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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to all our returning families and a big welcome to all of the new families who are now members of the Bury team. A full cohort has started the year in Reception with 10 new Kestrels joining us: Arabella, Ata, Jayden, Dylan, Logan, Emily, Flo, Arthur, Rosie and Maisie in Yr R and Tristan and Frida in Year 1. We also welcome some new Sparrowhawks, Conner and Orla and some new Buzzards with Lola and Elena joining the school. A huge welcome to everyone.

We have a new staff member as Miss Hetherington has joined the school. She will be working mainly across KS2 and brings with her a PE expertise as a qualified football coach. A full staffing overview is attached to give you an idea of all of the school roles.

Brilliant Bury

The children have come back and got straight into learning about the school over the last 175 years. To celebrate, the children will be working on creating their own tile to form part of a new entrance mosaic. Last year's Sparrowhawks learnt all about mosaics in their work on Romans, so will be applying this knowledge to support us all as we build the new piece. We are inviting people who have had a connection with the school over the last 175 years to get involved and come and make a tile (no previous experience necessary). Mrs Braun was very excited as we had a new kiln installed over the holidays. This means we are not reliant on Mrs Braun taking the pieces home. It does mean that on the occasions the Kiln is running, for their safety, the children will not be able to access our art/DT room - in all this is only likely to be a few days per year.

Bury Rangers

In a change this year, Bury Rangers will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Tuesday will be Kestrel Class and Wednesdays will be Sparrowhawks and Buzzards. By making this change it means that both Mr Gatrell and Miss Willett will be teaching Bury Rangers on the Wednesday and we will be able to do more activities with the two of them leading different aspects. As before, the children need old clothes and wellies. If someone forgets their clothes, we have the waterproofs available to put over school clothes.



Appropriate Clothing

I am sure you have already, but please ensure your child's clothes all have their name in.

PE kit must be in school all week as our PE times are subject to change. PE kit includes a change of footwear. If your child does not have their kit they will be unable to take part in PE and the class teacher will speak to you, however if kit is brought in on Monday each week this should not be a problem. If you are worried about taking kit home after a club, please ensure your child has an additional 'club' kit in school.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has their named water bottle in school every day. The bottle should contain water only.

Start of the School Day

School starts when the bell goes at 8:40 and each class has specific learning that they do straight away from this time. Whilst it may not seem much arriving just 5 mins later each day soon adds up:

Arrival Time	Time lost per week	Time lost per term (approx. due to variable term length)	Time lost per year
8:40	0	0	0
8:45	25mins	5hrs	15hrs 50mins or 3 school days
8:50	50mins	10hrs	31hrs 40mins or 6 school days

Cashless School

Following feedback last year, we invested in a cashless system through Parentmail. Thank you to everyone who has signed up. All of the trips and clubs will be on the same system and we will rarely be keeping cash at school. In our efforts to reduce waste, we will also only have additional copies of letters available as hard copies if requested from the office.

The following two sections in blue were included in the last newsletter, but I have included them here for new parents to read.

Fountain Pens



We have a few new projects happening next year. Firstly, some of Buzzard Class have been trialling different pens which has resulted in them selecting their favourite for next year. We are moving away from handwriting pens and instead have been trialling fountain pens which we can refill. This is driven by an aim to continue to reduce our single-use plastic and the trial has been incredibly thorough by the children. The children were not shown the prices, but were trialling pens that ranged from £5 to £20 – they have selected the most expensive, but for very good reasons: build quality, ease of use etc.

We will provide the children with their pen at the start of Buzzard Class. The children have all selected the pen colour they would like and the nib they would like (they trialled a couple of sizes over the last month). The particular pen they have chosen also comes with a left-handed nib which was well received by our left-handed children. The pen chosen by the children in Buzzard Class is the Lamy Safari. Whilst the body and components are plastic, they are built to last if looked after. If your child damages/loses their pen we will not be able to replace them, they are however readily available. The nib can also be bought separately, so should damage happen to the nib it can be replaced without throwing away all of the pen.

The pens and nibs are available at numerous stationers, but we have bought ours, along with the ink, from here [Lamy Safari](#)

Bees

Some of you will have noticed, Mr Gatrell, Miss Willett and I have been disappearing earlier than normal after school on Mondays for the last few weeks. This is because we are being trained by the Bury Bee Keepers with the aim of keeping our own school bees. The bees will become part of Sparrowhawk Class's learning, supporting elements of history and science and of course learning about the conservation of bees in their own right.

