



The Butler Buzz

R A Butler's Weekly Newsletter – 8 May 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Just a reminder that we break up for half term on **Thursday** 21st May at the end of the school day and children will return on Tuesday 2nd June.

Summer Fayre Shout Out

Thank you all for your generous donations today. We do need some more volunteers to help out so we can run all the stalls. You can find full details in the PTA section but if you can spare some time please sign up via <https://forms.gle/2U4bKMVYp4Cmq6Fi6> or email rabutlerpta@gmail.com

We very much hope you will be able to join us next Saturday 16th May from 11-3. It is always a lovely event which the PTA put a huge amount of work into. You can find further details in the correspondence sent out previously.

Y6 SATs Week

Our Y6s have worked so hard over the year and are ready to take their SATs next week. We wish them all the very best. On Friday they will go down to Bridge End Gardens to enjoy a well-earned morning of fun and games with their teachers.

Parent Coffee Afternoon

You are warmly welcomed to next Wednesday's Coffee Afternoon hosted by our SEND team. Please see the flyer, right, for further details.

Lunch Menu

We have added Jacket Potatoes as an additional Green option on Tuesday Week 1 and Week 3. Please find the updated menu [here](#).

Thursday Bake Sale

Evelyn in Y3 will be holding a Bake Sale on the last day of half term (Thursday 21st May) to raise funds for two great causes, [War Child](#) and RAB PTA. You will be able to find her tasty treats under the yellow canopy on the Infant playground at the end of the school day. You will be able to pay either with cash or via a QR code. Please do come along and support her.

Science Week

On Thursday 4th June, as part of Science Week, we are delighted to welcome a visiting astronomer for a special reading and Q&A session with the children in Year 4 and 5. Dr Matthew Bothwell is a published children's author and has three novels in a series called 'Astrophysics for Supervillains', aimed at 9–11 year olds.

If you already own or would like to purchase one of his books in advance (links below), he will be very happy to sign copies on the day. All UK royalties from book sales are donated to support schools' outreach in STEM. All children will have the opportunity to get their books signed if they want to regardless of their year group.

<https://amzn.eu/d/07RP4mgt>

<https://amzn.eu/d/05e19DnV>

<https://amzn.eu/d/01NQMCv6>

Diary Dates Next Week

11-15 May	Lunch Menu Week 2
11-14 May	Y6 SATs Week
15 May	Y6 Bridge End Gardens am
13 May	Parent Coffee Afternoon 1.30-3pm (see flyer on Page 1)
15 May	Y2 Swimming
16 May	PTA Summer Fayre 11-3
21 May	End of term 3.25/3.30pm
21 May	Fundraising Bake Sale
1 June	INSET Day—Children not in School
2 June	Children return to school
2-5 June	Science Week



Parent Coffee Afternoon
Wednesday 13th May 1.30pm – 3pm

All Welcome!

Please note adjusted timing from previous communication

Join us for a session supported by the SPACE Peer Educators – parents and carers with lived SEND experience. They understand the journey and are here to help you navigate it, wherever you are and whatever stage you're at. Hear more about what SPACE can offer, including one to one support and group sessions.

Meet other parents and chat to our school Inclusion Team.

Tea and biscuits provided!

<https://parent-send-support.essex.gov.uk/>

Welcome to SPACE
Support for Parents And Carers in Essex
Search the SPACE website



Y4 Rapid Fire Cricket Competition

Three teams of Y4 children, RAB Navy, RAB Orange in Group 1 and RAB Pink in Group 2 represented RAB at the Rapid Fire Cricket Competition at SWCC yesterday. Throughout the day, the children showed some great batting and excellent fielding skills with super catches too. All our teams did amazingly well, playing against tough local opposition. RAB Pink placed 5th in their very tough group. In their group RAB Orange also came 5th with RAB Navy finishing 3rd, which means the Navy team has qualified for the next competition in July. A big well done to everyone!



Storytelling Magic

Our Early Years classes were delighted to be visited by local Storyteller, Janina Vigurs. She told them a wonderful alternative story about the little mouse in the deep dark wood. The children's imaginations were captured and they were wonderfully engaged. Thank you so much to Janina and also to the PTA who enable such enriching experiences for our children

SAT Vacancy

Saffron Academy Trust is recruiting a **Chief People Officer** to join the Central Trust team. Full details, including the Candidate Information Pack and Application Form are available on the Saffron Academy Trust website, here: [Vacancies - Saffron Academy Trust](#)

Smartphone Free Childhood

You have hopefully noticed the two new banners on our school gates showing that we proudly support Smartphone Free Childhood. Thank you to the Saffron Walden Round Table for their generous funding to enable all primary schools in Saffron Walden to have these banners. As a reminder, RA Butler - along with all primary schools in Saffron Walden - have committed to going fully smartphone free from current Y4 and below. We will shortly be sending out a copy of the letter to you all again, laying out our joint commitment and the phased approach with the other Saffron Walden primary schools and SWCHS. Our commitment is ahead of the curve, given the building momentum for this campaign as the government discusses banning smartphones in schools and raising the minimum age for social media use. Please visit the Smartphone Free Childhood website at www.smartphonefreechildhood.org for more information and to sign up to their newsletter, as well as the option to join local and regional WhatsApp groups to share ideas with other parents.

