via the ramp once you've entered the school office foyer).

A reminder that enrichment clubs are not running this week but after school club care is. Please book your places early to avoid disappointment. For this reason, entry for Parents Evening appointments is **via the school office only** and after school club collection is via the usual telephone number and gate collection point please.

During both evenings, the scholastic book fair will be available for you to purchase books from.

Scholastic Book fair

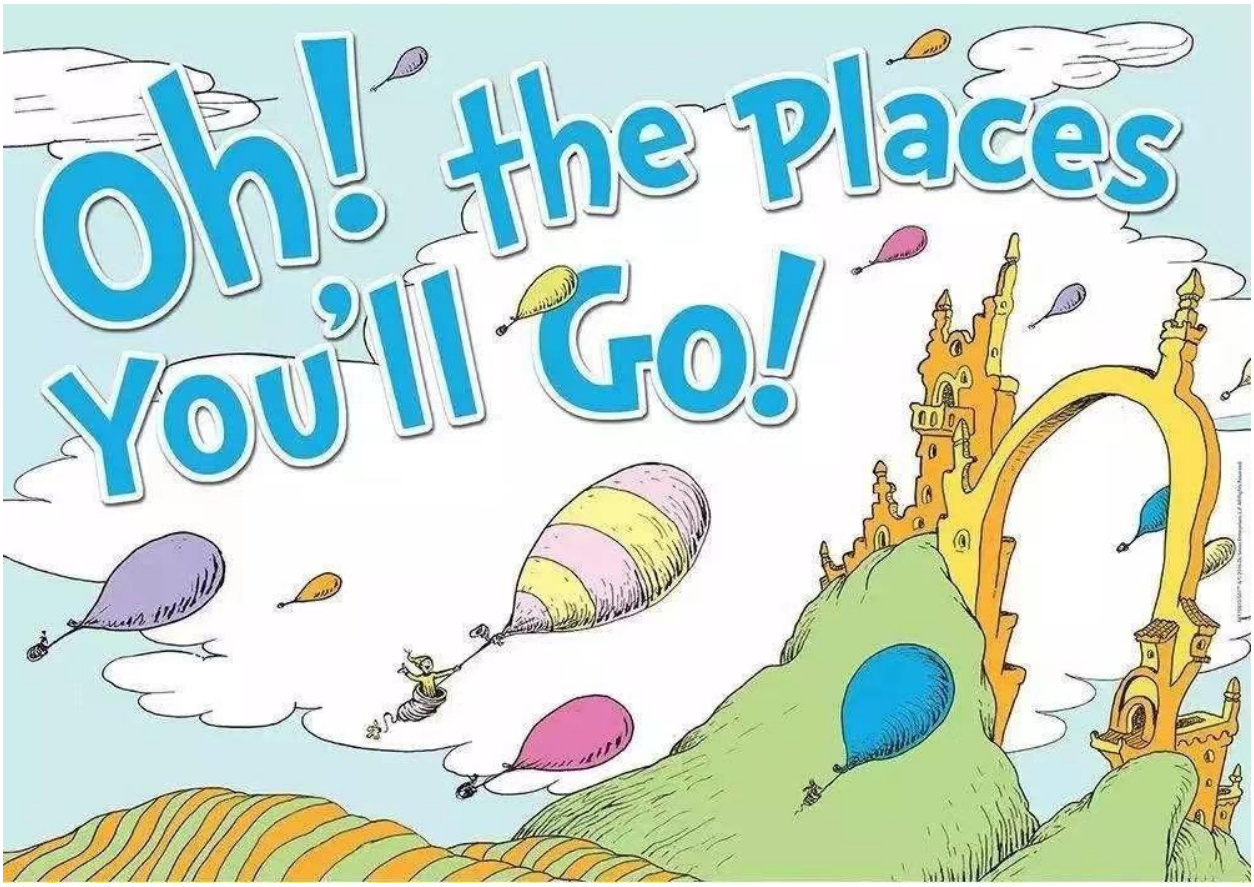
We are excited to share that this will be in school, the week beginning **Monday 12th October**. This is essentially a pop-up book shop. The beauty is that for every book you purchase, we get one book for the school. There is a wide range available. **Please note that the book fair can only take card 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 building next to the Pre-school. During parents evenings, it will be in the school hall.

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 Wednesday, 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 please let the office know (including the book title) so they can add the book replacement cost to your MCAS account.

