



# School Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> February 2020



*Sign2Sing – thank you for your donations. The children did brilliantly showing off their new skills to teachers in this morning’s assembly*



*Finches Gardening – supporting broad bean plants with canes and ties, with colourful plantpot caps to keep passers by safe!*



## Outdoor Learning – Launch of the new Woodland Area



We were all very excited to have the official opening of our new Wildlife area in February. The whole school gathered first thing in the morning to watch the ribbon being cut by one of our school governors. During the day the children all then had the opportunity to have a session working alongside an outdoor learning

expert from Surrey Outdoor Learning Development centre (SOLD). Our Reception children had great fun creating their own clay creature using natural materials. Our Year one children experimented with different materials in order to filter some dirty water. Every year two child had success at creating their own spark to make a group fire, which warmed them all up on what was a rather chilly day! The whole school was really buzzing and we are now planning and preparing lots more learning opportunities to make the most of this wonderful natural area.



## Relationships Education

Mrs Sollufi and Sonia Alder (School Governor) enjoyed meeting with parents on Wednesday to look at and discuss PSHCE/Relationships curriculum resources, and answering any questions. If you have any comments or feedback on our draft policy, do let us know today, the closing date for the consultation period. Thank you.

## Reminder: Parents’ Evening | 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> February

These will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February. The online booking system closes at 10am on Monday 9 February. If you experience any difficulties, please contact the office [info@busbridge-infant.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@busbridge-infant.surrey.sch.uk).

On the day of your appointment, Reception and Year 1 parents should wait in the Hall, and Year 2 should make their way from the Hall and wait in the cloakroom just before your appointment time.

Personalised progress slips trialled in the Autumn Term, in response to requests from parents for more progress information, have been amended slightly to make them easier to interpret. As before, teachers provide an estimate, based on current attainment, of where children are predicted to be at the end of the school year. As always, these are subject to change as rate of progress for individuals is anything but an exact science. This term, Reception parents will also receive a personalised progress slip for their children.

## Reading Audit | Results

Thank you to all those who completed the online reading feedback form. There were 87 responses and, on average, it took 3 minutes to complete. The responses were overwhelmingly positive (4 out of 5 stars) within that 'how much does your child enjoy reading' scored highest (4) and 'how well-resourced' scored the lowest (3.7). Where parents had added comments, these focused on broadly 3 themes:

- Reading to adults in school;
- Quality and quantity of reading books;
- Progress through the colour book bands.

Some parents would like children to read in school to an adult more frequently. In addition to weekly guided reading in groups with the teacher or TA, most children will also read 1:1 to the teacher one week, and the TA the next. We believe this 1:1 time is extremely valuable and we are proud that we continue to hear individual readers as a matter of course (the only school locally who continues this practice). Others who are in need of additional practice will read more regularly. To hear children more regularly would mean sacrificing teaching and lesson time.

Comments regarding quality, breadth and quantity of reading books have been taken on board and will inform our purchasing of new stock with money due to be raised at the next Bounce for Books in March.

Clarification and communication regarding progress through the book bands was mentioned by several respondents. As a result, we will reflect on practice and policy and look at ways we can make this clearer for all.

## School Run Clubs

A reminder that there will be **no teacher-run clubs next week** (this means there will be no Outdoor Learning on Monday; no Art on Tuesday; and no Science on Wednesday). However, Drama and Board Games will go ahead with Mrs Scully and Mr Marsh on Wednesday and Thursday respectively. Please could those who use the school run clubs, please ensure that you have paid £30 for this term? Thank you.

## Additional Learning Space

A plea for anyone with experience of developing funding bids/grant applications to please contact Gemma Taylor via [vicechair\\_pta\\_bis@hotmail.com](mailto:vicechair_pta_bis@hotmail.com) as we progress plans for this exciting new project.

## Electing School Council Children

We are keen to give more children the opportunity for increased responsibility, so each class will be electing new School Council Members for the second half of the year. This will include Reception children. Our thanks go to the outgoing Council children who have done a fabulous job, from representing their class to leading on collecting donations for fundraising initiatives.

