



BUXLOW
Preparatory School

Buxlow Bulletin

Date of issue: Friday 29th November 2024

Facta non Verba



Only 16 tickets left!

Swan Lake at Sadler's Wells

I am **very** pleased to announce that (many months ago) I have secured tickets for our pupils to see Matthew Bourne's interpretation of Swan Lake at Sadler's Wells.

[You can read more about this awe-inspiring performance here.](#)

[Click here to see the trailer](#)

Pupils in years 1,2,3,4,5 & 6 will see the matinee performance on Thursday 9th January 2025. We will travel by coach (paid for by the school) after lunch and will return after the end of the normal school day. There are 30 pupil tickets available, on a first come, first served basis.

Payment of £15.00, in advance via Wisepay, is required to secure your child's ticket.

Bookings for this trip close on 10th December 2024

Mrs McLelland

Book now to avoid disappointment - only 16 tickets left

Christmas Lunch

MAINS

Roast Turkey
Quorn Roast

SIDES

Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Broccoli,
Chicken Cocktail Sausage
Stuffing and Gravy

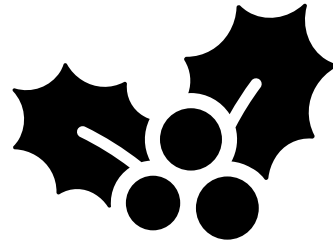
DESSERTS

Festive Chocolate and Ginger Cupcake
Chocolate Pinwheel and Vanilla Ice-Cream

*Menus maybe subject to change



Wednesday 11th December
Christmas Lunch



For those children who don't normally have a school hot lunch but would like this as a one-off, please book via *Wisepay*.

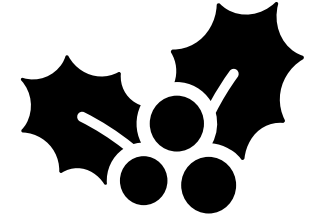
Orders to be placed no later than Thursday 5th December.

£3.65 per child





CHRISTMAS POST BOX



Year 6 have been busy making a wonderful Christmas Post Box in their Art and DT lessons. **THANK YOU, YEAR 6!!** The post box will be placed in the entrance hall and children are invited to send Christmas cards, or winter-themed cards, to their classmates and teachers from Monday onwards, until the end of term. Please ensure the envelopes are addressed neatly with the recipient's name and their class clearly written on the front of the envelope.



School Updates

Congratulations to our *Stars of the Week*:

Reception: Aqeelah
Year 2: Ayaan
Year 4: Ismaeel
Year 6: Gabriel

Year 1: Amir
Year 3: Suraj
Year 5: Zidane

House Points:
Nicoll: 89
O'Donnell: 86
Emery: 82
Probyn: 79



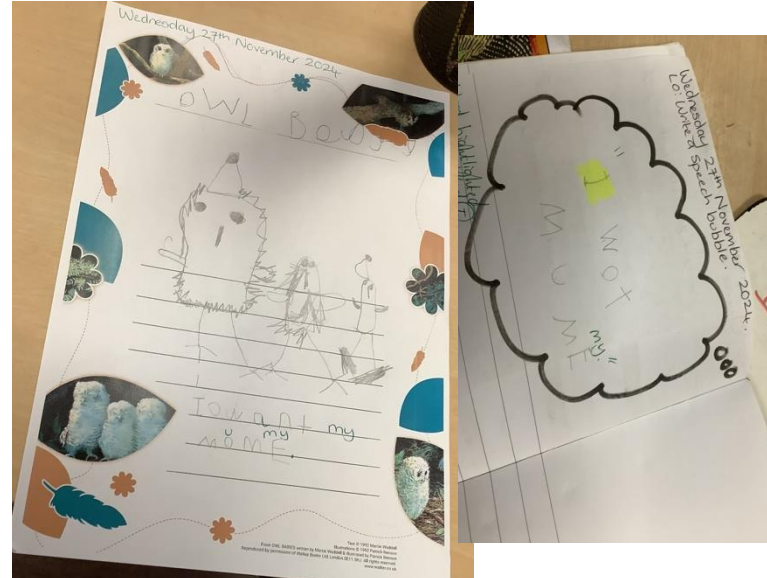
Reception



English: Storytelling and Vocabulary Development

In English, the children have been using the story map we created as a class to retell the story of Owl babies in their own words. They have been sequencing the story and labeling it with word captions, which has helped them incorporate the key vocabulary taught in the classroom. This activity has significantly increased their language skills and vocabulary, aiding them in building sentences more effectively.