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 **(a minimum of three times)** 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 answer where needed..

News from Busbridge pre-school



What a lovely start to the Autumn term we have had! We are so proud of how well the children have settled into pre-school. Over the past few weeks, they have become increasingly familiar with their new environment and our daily routines, while beginning to build lovely relationships with the adults and children around them.

It has been wonderful to see new friendships forming and the children becoming more independent as they explore, play and learn together. They are learning to take turns, share, listen to each other and work together, while beginning to understand what it means to be part of our pre-school community.

We have also been very busy! The children have enjoyed stories, cooking, games, music, PE and visits to the Woodlands, alongside plenty of opportunities to talk, discover, create and have fun together.

We are incredibly pleased with how far the children have come already and are excited to see their confidence, friendships and love of learning continue to grow throughout the year.

Safeguarding

Reporting Injuries

As part of our safeguarding procedures, we kindly ask families to **let a member of staff know at morning drop-off if your child has any bruises or injuries that have happened outside of school**. This helps us to ensure that we are aware of any injuries and can continue to support and care for your child appropriately throughout the school day.

Thank you for helping us to keep all of our children safe and well.

Safeguarding for all

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, teaching assistant or club leader to have a look, check lost property or send an email. We will be happy to help. **Please may we remind every family to label all school belongings clearly to reduce the amount of lost property.**

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.

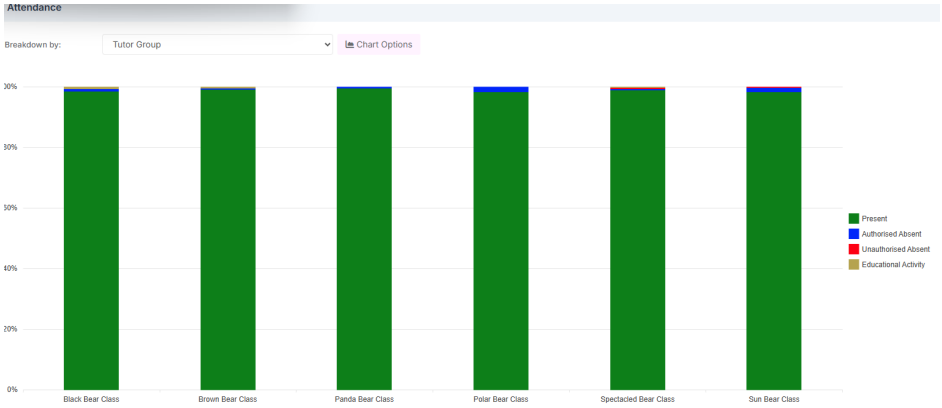
Good attendance gives children the best opportunity to learn, make progress and enjoy all that school has to offer. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child attend school regularly and arrive on time each day.

Please remember that we have a two-week half term in 2026, beginning on Monday 19th October, with school reopening on Monday 2nd November.

Please ensure that holidays are booked during the school holidays and not during term time. Likewise, please avoid booking weekend trips that result in children being absent on a Friday, Monday or both.

As per our attendance policy, term-time holidays will not be authorised, and families may receive a fine for unauthorised absence.

Attendance chart 03.09.2026 - 02.10.2026



Events and dates for Autumn 1



October

Tuesday 13th at 2.30pm - Harvest celebration for **Y2** at the Church

Wednesday 14th at 2.30pm - Harvest celebration for **Y1** at the Church

Friday 16th at 9am - Harvest celebration for **EYFS (pre-school** and **YR)** in the school hall

Monday 12th and Wednesday 14th October (3.45 - 6.45pm) - whole school

Monday 19th - Friday 30th October; two week half-term

November

Tuesday 17th - Flu Immunisations

Monday 30th - Create and Make (whole school)

Please remember to check our website for all the key dates for the year ahead, including our Woodland Days.

Dates for the Academic Year 2026 -2027

AUTUMN 2026

Start of Term: 3 September 2026 **Half Term:** 19 October to 30 October 2026 **End of Term:** 18 December 2026

SPRING 2027

Start of Term: 4 January 2027 **Half Term:** 15 to 19 February 2027 **End of Term:** 25 March 2027

SUMMER 2027

Start of Term: 12 April 2027 **Half Term:** 31 May to 4 June 2027 **End of Term:** 23 July 2027

*** Remaining Inset Days for 2026-2027 are Monday 26th, Tuesday 27st July & Wednesday 28th July 2027.*

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