



The Butler Buzz

R A Butler's Weekly Newsletter – 3 July 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have another busy, warm week coming up! Don't forget your hats, water bottles and suncream. A big thank you to the PTA for buying £1500 of fans for the classrooms.

Move Up Morning

We know the next England World Cup game takes place in the early hours of Monday morning. We would like to remind you that Monday is Move Up Morning when the children will go to their new classes, meet their teachers and their new classmates. This is a really important part of their transition and we do expect children to attend. At the end of the day they will bring home a sheet informing you of their new classes and teachers. The Y6s will be going to Bridge End Gardens and they will be leaving school at 9.15 so they need to be here promptly for registration, as they cannot be accommodated in other classes who will be focussing on move up morning.

Open Afternoon

On Tuesday you are invited to our Open Afternoon from 3-4.30pm. You will be able to visit your children's current and future classes and look through their books.

Y6 Enterprise Afternoon



Our Year 6s will be running their Enterprise stalls during the Open Afternoon so there will be plenty to sustain and entertain. This year they have decided to raise funds for [Brainbow](#) which supports children with brain tumours as one of our Year 6s, Jasper, has recently been diagnosed with a brain tumour and this charity has supported him and his family. **We are really hoping that people can be generous and support this either through a donation or by bringing CASH to spend on the stalls.** Thank you in advance for your support of this charity close to our hearts.

Summer Term Clubs

Summer Clubs are now finished apart from the following which have one more session on Monday:

- Y5&6 Basketball
- Y3&4 Badminton
- Y1&2 Fencing
- Y2 Gardening
- Y3&4 Basketball



Musical Magic

We had our wonderful Music Concert yesterday evening. There were performances by RAB Voices, orchestra, recorder ensembles and solo performances on violin, piano, guitar, drums and voice with over 60 children taking part. The children were amazing and their hard work and talent shone through in every performance. It is always such a joy to hear the children who take peripatetic music lessons performing alongside our fantastic Young Voices Choir. We know how much practise and rehearsing it takes to make a performance. We would like to thank you to those that have made donations to the music fund to help us replace old instruments. We'd also like to say a big thank you to all our peripatetic music teachers, Mrs Brown and Jay for organising this fabulous evening.

If your child is interested in lessons—piano, voice, strings, brass or woodwind, please contact Jay on jauger@rab.academy

Last week professional musician and opera singer Clare Presland joined us for both KS1 and KS2 singing assemblies. The children were able to learn more about the genre, how Clare become an opera singer, plus listen to a beautiful performance of 'Summertime' from the musical Porgy and Bess. We are extremely grateful to Clare and our visiting accompanists for their time. Mrs Brown would also like to thank the children for being such a wonderful audience!



Diary Dates Next Week	
4 July	RABFest
6 – 10 July	Lunch Menu Week 3
6 July	Move Up Morning
7 July	Open Afternoon 3-4.30
8 & 9 July	Y6 Production 6pm
10 July	Y2 Swimming
12-15 July	Y6 Bawdsey Residential

What a week for sport!

Sports Days



I'd like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Joubert, Mr Moss and all the Y5/6 helpers who made the Sports Days this week such fun. It takes a lot of organising to make the days run so smoothly. It was wonderful to see how the children supported and cheered each other on. Thank you to all the parents who participated in their races and we all thoroughly enjoyed the teachers' character races at the end!

Year 5/6 Girls Cricket Essex Finals



On Monday, our Year 5 & 6 girls cricket team completed in the Essex Finals held at Billericay Cricket Club. The girls arrived and were put in a very tough pool. They finished 2nd in their group, meaning they went into a semi-final game in the Division 1 play-offs. After being drawn against a very strong batting school, it was a tough test and unfortunately the girls narrowly lost their semi-final - making their result 7th best school in the county. We could not be prouder of their achievement.

Year 6 Boys Cricket Essex Finals

On Tuesday, it was the turn of the Year 6 boys cricket team at Essex Finals at Billericay Cricket Club. The boys got off to a difficult start, losing their first game in a close battle but then winning the last 2 group games. These results meant they went into the semi-final in the Division 1 play-offs. Unfortunately, after a great performance, they narrowly missed out and lost this game - also making their result 7th in the county. Once again, we are so proud of them all, it has been a great year for RAB cricket!