Additionally, we created speech bubbles for our beautiful owls crafted during our arts and crafts session. The children suggested ideas in their bubbles about where they think the mum might have gone and expressed how they might feel if their mum was absent. This activity not only encouraged creativity but also facilitated discussions about emotions and perspectives.



Maths: Composition of Numbers

In mathematics, we have continued to secure the children's understanding of the composition of the numbers four and five. Through a variety of practical activities using manipulatives and other objects, the children have been exploring different ways to make four and five. We utilised a number line to help them sequence patterns, and the children independently completed worksheets to assess their understanding and determine if they needed further support.

Reception



Science: Investigating Shadows

This week, we conducted a science experiment related to our topic of light and dark, where the children learned how shadows are formed, what they are, and how they are made. Using templates, they created shadow pets and experimented with making holes in their templates to observe the effects. They asked questions such as how the proximity of light or objects affects the size of the shadows. This hands-on activity was incredibly engaging, with the children using a torch to explore light reflections with their fingers. They have been encouraged to take their puppets home and use a torch at night to observe the shadows formed by different objects.

Expressive Arts and Understanding the World

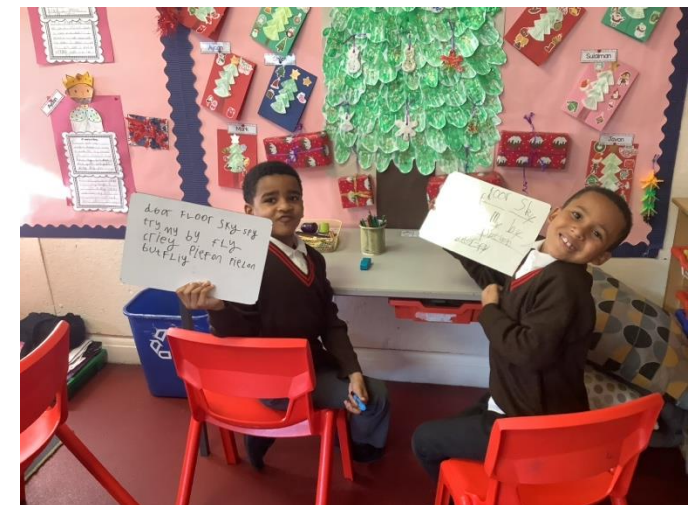
Last week, the children explored what Owl Babies needed to create her home and what materials are used for a nest. This week, we used food items like shredded marshmallows and chocolate googly eyes to create a cozy nest for our babies. This was a fun and interactive experience, and the children thoroughly enjoyed crafting their nests, even sneaking a taste of the chocolate along the way!

We also took a walk around the school to identify different items that produce light. The children were able to spot lights in various places, including the classroom, iPads, and mobile phones, and suggested other sources like



Year One & Two

This week in Year 2, the children have been exploring a variety of exciting topics across the curriculum. In Maths, they have been introduced to shapes, identifying 2D and 3D shapes, and counting their sides and vertices. In English, they have been engaging with our class reader, *The Enormous Crocodile* by Roald Dahl, focusing on summarizing, predicting, and asking questions to deepen their understanding of the story. In Science, the children have been learning about the ocean habitat, discovering how animals adapt to survive in this unique environment. During History, they explored the life of Walter Tull and gained insights into what it was like to live on the front lines during World War I. Additionally, we celebrated American Thanksgiving by learning about its traditions and taking time to reflect on what we are thankful for.