The children's involvement with the bees will be carefully managed and we have spent a long time ensuring all risk assessments are in place. There will be no insistence on children being involved with the bees if they do not want to be, the engagement will be optional.

Have a look at the following video to see another school who has kept bees successfully for the last couple of years [Bee Keeping in school](#)

Bury Bee Keepers will join us for an assembly in the new term and will be supporting us throughout the year. The children met Kathy, the lead bee keeper last week and are all very excited to get started. Miss Willett has been carefully risk assessing everything and Mr Gatrell has been clearing the space where the hives will be located (in the corner of the school field).

I also promised to share some other new things for this year. Earlier I mentioned the installation of the kiln which is a new addition to our art/DT room. The swimming pool conversion has also taken a slight change of direction. The outdoor classrooms have been converted, they just need a couple of coats of white paint – a couple of governors have offered.



Some big news for us all is that we have been chosen by the South Downs National Park to be their Ambassador School. This will see us accessing even more learning opportunities in the Downs whilst also sharing some of the staff's expertise with other schools and getting their children out into the Downs.

Number of children on roll

We now have 55 children who are part of the team here at Bury CE Primary which is the highest it has been over the last three years.

The pupil forecast is very strong. This is in no small part down to the positive support we have from yourselves – thank you.

1000 Trees

Over the holidays, Mr Gatrell and I have been meeting with a group of villagers following a suggestion put forward at the Parish Council's AGM. The proposal was for Bury to plant 1000 trees over the next two years. As part of our Bury Rangers work we are keen to grow these trees from seed, saving the village a fortune and learning about the lifecycle of particular local trees in the process. What would really help us is if you have any old plastic pots. We talked at length about creating ceramic pots rather than using plastic, but settled on the idea that it was better to reuse the existing pots that so many people have. If you have any, could you please give them a wash and pass them on to Mr Gatrell.

Birthdays

For our new parents. Children can wear their own clothes for the day (or a day either side of the holiday) when it is their birthday. Historically, lots of sweets such as small bags of Haribo have been brought in to give out at the end of the day. The sweets invariably produce a huge amount of rubbish and are gone within seconds. Instead we thought instead of sweets that it would be a good idea to buy a book for the school/class. The children then present the book to the school in assembly before placing it in our school library. If there was a message inscribed it would keep reminding the child of their birthday every time either they or a friend borrow the book. The link below is an Amazon wish list where the staff and children have selected some books that they would like for school.

[Birthday Book wish list](#)

Please don't feel constrained by the list, nor feel you have to get them through Amazon – locally we have great bookshops in Arundel and Petworth both of which have a very good selection of children's books. Our own list will grow as there are masses of excellent books



coming out all of the time at the moment – it really is a great time for high quality children’s literature.

Please do add your views to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>. It is incredibly helpful to us for you to share the positives of what is going on at Bury CE Primary; if you have the time and would like to share the good work we are doing then please do add your feedback. Excerpt below taken from ParentView website.

Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child’s school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. The survey can be completed at any time; you don’t have to wait until the school is being inspected.

We will use the information you provide when making decisions about which schools to inspect and when.

Click ‘Give your views’ to register and complete a survey to help your child’s school improve.

It is parents’ responsibility to inform the school of any changes to consent to administer medicine.

It is parents’ responsibility to keep us informed of changes to your personal data and where the school process personal data solely on the basis that you have consented to the processing, you have the right to withdraw that consent.

Diary Dates

I will try to give you as much notice as possible about forthcoming events at school. We will try not to change dates and times, but sometimes we do need to due to circumstances beyond our control.

Please keep checking these dates and times as I will update them every week. New dates added are in bold.

Date	Event
Wednesday September 11th	Start of the 175 year tile building
Thursday 12th	Music sessions start
Friday 20th	PM Extra Bury Rangers session with National Trust for Sparrowhawk Class
Wednesday 2nd October	14:45 Splash Assembly – All parents welcome Splash are a group who use puppets to tell a Christian story
Thursday 10th	Open Day – the children will be sharing the work they have done about 175 years of Bury School. This will also be our open day for prospective new parents. There will also be the possibility to make a tile for our outside mosaic throughout the day (clay permitting).
Friday October 25th	INSET
Monday November 4th	School Photos



Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd	Buzzard Class Residential to Hindleap
Thursday 21 st	14:45 Kestrel Class music performance to parents
Wednesday 27 th	Splash Assembly – All welcome
Thursday December 12 th	Singing to the village at the annual village lunch – all children collected from village hall
Thursday March 5 th	Author Visit

Thank you for your continued support.

Thomas Moore,
Headteacher