



**BUXLOW**  
Preparatory School

# Buxlow Bulletin

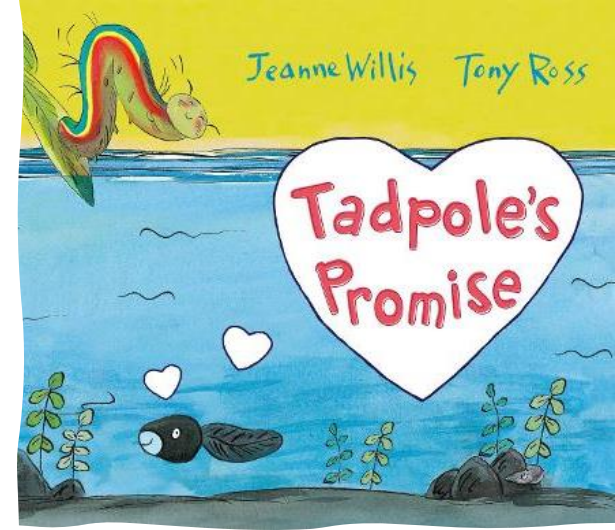
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*Date of issue: Friday 3rd May 2024*

*Facta non Verba*

# Update from Mrs McLelland, Headteacher

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I have had a great week, spending time with pupils from across the school. Albert and I visited Year 5, Nursery, Reception and Year 3 and I took the opportunity to read one of my favourite books to the children: *Tadpole's Promise*, a story about love, life-cycles and changes, with a wicked twist at the end.

Only two weeks to go until our Talent Show - please encourage your children to have a go!

Finally, **10 house-points** on offer for the answer to this week's Eco Team Challenge.



# International Day – Friday 24th May

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Please bring:

Food to share

Artefacts to display

\*Sunshine

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the day, celebrating, enjoying food, music and a great atmosphere.





# Talent Show!

We are delighted to announce that the Talent Show will be returning to Buxlow this term!

The idea was proposed by three of our Year 5 pupils – Madison, Noura and Aryan, who have designed posters to put up around the school as well.

PLEASE SIGN UP on the sign-up sheet the main office by Monday 29th April

BUXLOW TALENT SHOW will be held on 17th MAY 2024 during our assembly time

(Staff are welcome to sign up too!!)



# School Updates:

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## Stars of the week:

Reception: Amir Year 1: Ayaan Year 2: Aryan

Year 3: Sarah Year 4: Zidane Year 5: Aayan

Year 6: Ashar

**House Points** - Well done to **Emery** for a total of 129 points this week!

**Nicoll = 124**

**O'Donnell = 113**

**Emery = 129**

**Probyn = 104**

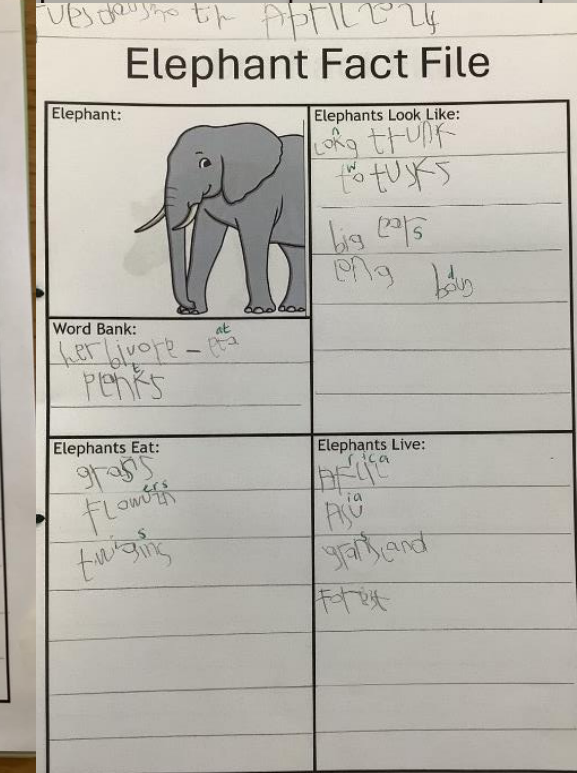
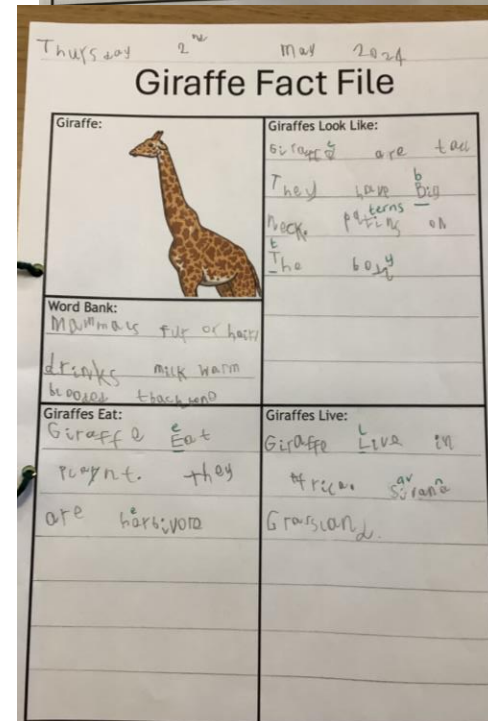
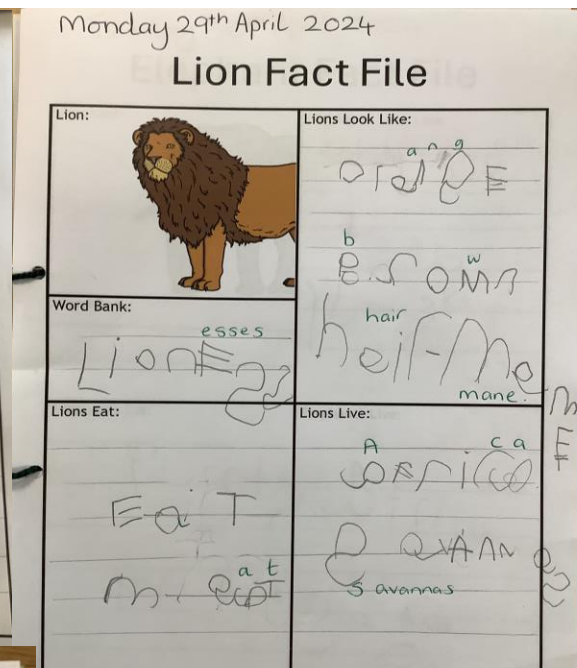
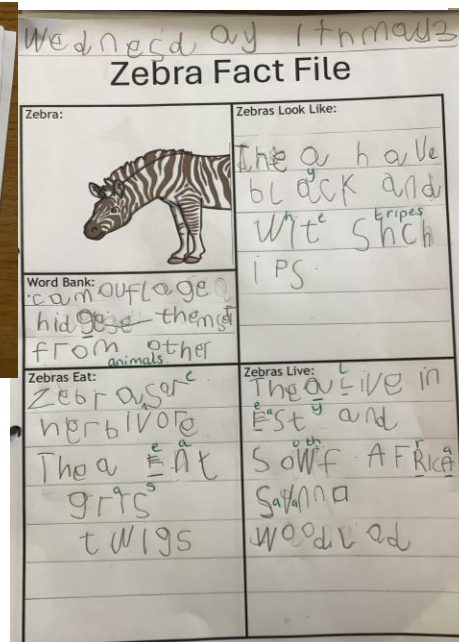
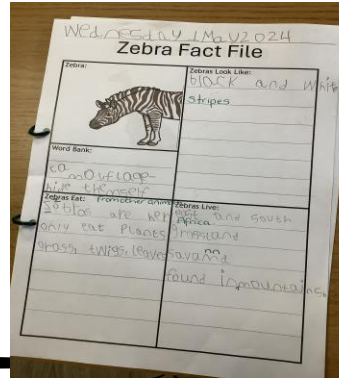




# Reception

This week in Reception, the children have been delving into various non-fiction books about animals. We have been exploring the children's favorite animals, observing their characteristics to enrich our vocabulary, learning about their diet and habitat. Subsequently, we have created our own Reception encyclopedia where the children have penned down what they have learned in their own words, with the aid of visual materials and a word bank for assistance. Additionally, the children have enjoyed investigating animals in our tuff tray, noting the distinctions and identifying the countries where they are predominantly found.

During Phonics sessions this week, we have been assessing the children's phonics knowledge from Phases 2 and 3. We have evaluated their ability to enunciate phonemes when presented with graphemes, write them when the phoneme is heard, and determine if they can read and spell decodable words. This assessment has allowed us to consolidate their understanding and focus on strengthening their grasp of Phases 2 and 3 with confidence. We firmly believe that phonics in Reception forms the cornerstone of their learning journey, nurturing their growth and development.