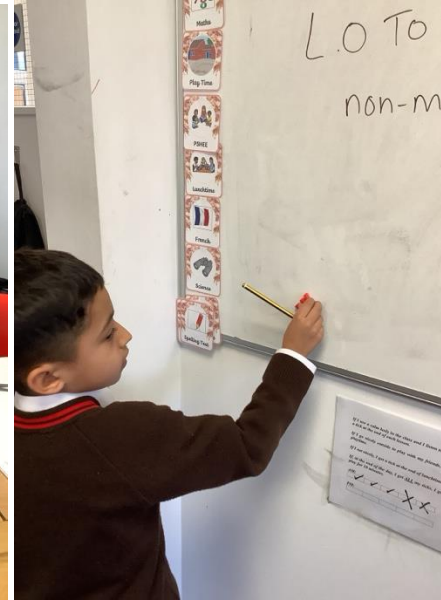
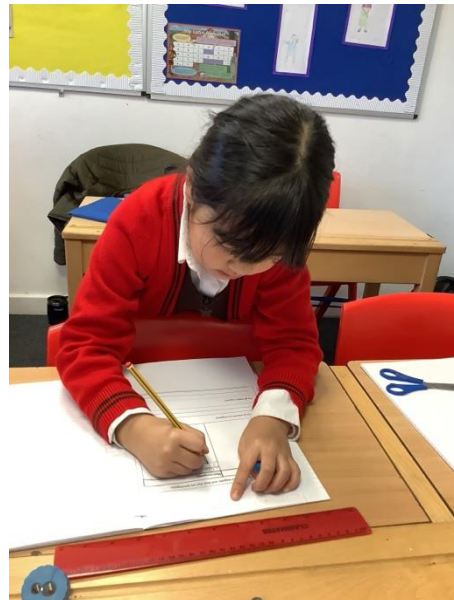


Year Three

This week has been full of creativity, deep thinking, and exciting new things in Year 3!

In English, we have focused on retelling and sequencing the story of The Perfect Tree Adventure. The children worked in groups to rehearse the story and then performed it by memory to their peers! Their next task was to create a story map of The Perfect Tree Adventure without looking at their previous work to understand how much they remember. In Maths, we've continued to focus on multiplication and place value. The children have been working on multiplication using the column method and are now moving on to multiplying three-digit numbers!

In Science this week, we were looking at magnetism. The children explored the classroom and looked for different objects that were magnetic or non-magnetic.



This week in P4C, we explored a thought-provoking question: **Should we always follow rules?** The children engaged in insightful discussions, considering different perspectives and reflecting on their own experiences. To make this even more meaningful, we took the opportunity to create new class rules together. Each child contributed ideas, and we all signed the new rules as a class to ensure we're committed to following them. During the discussion, one child asked an interesting question: **"If a stranger told you to follow rules, would you listen to them?"** This sparked even more great conversation about trust, safety, and when it's important to question rules...

Year Four

Year 4 has been steadily moving closer towards Christmas!

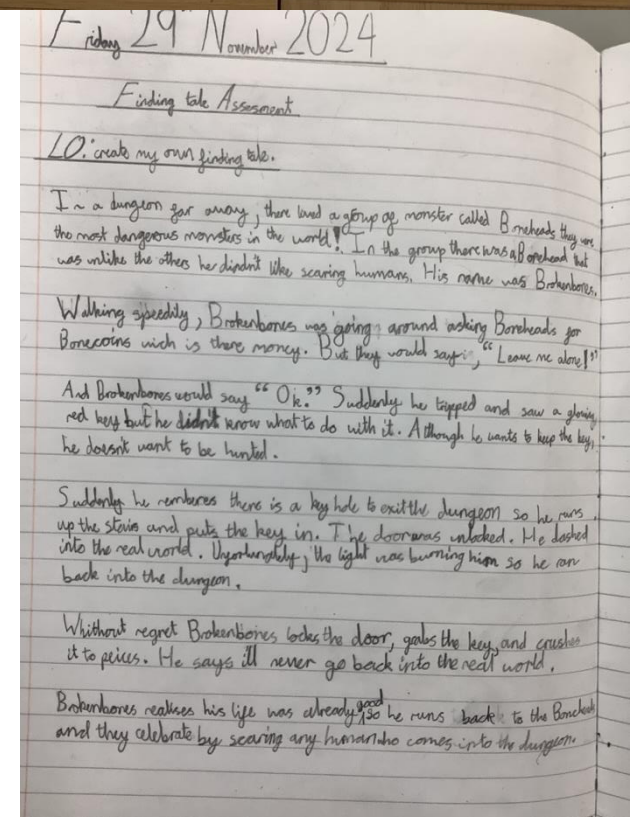
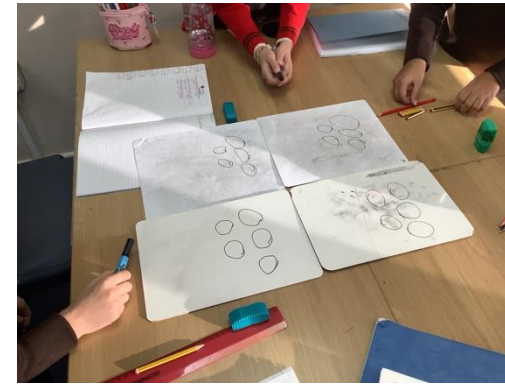
This week in maths, we finished our short division practice and starting learning about factors and multiples. We also spent a little more time creating groups of different objects to better understand and explain how division works.