Future Diary Dates

18 May	RCR Gruffalo Performance 9am
18 May	Y3 Mosque Visit
19 May	RJD Gruffalo Performance 9am
19 May	Y4 Production 6pm
20 May	Y4 Production 6pm
21 May	RNB Gruffalo Performance 9am
22 -31 May	Half term (including Friday 22 May)
1 June	Inset Day (School closed to children)
2-5 June	Science Week
11 June	Jen Shackleton Parent Workshop 5-6pm
12 June	Y1 Colchester Zoo
29 June	Sports Day 1.30-3.15pm Y1 and Y2
30 June	Sports Day 9.30-11.15am Y4, 1.30-3.15pm Y3
1 July	Sports Day 9.30-11.15am EYFS
2 July	Sports Day 9.30-11.15am Y5, 1.30-3.15pm Y6
4 July	RABFest
8 & 9 July	Y6 Production 6pm
17 July	Y6 Water Afternoon
20 July	Y6 Coffee Morning & Leavers' Disco
21 July	End of term 1.30pm



Thank you for your Summer Fayre donations!

Our Summer Fayre (Saturday 16 May 11am-3pm) is shaping up brilliantly, thanks to your contributions this morning at Donations Day.

We'd love more

Jars filled with sweets/small toys for Jarbola (this stall sells out super quickly every time)

Raffle prizes

Please drop any donations to the School Office by Friday 15 May.

Grand Raffle Prizes

If you, or a business you work with, can support our raffle by donating any **vouchers, gifts** or **experiences** we'd be very grateful. Drop off at the School Office please or email rabutlerpta@gmail.com. In return, we're happy to promote all our raffle sponsors across the school community.

Help on a stall!

Face painters to join the team and take on some simple designs and glitter tattoos – you don't need to be experienced or mega artistic!

All stalls between 1 - 3pm

We are missing 10 people to help on stalls on the second shift, please help!

Please sign up if you can help: <https://forms.gle/2U4bKMVYp4Cmq6Fi6> or email rabutlerpta@gmail.com

Don't forget RAB Bake Off 2026 at the Summer Fayre

Our annual cake decorating competition's theme is 'My Favourite Book', in celebration of the National Year of Reading, and our library fundraising campaign. We can't wait to see your wonderful literary creations!

Families are welcome to enter together under the eldest child's year group, labelled with all pupils' names please. Cakes will be judged on their creativity and presentation either as whole cakes or as smaller baked items eg cupcakes or biscuits. No nuts please.

To enter, label your cake with your category, name and class and bring it to the RAB Bake Off tent by 12pm on the day. Judging will begin shortly after 12pm.

Entry categories

- Reception children
- Y1 & Y2 children
- Y3 & Y4 children
- Y5 & Y6 children

Father's Day Gifts for Grownups

Online tickets for Father's Day gifts are available until **29th May**. Book online at

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/112450>

Booking fees apply. Maximum 2 gifts per child. Tickets can only be purchased in advance. We will be selling tickets in person, at drop off and pick up on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th May.

KS2 Disco

It looked like a lot of fun was had getting down on the dancefloor at the KS2 disco on Wednesday – all helping to raise just over £1000 for the school. Thank you!

RAB Fest 2026

RAB Fest is taking place on Saturday 4th to Sunday 5th July this year.

Booking opens Thursday 14th May at 8pm. See details in our parentmail next week!

★	Stars of the Week	★
Reception Edie A Maeve O	Brodie W Michaela M	Ines R Lily T
Year 1 Dilsher S Lois M	Josh D Verity P	Ella B Alice R
Year 2 Ivy R Enid R	Oscar F Holly R	Lara H Ella D
Year 3 Kayleb J Alma S	Bea M Aahan T	Joseph T Penny B
Year 4 Lucy M Bertie P	Abriel C Grace H	Lani E Chloe B
Year 5 Esme W Noel J	Lenny T Jakub M	Sophie M Tilly S
Year 6 Clark J Leia T	Charlie T Annie B	Jack C Grace A
Infant Lunchtime Cup Junior Lunchtime Cup	RJD 5VH	

	RAB READING OLYMPIANS	
BRONZE	SILVER Prayas T	GOLD
	RAB BOOKWORMS	
BRONZE Edie A Oliver H	SILVER Isla C	GOLD Elliot W

Half-term Camps at RAB

MAY 2026 CAMPS

Tech-powered camps, packed with **WOW** experiences!



May Half Term 2026

R A Butler Junior School, CB11 3DG
28th - 29th May 2026

www.nextthing.education

Example camp activities
Ages 5-11, Camps run 9 am - 4 pm

ROBOT LAB	LEGO ENGINEERING	ELECTRIC INVENTIONS	3D CREATIONS	ANIMATION
COOL CIRCUITS	CRAZY CODING	MOVIE MAKING	MINECRAFT REDSTONE	VIRTUAL REALITY

WOW EXPERIENCES

INVENTIONS	ANIMALS	STREET DANCE	SCIENCE	LASER TAG
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Activities vary by location. Please visit our website to see what's running at your venue.

WHAT TO EXPECT:
At Next Thing Education our goal is to ignite curiosity, fuel creativity and empower young minds for the future.
Blending hands-on tech exploration with unforgettable WOW experiences, we raise children to invent, create, and discover. Led by 250+ skilled, friendly and supportive instructors, kids build confidence while diving into exciting activities, challenges, and real skill-building adventures.

+ £45 per day or **£85 per week** when you book all 4 days for just **£182** +




WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION T: 01442 873150

KPOP
DEMON
HUNTERS

ACT. SING. DANCE
9AM-3PM, SHOW AT 2:40PM
27TH MAY
RECEPTION - YEAR 6
£35 A DAY

R A BUTLER ACADEMY - INFANT & JUNIOR
SCHOOLS, SOUTH ROAD, SAFFRON WALDEN,
ESSEX, CB11 3DG

07927206108
WWW.WORLDOFPERFORMING.CO.UK

You can see more about The Wow Camp [here](#)

You can book KPop Demon Hunters [here](#)