## Parking

A reminder, following complaints by local residents, that you should not park opposite, or within 10 metres of, a junction (ie the length of two cars). This is to allow drivers a clear view when emerging from or turning into the junction, and to be able to see pedestrians or cyclists at the junction. We appreciate the roads get very busy at pick up and drop off, but we're grateful for your help in keeping local roads safe.

## Reminder: Friday 14 February is an INSET Day

During this INSET, teaching staff will be working with WildLearning to develop a programme of activities to support our Outdoor Learning curriculum.



## PTA Bingo Evening | Friday 6 March, 7.30pm for an 8pm start

Tickets are on sale until Thursday 13 February (£8 per person). Payment by BACS: SORT CODE - 309349 | ACCOUNT NUMBER - 01674082. Please Email [finchesclassreps@gmail.com](mailto:finchesclassreps@gmail.com) once payment has been made to receive your e-ticket. Thank you

## PTA Treat Friday | every Friday, starting on 28<sup>th</sup> February

It's that time again....Treat Fridays coming soon! Starting after half-term on the 28th February. Healthy and sweet treats starting from 50p will be available for sale in the playground from 3.15pm every Friday until 3rd April. Each class will take a turn selling treats beginning with Wrens. All profits go to your individual class. For further questions please contact your class rep for more details.



## Maths Activities

| Reception   | Year 1   | Year 2   |
|---|--|--|
| <p><u>Subtraction Number Stories</u><br/>Using objects around the house, ask your child to count a set of objects (up to 10 then 20) and subtract a number of objects by 'taking away' and counting how many are left. Extend to subtracting a number of objects by 'counting back' so "There are 8 pasta shells, subtract 2. Say 8 and count back 2 as they remove the objects one at a time saying 7, 6 so 6 are left."</p> | <p><u>Place Value</u><br/>Play a game to make the larger/smaller two digit number by taking turns to roll the die in the maths pack. Decide if the number should go in the 10s or 1s column and roll again to complete a two digit number. Bigger or smaller number wins. E.g. roll a 2 and put in the 1s column, roll a 5 and put in the 10s column making 52. If that is the larger number, you win.</p> | <p><u>Counting</u><br/>Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Use your 100 square to find and describe the patterns e.g. for the pattern of 2, the ones must end in 0,2,4,6,8 (all even numbers); for the pattern of 5, the ones must end in 0,5,0,5. Find or make up your own counting song and share with the class.</p> |

Have a lovely weekend,  
Katherine Smith, Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

### February

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evening 3.30-6.30pm  
 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evening 5.30-8.30pm  
 Friday 14<sup>th</sup> INSET Day  
 17-21<sup>st</sup> Half Term  
 Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Year 1 trip to Birdworld  
 Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Parent Information Evening with the PTA at 8pm in school hall

### March

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> **Growth Mindset drop-in (9-9.30am)**  
 Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> World Book Day  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Reception Children: National Child Measurement Programme  
 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Reception Children: National Child Measurement Programme  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Sport Relief  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Bouncing for Books  
 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Year R visit to Bocketts Farm

### April

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Easter Church Service 9:30am (children only)  
 Spring Concert Year R 2.30pm followed by in-class celebration.  
 Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Spring Concert Year 1 & Year 2 at 2:15pm followed by in-class celebration.  
 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> END OF TERM at 1.45pm  
 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> First day of Summer Term

**INSET Days** - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

*Please be aware that if parents/carers take their child out of school without authorisation for 5 or more days, they will be liable to receive penalty notices. Currently, the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 payable within 21 days, rising to £120.00 if paid within 21- 28 days. If the penalty notice is not paid within 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that Penalty Notices are issued per parent/carer per child, so a family with 2 parents/carers and 2 children will receive 4 penalty notices.*

- Online fundraising - please remember if you shop via Amazon that we are registered with [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk). Simply select 'Busbridge Infant School PTA' as your chosen charity. There's also Easyfundraising for all your other online shopping needs - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/3WEXUD/> - simply download the app to raise free funds for the school.
- Second hand uniform contact Nicole Horstead – [busbridgeuniform@gmail.com](mailto:busbridgeuniform@gmail.com)
- Email address: [info@busbridge-infant.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@busbridge-infant.surrey.sch.uk) Telephone: 01483 417898
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