



The Bushy Bulletin



Working Together, Learning Together, Growing Together

18th March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your families are keeping well. We have seen another surge in COVID cases over the past couple of weeks and have had significant staff absences (including my own!). I would like to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the staff for their support and flexibility during the past two, challenging weeks. Thank you also to the parents/carers for your understanding - particularly those who have missed consultations. These will be rearranged as soon as we can.

A reminder of our advice:

It is our intention at Bushy Hill School to ensure that our community is following sensible guidelines. We ask all children/staff who are symptomatic or have a positive test to stay at home and avoid contact for at least 5 days. They may then return to school once they have two consecutive negative lateral flow tests. Please remember: - Have a PCR test if you have COVID-19 symptoms and stay at home and avoid contact with other people if you test positive for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance - Let fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meet outside - Wear a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where coming into contact with people you do not usually meet and when rates of transmission are high - Wash your hands and follow advice to "Catch it, Bin it, Kill it"

We have had a small number of parents/carers questioning the office staff when they are advised to get a test. The child has subsequently tested positive. We are trying to ensure the community is kept as safe as possible and prevent unnecessary spread.

It was lovely to see so many at our Year 5 and 6 coffee morning last week - thank you for visiting and I know parents/carers enjoyed looking at their children's books. There will be a further opportunity to look at the children's work at next term's Summer Fair.

Spring Concert

I am really upset that I had to miss last night's concert - I'd been looking forward to it returning after the 2 years of COVID. However I have heard it was an absolute success!

"huge thanks to everyone involved in this evening's spring concert, it was SO wonderful for the children to have the opportunity to perform - they were all so brave and so brilliant!"

Thank you to all of the children for participating and to Mrs Friend-Smith for organising.

Congratulations to Henry M for passing his Grade 3 Drum exam with distinction - what a fantastic achievement.



Beech House Sale

Thank you to Lauren and her Beech peers who organised the first of our House sales this year. She raised £94 - congratulations to Harrison Moore for winning the 'Guess How Many Sweets in the Jar' competition.

Young Carers Angel Award



We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the Young Carers Angel Award by Action for Carers (the charity behind Surrey Young Carers). We have a clear policy which outlines the support and activities available for our Young Carers, have had staff training and a whole school assembly.



A huge thank you to Mrs Tutty, our Home School Link Worker, for all her work with our Young Carers and ensuring our excellent pastoral has been recognised. Please find attached to today's newsletter, a leaflet with further information about Young Carers. If you would like further information or feel your child is a Young Carer, please get in touch with Mrs Tutty.

Cross Country reports

Reigate: Saturday 12th

Primary School Surrey Country Championship

The Reigate race was amazing. There were many schools and clubs participating in this race. Because of this, we had to try even harder to get a good place which led to a prize, which was an invitation to a Surrey athletics training day. As a result our hearts were pounding and our heads were spinning with emotions, as well as focusing on the race. The race particularly was very slippery and wet since it rained heavily the day before, giving everyone a disadvantage whilst running. Also our start was not very good because of the smoke that was shot from the blunt gun but it didn't stop us from running a good race. Overall it was a very fun race and it was worth a bit of our weekend. Well done to everyone who ran for Bushy.

Huge Well Done to: Ruby W, Annabel G, Lewis S, Dylan M, Tabitha L, Lanna BP, Adam G, Owen M, Luke P, Harrison S and Harry F

A special mention to Ruby, Annabel, Lewis, Harrison and Harry who have been selected to attend a Surrey Training Day as a reflection of their outstanding achievements that weekend!

By Harry F and Harrison S

Year 5 and 6 Schools Cross Country 10th March

On race day, we travelled on the minibus to St Josephs to race in the 3rd race of 4 races. Many schools competed and Bushy did very well! The conditions were slippery but firm. St Joe's is the hardest course of the series with a massive hill to finish. It's a 2 lap circuit including very uneven ground. Our nerves were racing as we arrived at the starting line.



The boys went first and here are the results out of about 60:

Harry F- 3rd, Harrison S- 4th, Luke P- 7th, Owen M- 8th, Lewis S- 10th, Dylan M- 12th, Adam G- 34th. The girls also put up a strong performance as they got 2 in the top 10; both year fives. It was a fun race and we did really well overall.