In English, we have finished our Finding Tale stories and we have just done this half-term's writing assessment. Exciting!

In Geography, we learned about the Prime Meridian and why England was chosen as the 'middle' of the world.

In History, we learned about Queen Boudicca and why she rebelled against the Roman Empire.

Finally, in Art, we started updating our classroom to reflect the winter season. First we have done snowflakes, and then next week we will update our class mural!



Year Five

What a wonderful week for Year 5! A real highlight was our trip, with Year 6, to the Apple Store for our GarageBand workshop. Not only was it lots of fun to explore our creativity, our teachers got lots of ideas too!

In Maths we have been focusing on Mental Maths skills again, across a range of curriculum areas. It is a good idea to do this regularly to keep our brains sharp!

In English we have continued reading ***The Hobbit*** and started our final writing unit of the term, a non-fiction topic based on Persuasive Leaflets. It gives us a sneak peak at our next class reader...

Other fun activities have included further development of our Phone Case designs in DT and learning about the work of Jane Goodall in Science (we'll be putting some of those new ICT skills to use on this theme soon!). We also produced spreads about Greek Gods and Goddesses on Book Creator.

Quote of the Week: "What came first, the chicken or the egg? Oh no!"

Year Six

In RE this week, we took a look at the meaning of Advent and learned about some of the symbols of advent which include a wreath with 5 candles and the Christingle

On Tuesday, Year 6 had the opportunity to go to the Apple store in Brent Cross to take part in a workshop learning about different apps. This time, we focused on the app called Garage Band and the class learnt how to compose their own tune, using different instruments, beats and backing tracks. The children had access to a huge amount of material and were introduced to genres of music they had never listened to before. When everyone had finished composing their piece, the children took it in turns to play it for the rest of the group (and all the customers in the store too!) It was a fantastic trip, and we have been invited back to learn about more apps, so watch this space!





Please ensure that when leaving school premises, **you shut the gate behind you.**

This is to ensure the security of pupils and staff in the school.

Please resist temptation to leave the gate open for others.

All visitors need to press the buzzer for the office or Nursery to gain access.

Thank you for your on-going help with this.

Eco Schools News - 29.11.24



Eco-Schools

Distinction | 2024 - 2025

A continued request: We are working on an Art project about single use plastics. If you have any plastic bottle tops – from milk, fizzy drinks or cartons – we would **love it** if you could help us by collecting these and sending them in. We can't wait to show you the finished mural!



Speaking of single use plastics, a polite reminder to bring reusable bottles only to school for water, please! These can be topped up in the fountains.

- Ms Stanton (Staff Rep)
- Noura (Year 6 Eco Lead)

Philosophy 4 Children

We thought you might like to have a mini enquiry with your children and family members at home. With this in mind, we will publish an enquiry question for you to explore each week. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers - the beauty is in the listening to each other and responding to what you hear.

Have a go!

What is one thing I could learn from you?



For students who missed their flu vaccination at school, there is a **catch-up clinic at Stockley Park Community Clinic** to ensure they are protected this flu season.