# Reception Cont.d...

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In **Arts and Crafts**, the children have been crafting their favorite animals using a variety of materials. They have referenced their encyclopedia to observe the physical attributes of the animals and have used global animals as inspiration to recreate their chosen animal.

In **Mathematics**, the focus has been on practical learning. The children have been introduced to the concept of money, differentiating between various coins, understanding the significance of money, its origin, how to ensure its security, and exploring the value of each coin.



In **French**, children have been learning some parts of the body. They listened to a song called "une patate" (a potato) and practiced the words by adding the body parts to their own potato man. Scan the QR code to hear the song.





# Reception - Cont.d.....



## Understanding the World

We are excited to share a wonderful experience that the children had in understanding the world through a special visit from our school dog, Albert. This visit provided a valuable opportunity for the children to engage with Mrs. McLelland and ask questions about dogs, aligning with our current focus on learning about animals.

It was inspiring to see the children's curiosity drive them to inquire about Albert. For instance, Shlok asked, "What does he eat?" to which Mrs. McLelland responded, "Meat, chicken, lamb." Shlok then made the connection, "He is a carnivore."

This interaction not only showcased the children's inquisitiveness but also their ability to apply their knowledge in real-life situations. The children had the privilege to observe and interact with Albert, gaining firsthand experience of his appearance and texture. They also had the opportunity to feed him, further deepening their understanding of animal care and behavior. This hands-on experience complemented their learning about animals in English, providing a multi-sensory approach to learning.





# Year 1

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This week in Year 1, children started their new topic on superheroes. They discussed and described well known superheroes from comics and movies. They also created their own superheroes with unique powers and abilities.

In maths, children are learning about volume and capacity. They spent the week estimating, ordering and comparing the capacities of various containers.

In other subjects, children learned about the features of a castle and explained the most important part in their opinion. They researched facts about the seven continents. In addition, they learned about oxygen and the oxygen cycle.



# Year 2

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In English this week, the children have been working on their innovated stories using the story map they developed last week. It has been wonderful to witness their growth in descriptive writing, as they have utilised a range of sentence starters, powerful expanded noun phrases and incorporated high-level vocabulary to make their writing more interesting and engaging!

Year 2 also had the opportunity to plant their very own bean as part of their ongoing plant learning journey. They love to actively engage in hands-on experiences that deepen their understanding of the natural world!

In Maths, the focus has been on symmetry and shapes this week. The students have been learning about different types of symmetry and have been identifying lines of symmetry in a variety of shapes. It has been a hands-on and interactive experience for them, fostering their understanding of this important mathematical concept.

In Design and Technology, Year 2 have been busy completing their cars. They are now ready to attach the wheels and axles, bringing their creations to life. This project has allowed them to explore their problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of simple machines.





# Year 3

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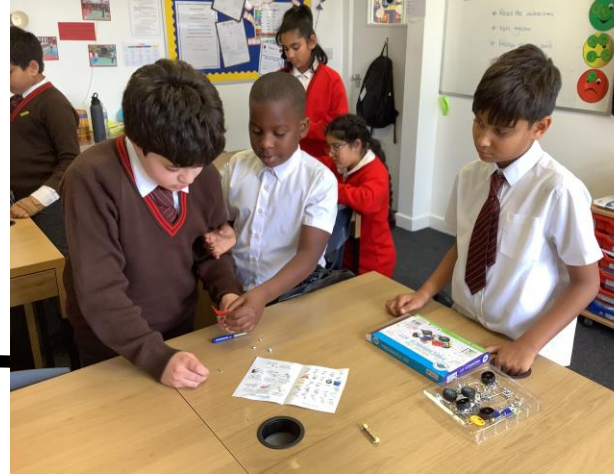
- Year 3 have had a really positive week, showing a fantastic attitude to their learning all round. This effort was rewarded their first visit from Albert, the school dog, who sat with them while Mrs McLelland read a story. A lovely way to end a day!
- Work wise the children have been focusing on core skills that will support them through end of year assessments. Multiplication skills formed the basis of our Maths, with the children being able to apply different aspects of times tables to answer problems – e.g. knowing the 4s and 10s to answer 'What is 240 divided by 4?'
- In English, the children recapped some important elements of grammar and punctuation, such as identifying incorrectly punctuated speech sentences and finding which verb is modified by an adverb in a given sentence.
- The children have learned lots in other subjects too, such as the importance of Hindu holy figures and how the Rosetta Stone helped to unlock the secret of hieroglyphics. What a week!





