



The Butler Buzz

R A Butler's Weekly Newsletter – 10 July 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Open Afternoon



It was lovely to see so many families at our Open Afternoon on Tuesday. We'd like to say an enormous thank you for the support you gave our Y6 Enterprise Stalls who raised a recording breaking £1000+ for Brainbow. This is in addition to any donations made directly to the charity via the QR code. We are completely overwhelmed by your generosity.

5 Star Kitchen!

The kitchen had their spot visit this week from the Food Standards Agency. They have retained their 5 stars. Well done to the whole team.

The Next Big Step!



It has been a really busy week for the Y6s, not only was it the culmination of their Enterprise Project on Tuesday but on Wednesday and Thursday they took to the stage to perform The Next Big Step. They didn't let the heat dim their enthusiastic performances as they entertained the audience with an amusing, tongue-in-cheek look back over their time at RAB. Laughter and a few tears accompanied the great staff impersonations. Well done to all the children performing, the backstage team and all of Y6 for putting on a great show.

Need to cool off?

Late Play will be selling Lollies after school on Monday.

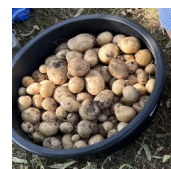
End of term events

Please do take the time to read the PTA section on the last page of The Buzz carefully as we've got some fun events coming up over the last few days of the year—the **Infant Disco & Party**, **Fab Fun Friday** for everyone and the **Y6 Leavers' Disco** for Y5 and Y6.

Green Fingered Growing



The weather has certainly been challenging but even so, all 3 Gardening Clubs have proven their green fingered credentials. This term the children took home a variety of plants they had grown, including cucumbers, tomatoes and courgettes and still had plenty to sell on the plant stall. A big thank you to all of our customers. It was also our best year yet for potatoes - grown in big bags as we



had lost the raised bed to the building site. With the recent hotter weather we kept our activities as light as possible. All the children rose to the task of creating natural art and showed what a talented and creative bunch they are.

School Parking

Staff Car Park

Please can we remind parents that **you should not be entering the school car park after 8.15am**. This is to enable our staff to have access to parking spaces so they can get to classes on time.

Disabled Parking Bays

These should **only** be used by Blue Badge holders displaying their Blue Badge. Please do not park in these spaces.

Local Parking

Several parking issues have been reported to us recently which is really disappointing.

~ Someone is parking with hazard lights on the double yellow lines on the brow of the hill, before the South Road bridge. This forces cars to overtake on a blind corner into the path of oncoming cars which is an accident waiting to happen.

~ Someone abandoned their car in the centre of the road in Longhedges, blocking a resident from getting off their drive who had a train to catch.

~ A resident has reported parking across their driveway.

Please take a moment to consider our neighbours and the impact of irresponsible parking on them. We work hard to build positive relationships with our neighbours and your support with this is appreciated. Even more importantly we do not want any accidents to take place. Thank you.

Diary Dates Next Week

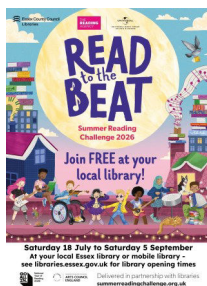
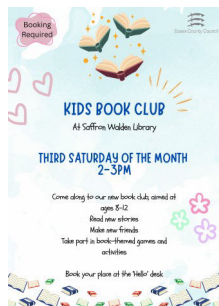
12-15 July	Y6 Bawdsey Residential
13-17 July	Lunch Menu Week 1
13 July	Adoptive & Looked After Children Parents Support Group 9.15
13 July	Late Play Ice Lolly Sale 3.30
15 July	Reception & KS1 Discos
17 July	Fab Fun Friday
17 July	Y6 Water Afternoon
17 July	Y2 Swimming
17 July	Lucy's Fundraising Stall
20 July	Y6 Parent Coffee Morning 9.30-11
20 July	Leavers' Disco
21 July	End of term 1.30pm

Support Group

We have the first Adoptive and Looked After Children Parents Support Group on Monday after drop off. This will take place in the Butler Room and you are warmly invited to join us if this is relevant to you in any way. Please see the flyer to the right for further details.

Summer Library Reading Challenge

The Library Summer Reading Challenge is a great way to keep your children reading over the holidays. We would encourage all our families to pop down to the library to sign up. Don't forget there is also a Kids Book Club at the library too.



Autumn Term Clubs

We have some availability in the clubs listed on the right. If you are interested, please email Paul Belzar on sbm@rab.academy

MIND

Unfortunately the MIND Mental Health Team have had to close the Expression of Interest form for support over the Summer however if you feel like they would like some support please contact Heidi Pearson before the end of term.

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

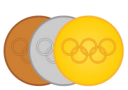
- Relaxed and confidential discussions
- Practical tips on attachment, trauma, and identity
- Time to listen, share, and be heard
- Tea, coffee, and a welcoming atmosphere

When & Where

R A Butler Academy, Saffron Walden- 01799 523651
13th July 2026
9.15am-10.15am

DAY	CLUB	YR GRPS	MAX.	TIME
MON	Dodgeball	5&6	32	8:10-8:50am
MON	Spanish	5&6	20	3:30-4:30pm
TUES	Hockey	3 & 4	28	8:10-8:50am
TUES	Dance	3 to 6	28	3:30-4:30pm
TUES	Netball	5&6	24	3:30-4:30pm
TUES	Invasion Games	3&4	32	3:30-4:30pm
WEDS	Energy Club	1&2	20	8:10-8:50am
WEDS	Archery	3 to 6	20	8:10-8:50am
WEDS	Hockey Heroes	2	22	8:10-8:50am
WEDS	3-6 Endurance running	3 to 6	32	3:30-4:30pm
WEDS	Hockey	5 & 6	30	3:30-4:30pm
THURS	Football	3&4	32	8:10-8:50am
THURS	Chess	3 to 6	32	12:30-1:00pm
THURS	Gymnastics	4 to 6	30	3:30-4:30pm
THURS	4 Square	4 to 6	32	3:30-4:30pm