Quad Kids Final



On Wednesday morning, RAB took 8 year 4 children and 8 year 6 children to attend the KS2 Quad Kids Finals at Carver Barracks. The children all had the opportunity to compete in all 4 events: Standing Long Jump, Howler, Long Distance run and sprint. It was a very enjoyable morning, with every child trying their hardest and maintaining their school values in a competitive environment. Our Year 6 team finished 8th overall and our Year 4s narrowly missed out on a medal, finishing in 4th place. It was a brilliant effort from everybody who competed and the support shown from all the children was lovely to see. To have both our teams in the top 8 schools in the county is a great achievement and one we and the children should be extremely proud of.

Year 4 Rapid Fire Cricket

Our final sports competition of the week saw 10 fabulous Y4 children qualify for Year 4 Rapid Fire Cricket Finals held at Saffron Walden Cricket Club. The team played 5 group games against some very tough local opposition, and came out victorious, winning their group. They went straight into a final match, against the winner from Group B and won the game in a close battle with Katherine Semar. This result meant they claimed the gold medal and were crowned Uttlesford Champions- qualifying for the Essex Finals in Chelmsford. Well done to the whole team!!



A BIG THANK YOU TO MRS WESLEY, MRS STRINGER AND MRS JACKSON for providing these opportunities for the children this week. Without the support from them, none of these events would have been possible! Thank you so much also to all the parent helpers this week, we do truly appreciate your support in making these events possible! - The PE Team

A message from the Children's Commissioner



"I have published my annual report on Children and Young People's Mental Health Services. As I enter my final year as Children's Commissioner, one thing is clear: before we make decisions that affect young people, we need to listen to young people.

Children's mental health is no exception. The number of children with a referral to mental health services has reached over a million – about 1 in 10 children – almost double the 564,000 in 2018-19.

We know there are still many more young people whose voices deserve to be heard."

If you would like your child's voice to be heard, please complete The Big Future national survey

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

	Stars of the Week	
<u>Reception</u> Ellis Q Arlo E	George R Lexi T	All of RCR
<u>Year 1</u> Oliver S Vienne W	Ella B Isabella G	Phoebe M Willow A
<u>Year 2</u> Lilly-Mae S Eva J	Joshua G Rory M	Nia S David D
<u>Year 3</u> Jayden H Adalina P	Keira P Alex S	Yousuf H Jesse W
<u>Year 4</u> Ben L Matilda O	Ava K William S	Filippos P Lyra B
<u>Year 5</u> Laurie T Buzz M	Lucas P Oliver C	Emily C Corey T
<u>Year 6</u> Bale L Oliver L	Teddy M Prayas T	Freya M Alice C
Infant Lunchtime Cup	1RB	
Junior Lunchtime Cup	4MM	

	RAB READING OLYMPIANS	
BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
	RAB BOOKWORMS	
BRONZE	SILVER Thea W	GOLD

Plant Sale

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the Gardening Club Plant Sale. They raised over a £100. Please can any IOUs be dropped into the office. Thank you.



Reception and KS1 Discos - RESCHEDULED 15th July!

The annual Reception Party and KS1 Disco has been rescheduled to 15th July due to the hot weather this week.

RECEPTION

Local legend Calamity Clown will host a special Reception Party from 3.45pm until 4.30pm.

Y1 & Y2

Calamity Clown will host a brilliant disco with games for the KS1 Disco (Years 1 & 2 only) at 4.45pm until 5.45pm.

We can't wait to see the children having a wonderful time with their friends and celebrating their year together!

RAB Fest 2026 – fun, sun and smores!

We can't wait to welcome so many RAB families onto the school field for this year's camp out tomorrow. Gates open at 3.30pm. Weather is looking great! There's a very well-stocked bar with lots of cold drinks waiting for you. For those attending, you should have received all the info you need plus your assigned job by now. Don't forget to pack plates, cups, cutlery as we don't supply these. Please note we can no longer offer any refunds for food or pitch costs. If you have any questions, do email the team at rabutlerpta@gmail.com



Future Diary Dates

13 July	Adoptive & Looked After Children Parents Support Group 9.15
15 July	Reception & KS1 Discos
17 July	Y6 Water Afternoon
20 July	Y6 Parent Coffee Morning 9.30-11
20 July	Leavers' Disco
21 July	End of term 1.30pm

Premier Sport Summer Camp

Due to our premises work, Premier Sport are unable to hold their usual Summer Camp at RAB, however they will be hosted this year by Katherine Semar.