Final results for the third race in the series:

Year 5 and 6 boys 1st Year 5 and 6 girls 4th



Special Mention to Annabel who finished 3rd whilst being the youngest in her race and Harry F and Harrison S finishing in the top 4.
By Owen M and Adam G

Evacuee Day

At the start of the day we had a train station outside Bushy. I wore an old hat and had a label with my name on it. We took photos and then we got into lines in register order. We were put into groups and we were evacuated. I was evacuated to Sussex.

My first activity was learning to do the jive - this is what people did in the war to stay upbeat. Other activities were coding. We learnt different codes that they used during the war. We also did chalk art pictures that made scenes from the Blitz.

We also wrote letters from our new home back to our parents.

Written by Sophia Rousell

Science Week

This week we have been celebrating Science Week!

The children have taken part in lots of fun and creative scientific activities with a focus on scientific vocabulary and the theme of 'Growth'.



Year 3 carried out an experiment on what a plant needs to survive and spent a week monitoring their plants, changing the amount of light, water and soil the plants had to grow in.

They also all planted a bean in a jar to study the germination process

Year 4 looked at migrating birds and how they have adapted and grown to suit long distance flight – they made and tested gliders and experimented with their own modifications to improve their performance.

Year 5 were experimenting to find out why a sheet of paper would stop a ruler from flipping off a desk!

Community Garden

Guildford Family Centre's (Hazel Avenue) new intergenerational community garden was developed with the students from RHS Wisley to support the community; their mental health and wellbeing.

Here is a short film about the new community garden where Charlotte explains its aspirations for the community: [The journey from an overgrown piece of land to a community garden - YouTube](#)

Please take a look at the website which contains more information and some lovely photos of the garden: [Community Resources – Guildford Nursery School and Family Centre, Guildford, Surrey UK \(guildfordnscs.surrey.sch.uk\)](#)

If you would like more information on how you can get involved with this, even if it's for some planting, weeding etc. **Please contact Charlotte, Family Centre Manager, on 01483 510 580.**

Safeguarding and Well-being

Helpful Resources to support our children with regard to the conflict in the world:

- **DfE blog:** [Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation](#)
- **Children's Commissioner blog:** [We should not hide from children what is happening in Ukraine](#)
- **Childline content:** [Worrying about Russia and Ukraine](#)
- **Mentally Healthy Schools** has recommendations for talking to teenagers [How to talk to your teenager about the invasion of Ukraine : Mentally Healthy Schools](#)
- **Ideas from the Place2Be Educational Psychologists** to guide thinking about how to talk to children and young people about war and conflict <https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/news-and-blogs/2022/march/talking-to-children-and-young-people-about-war-and-conflict/>
- **BBC News website** has an informative article by Lauren Potts called 'Ukraine Conflict: How to help yourself, your kids and other' <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-60557186>

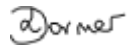
Talking to Children and Young People about War and Conflict - The British Psychological Society Professor Hill advises:

- **Give them the basics and don't avoid the conversation** – Listen to their worries and provide honest answers to their questions about what is going on, don't overcomplicate your responses and try to give details at an age-appropriate level. Don't avoid answering their questions about the situation as this could promote more anxiety, but keep to basic facts.
- **Ensure they feel supported and safe** – It's important to help children understand the level of threat to them and their friends and family. Explain this is happening in Ukraine, a different country and show this if necessary using a globe or map.
- **Manage your own feelings** - Try to deal with your own feelings of stress and distress in a way that it is managed as your children will be sensitive to your reactions.
- **Explain to your children that bad things can happen in the world but there is always some way we can help** - Plan together how you might deal with this situation through fundraising or other actions to support the Ukrainian community.
- **Avoid exposure to a constant stream of news** – Be mindful of whether you have the radio or TV on all day, as children will be absorbing news without us realising it. Try to build in 'breaks' from the news, for example, if you are picking up your children from school, turn off the radio or make sure it isn't on a news station to provide a break from the constant exposure to worrying rolling news cycles.
- **Watch where they are getting their news** – We know that fake news is an issue, particularly on social media sites so be mindful of what your children are absorbing and where they are getting it. Ensure they understand that not everything they see on social media sites is true, and they know what reliable sources of news they can access.
- **Seek advice and support if you are concerned about your child** – School staff and educational psychologists can offer specific advice and support if you feel that your child is becoming overly anxious and distressed. Providing support and reassurance and diverting their thoughts through engagement in pleasurable activities can help.

As always, please get in touch with any suggestions, questions, comments or concerns. Thank you for your ongoing support. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: @bushyhilljs

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes



Mrs L. Dormer
Head Teacher