# Year 4

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We have had a busy week this week. In Maths, Year 4 have started a new topic on shapes. They have been studying 2D shapes and comparing, triangles and quadrilaterals.

English has been focused on a lot of group activities to become familiar with the 11+ text. The children have been annotating the text with partners and then working together to use the text to answer the questions. This has been a really positive start and eventually the children will become more confident in approaching the questions.

Year 4 used the atlas during their Geography lessons to find the different rivers in the UK.

Science was challenging this week and all the children worked brilliantly with their peers completing a STEM activity. They had to follow instructions and build a vehicle. This involved good team work and problem solving. It was pleasing to see that the children persevered even though they were finding it difficult.

We aim to complete it next week.

The Year 4 room has been brightened up by the beautiful butterflies produced by the children in their Art lesson last week.





# Year 5

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This week started in Year 5 with a science investigation to see who could make the strongest bridge out of paper. Children could manipulate the paper any way they wanted to and we used wooden blocks to test the designs. Samaarth was victorious with a concertina design and we learnt this was all about distribution of weight. Well done, Samaarth!

We have also decided to enter an ISA Art Competition which has the theme of butterflies. Year 5 decided to enter as a group, rather than individually. In our Design & Technology lessons we learnt how to fold square pieces of paper to make two halves of the butterfly, which were then tied together with ribbon to make the antennae. The whole class did a fantastic job and the display in our classroom looks amazing! Fingers crossed for the competition.

Finally, a thank you to Ms.Patsika, our old music teacher, who kindly provided the sheet music for the Buxlow School Song and Toma had the honour of using it first to play the music for the song in our Assembly.



# Year 6

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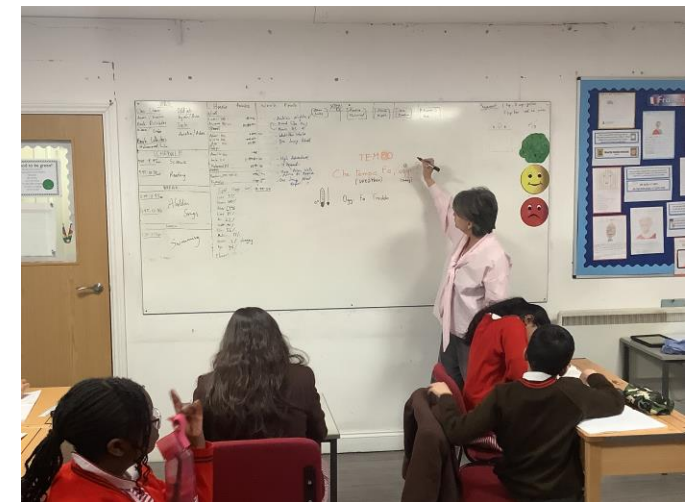
Year 6 has been waiting anxiously for the good summer weather to finally arrive - we will be practising our production outside once that happens! In the meantime, we have now mastered three songs and gone through most of the scenes.

In English, we have started learning how to switch between formal and informal writing. We will use characters from our class reader to help practise this skill.

In Maths, we are learning area and perimeter of rectangles, triangles, parallelograms and circles, as well as integrating algebra in problems to find missing sides of those shapes.

Checking in on some of our specialist teachers: in LAMDA, the class is preparing for their LAMDA exams in June. Lots of Shakespeare being heard from there! And in Italian, the students are learning how to talk about the weather.

Finally, in science, we practised identifying scientific variables and choosing them in experiment designs. Tricky stuff!





# Eco Challenges - 3.5.24

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As you know, at Buxlow we are very proud of our status as an Eco School, having achieved the prestigious 'Green Flag' award for two years in a row and achieving a Merit for 2022-2023.

We are looking forward to pushing ourselves further and will now be sending you an Eco themed challenge each week in the Buxlow Bulletin.