DATES: Week 3: Mon 3rd - Fri 7th August,
Week4: Mon 10th - Fri 14th August,
Week5: Mon 17th - Fri 21st August

TIME: 9:00 am – 15:30 pm daily

COST: Approx £24.99 per day

You can find out more and book at <https://www.premier-education.com/holiday-clubs/>



Saffron Walden

Adoptive and Looked After Children Parents Support Group

Please come and join us for the first meeting of this new group, set up to try and fill a gap in local support for parents of adopted or looked after children.

About the Group

Parenting through adoption and fostering brings unique joys and challenges. This supportive and welcoming group offers a safe space to:

- Share experiences with other parents
- Talk openly without judgement
- Learn practical strategies and resources
- Build connections and friendships
- Support each other through different stages of family life



Who Is It For?

- Adoptive parents at any stage
- Foster parents
- Prospective adopters
- Families with children of all ages



What to Expect

- Relaxed and confidential discussions
- Practical tips on attachment, trauma, and identity
- Time to listen, share, and be heard
- Tea, coffee, and a welcoming atmosphere

When & Where

R A Butler Academy, Saffron Walden- 01799 523651
13th July 2026

🕒 9.15am-10.15am

Essex County Council - Early Years and Childcare Parents Survey 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Essex County Council is committed to providing outstanding childcare services. But to help us improve we are conducting our annual survey to see how well our program is working.

If you are a parent or carer of a child aged 0-19 years (or 0-25 years for children with SEND), then **we want to hear from you!**

The survey includes questions about:

- Childcare needs for children aged 0-5 years
- Wraparound care for school-aged children
- Childcare during the school holidays (holiday clubs)
- Your child's experience with starting school
- Where you find information about Essex Services

Your information is valued, and your responses will be treated in strictest confidence and will remain anonymous. We ask that you do not include any personal details in this survey, however, if you would like to contact us further about any of the questions asked in this survey, please email us at ccdl@essex.gov.uk. The result of the survey will help Early Years and Childcare teams understand the needs of parents and carers in Essex.

The survey will be open until Friday the 31st of July and can be accessed through this link - [Essex Early Years and Childcare Survey for Parents 2026 - Essex County Council - Citizen Space](#) or by scanning this QR code below.

Thank you so much for your time.



Booking Required

Essex County Council

KIDS BOOK CLUB

At Saffron Walden Library

THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 2-3PM

Come along to our new book club, aimed at ages 8-12
Read new stories
Make new friends
Take part in book-themed games and activities

Book your place at the 'Hello' desk



Health Advice Drop-in for 5-19 year olds

Date: Thursday, 9th April, Tuesday, 5th May, Monday, 1st June & Monday, July 6th, 2026

Time: 3.30 - 4.30pm

Saffron Walden Library 2 King Street, Saffron Walden CB10 1ES
Drop-in sessions for parents/carers and young people to get advice and support for school aged child with a member of our school health team, where you can discuss things which may be concerning you. No booking needed.

Areas of support

- Managing worries, low mood, stress or anger issues
- Bullying and friendship issues
- Diet / Nutritional support
- Improving sleep
- Day and night wetting
- Behavioural concerns
- Personal hygiene
- Sexual health
- Information and signposting regarding medical conditions

t: 0300 247 0122

w: essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk



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Children's Vision Screening and Eye Health

Getting your child's free NHS eye test is important because early detection of vision problems means treatment can start sooner, leading to better outcomes and preventing long-term issues such as reduced or permanent loss of vision.

Regular eye tests are essential as children often do not realise they have a problem, and unidentified vision issues can affect their learning, development, and everyday activities.

Children aged 4-5 years are offered a vision screening check at school by our trained team. If the screening suggests your child may have reduced vision, we will contact you, recommending a referral to a hospital specialist or local optician for an NHS eye test.

If you have already been contacted but have not yet attended, please arrange this as soon as possible. Even if your child did not need a referral, it's important to remember that vision can change as children grow.

Early assessment and treatment can make a big difference to your child's vision and development. Even if your child did not need a referral, it is important to remember that vision can change as children grow.

Children's eyes are still developing until around 7-8 years of age, and problems are not always obvious. Eye tests are free for all children under 16, and for those under 19 in full-time education. Glasses are also free or subsidised if needed.

w: www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk



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