Clinic Details:

Stockley Park Community Clinic

6-9 The Square, Stockley Park, Uxbridge, UB11 1FW

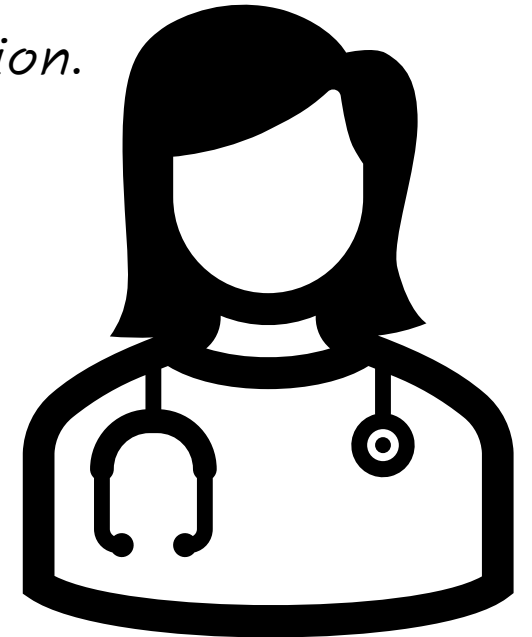
Free parking available—car registrations must be provided at reception.

Dates and Times:

- Tuesday, 3rd December: 4:15 PM – 6:00 PM
- Thursday, 12th December: 4:15 PM – 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, 18th December: 4:15 PM – 6:00 PM

Booking Link:

<https://nwl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2024/book>



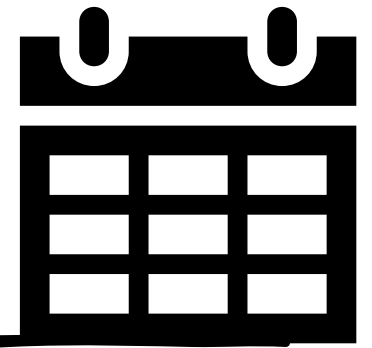
Spring Term Clubs

Bookings are to be made via Wisepay

Clubs commence
Monday 6th January
2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
French Club Leader: Mdm Doyle Cost £30 N° places: 10 (R-Y2)	KS2 Quiz Questers Club Leader: Ms Stanton Cost £30 N° places: 8 (Y3-6 only)	KS2 Art Club Leader: Mr Hamilton-Turner Cost £30 N° places: 8 (Y3-6 only)	KS2 Puzzle Club Leader: Miss Harrington Cost £30 N° places: 8 (Y3-6 only)	11+ Club Leader: Mrs Zaman Cost £30 N° places: 10 (Y4-Y5)
Music Club Leader: Ms Kurunakaran Cost £30 N° places: 10 (Yr3-6)	Italian Club Leader: Ms Falletta Cost £30 No places: 10	Multisports Leader: Coach Cost = £75 N° places: 20 (Y1-Y6) Book through Premier Education	Origami Club Leader: Mrs Qureshi Cost £30 N° places: 8 (Y1-Y3 only)	Chess Club Leader: Jumana N° places 10 Cost = £75
After School Care until 6pm £10.00 after 16:30	After School Care until 6pm £10.00 after 16:30	Debate Club Leader: Mr Smith N° places: 12 (Y4-Y6) Cost £30	After School Care until 6pm £10.00 after 16:30	After School Care until 6pm £10.00 after 16:30
		After School Care until 6pm £10.00 after 16:30		

Dates for your Diaries **New Dates*



- **Tuesday 10th December CHANGE OF DATE** – Christmas Concert at The Lycée (morning performance, children to return to school afterwards) Year 1 through to Year 6. Children and staff will depart Buxlow at 09:00. Parents to take seats from 09:50 for a 10:00 start.
- **Wednesday 11th December - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day - wear your jolly jumpers with your school uniform. PE as normal**
- **Thursday 12th December: Swimming as normal**
- **Friday 13th December:** End of term. School and Nursery close at 12:00. Non-uniform Day
- **Spring Term starts on Monday 6th January 2025 - clubs start this week**
- **Thursday 9th January - Trip to Sadler's Wells. Book your child's tickets via Wisepay**

Term dates for next academic year

TERM DATES – 2025/26

Autumn Term 2025

Wednesday 3rd September – Start of Autumn Term

Half Term: Monday 20th October – Friday 31st October

Monday 3rd November – Return

End of Term – Friday 12th December (1200)

Spring Term 2026

Tuesday 6th January – Start of Spring Term

Half Term – Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Monday 23rd February – Return

Friday 27th March – End of Term (1200)

Summer Term 2026

Monday 20th April – Start of Summer Term

Monday 4th May – May Day Bank Holiday

Half Term – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June – Return

Friday 10th July – End of Academic Year (1200)