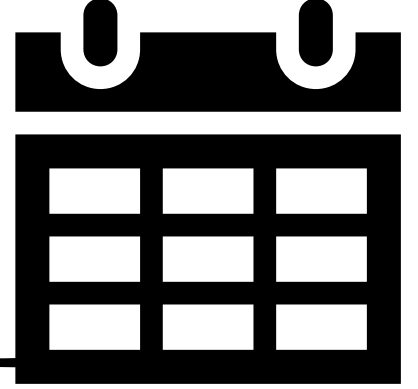
***This week's challenge:*** Plastic film (such as salad bags, lids on microwaveable dishes etc) is often not able to be recycled. Do you know why?

Send any results of your challenge to our staff supervisor, Ms S, via [h.stanton@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:h.stanton@buxlowschool.org.uk). Good luck!



# Summer Term Dates for your diary

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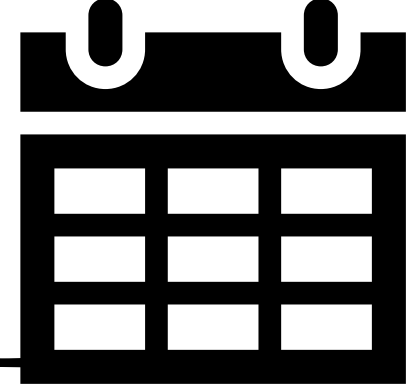


- Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday. **School & Nursery closed**
- Monday 20th May - Assessment Week
- Friday 24th May - International Day
- **Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May - Half Term** (Nursery open)
- Monday 3rd June - 08:15 Year 4,5,&6 Parent Meeting re Residential
- Monday 10th June - Whole School Photo
- Wednesday 12th June - KS2 to Sir John Soane's Museum
- Wednesday 19th June - Sports Day
- Tuesday 25th - LAMDA Exams for years 3,4,5
- Wednesday 26th June - LAMDA Exams year 6



# Summer Term Dates for your diary

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- Thursday 27th June - Year 6 Production at The Lycée
- Friday 28th June - Whole School Trip!
- Tuesday 2nd July to Friday 5th July - Year 4,5 & 6 Residential
- Monday 8th July - Whole School Art Day
- Monday 8th July - Parents meet next year's Teacher from 15:30
- Tuesday 9th July - Move Up Morning: Pupils spend time with next year's Teacher
- Tuesday 9th July - Year 6 Young Enterprise Day (for all pupils)
- Wednesday 10th July - Non-uniform day, class parties
- Thursday 11th July - Prize Giving Ceremony at the Lycée.

**End of Academic year. School closes at 12:00**

# Term dates for next academic year

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## TERM DATES - 2024/25

### Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Staff INSET  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September - Start of Autumn Term  
**Half Term** - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November - Return to school  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December - **End of Term (1200)**

### Spring Term 2025

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January - Staff INSET  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January - Start of Spring Term  
**Half Term** - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - Return to school  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March - **End of Term (1200)**  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Staff INSET

### Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - Start of Summer Term  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May - May Day Bank Holiday  
**Half Term** - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Return to school  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July - **End of Academic Year (1200)**



# ILG Refer a Friend Scheme

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Did you know you could receive up to £750 rebate on your fees by referring friends and family to Buxlow?

For every family that you refer whose child/children join, and completes at least two full terms, you will receive a rebate on future fees, as a thank you.

Buxlow community is special and unique, and we want to share it with as many families as possible. By referring your friends and family, you are not only helping our school grow, and expand our facilities, but also giving others the opportunity to experience the same high-quality education and supportive community we strive to provide.

If you have someone in mind who has not yet contacted us, but would welcome our call, simply provide their contact details to the School and we will take care of the rest. The rebate will be paid once the child / children referred have completed two terms at Buxlow.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to welcoming new families to our school.



# Saras Beads & Jewellery

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Saras Beads and Jewellery now have a permanent kiosk at St Georges Shopping Mall, Harrow on the Hill Station!

Mrs Arouni (Year 4 Parent) is offering 5% discount to all Buxlow parents and staff during the month of May and will donate 5% of sales coming from Buxlow to the school charity.





# Advertising Space Available

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If you would like to advertise your small business or a community event here,

free of charge,

please contact Mrs McLelland

[Head@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:Head@buxlowschool.org.uk)

# Key contacts:

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- Headteacher: Mrs McLelland - [head@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:head@buxlowschool.org.uk)
- Administrator: Ms Shipp - [admin@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@buxlowschool.org.uk)
- Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Zaman - [N.zaman@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:N.zaman@buxlowschool.org.uk)
- Nursery Manager – Mrs Gercosne Tama [nursery.manager@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:nursery.manager@buxlowschool.org.uk)