★	Stars of the Week	★
Reception Elijah M Everleigh M Year 1 Florence H Robyn P Year 2 AJ G Ellie G Year 3 Ralph D Orla L Year 4 Ned S Lucy M Year 5 Maddie D George S Year 6 All of 6JR Infant Lunchtime Cup Junior Lunchtime Cup	Raffie H Arlo O Hadley B Megan L Ralph S Elizabeth C Jack H Henry G Matilda F Remy V Ottilie D Henry J All of 6SM RNB 3RD	Ernie B Cece P Joseph M Jude P Hannah T Alannah P Jesse W Poppy B Eddie H Bennet P Stanley Hudson C All of 6AE

	RAB READING OLYMPIANS	
BRONZE Grace G Hudson C Saul B Raphy W	SILVER Phoebe T Ellie G Amelia M	GOLD
	RAB BOOKWORMS	
BRONZE Sophie B	SILVER	GOLD Vinny G

Lucy's Fundraising Stall – Friday 17th July

Our Y4 pupil, **Lucy**, is holding a fundraising stall on **Friday 17th July** to raise money to buy toys and Bravery Box gifts for **Ward C2** at Addenbrooke's Hospital, the paediatric oncology ward.

Lucy wanted to do something to give back after her brother, **Jasper (Y6)**, was diagnosed with a brain tumour in May. Following his brain surgery, both Jasper and Lucy experienced first-hand the incredible support provided by Ward C2. The playroom, play team, play garden and Bravery Box helped to bring smiles during an incredibly difficult time, and Lucy hopes to help create those moments for other children and families.

The stall will include delicious baked goods, handmade loom bands, 3D-printed animal figures, and a chance to win a gorgeous donated Jellycat bunny in our **"Guess the Bunny's Name"** competition.

We would also be incredibly grateful for donations of **brand new, unopened toys or gifts** suitable for children, as these can be donated directly to Ward C2. **Due to infection control measures on the oncology ward, all items must be new and unopened.**

If you are able to support Lucy's fundraiser in any way, whether by making a purchase, entering the competition, or donating a new toy, it would mean so much to our family and to the children cared for on Ward C2. We are only able to take **CASH**.

Thank you for your kindness and support.

WE'RE RAISING MONEY TO BUY TOYS FOR C2
INCLUDING GIFTS FOR THEIR BRAVERY BOX!

We're raising money to buy toys for Ward C2 at Addenbrooke's Hospital, the paediatric oncology ward.

FUNDRAISING STALL AT SCHOOL PICK UP! FRIDAY 17TH JULY

WHAT'S ON SALE?

- DELICIOUS BAKED GOODS
- HANDMADE LOOM BANDS
- 3D-PRINTED ANIMAL FIGURES
- "GUESS THE BUNNY'S NAME" COMPETITION

WE WOULD ALSO BE HAPPY TO TAKE ANY UNWANTED BRAND NEW, UNOPENED TOYS FOR GIFTS SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN, as they can be donated directly to Ward C2. Due to infection control measures in the oncology ward, all items must be cleanable (no no-cuddly toys, fabric etc) and new and unopened.

EVERY POUND COUNTS! Thank you for helping us bring joy, comfort and smiles to children on Ward C2.

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

WIN THIS GORGEOUS JELLYCAT BUNNY!

This fundraiser is being organised by Lucy to give back to the ward that supported her brother, Jasper, during his treatment. The playroom, play team, play garden and Bravery Box made a huge difference to their time on Ward C2.

Raise money for Winnie

Winnie is Wanda's sister (4CC class). She is an incredibly joyful, determined little girl who faces the world with a smile. She lives with complex needs, including a rare genetic condition, complete blindness, cerebral palsy, drug-resistant epilepsy, and congenital heart disease.

Winnie is working really hard learn to learn to communicate using special buttons on her wheelchair.

To support this amazing little girl, a special children's t-shirt has been produced to raise vital funds for her physical and speech therapy.

When: Next Friday, 17th July after school

Where: In the school playground

Suggested Donation: £15 per t-shirt

Please come along, grab a t-shirt, and help us make a massive difference in Winnie's world. Thank you for your incredible kindness and support! We are only able to take **CASH**.

Big thank you to Alphabet Bags for funding the t-shirts for Winnie.

SUPPORT WINNIE

Meet Winnie:

An incredibly joyful, determined little girl who faces the world with a smile. She lives with complex needs, including a rare genetic condition, complete blindness, cerebral palsy, drug-resistant epilepsy, and congenital heart disease.

To support this amazing little girl, we have produced a special children's t-shirt to raise vital funds for her physical and speech therapy.

The design is inspired by Winnie's wheelchair communication system—specifically the "I have something to say" button that activates her auditory scanner.

T-SHIRT SALE

When: Next Friday, 17th July
Where: In the school playground
Suggested Donation: £15 per t-shirt

Big thank you to Alphabet Bags for donating the t-shirts to us.

I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

Holiday Activities at RAB —Hosted by external providers

POP STAR MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP

ACT. SING. DANCE 9am-3pm,
Show at 2:40pm
20th August
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

QR code

WOP Sports Day Showdown

The ultimate sports day experience for every child. High-energy games, races, team challenges and classic games — all in one action-packed day.

9am-3pm
19th August
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

QR code

AND THEN STRUM

Fun progressive guitar lessons

- Places available for September 2026
- Gil Matthews - guitar tutor and songwriter
- 23 years' experience covering all styles
- Acoustic/Electric/Bass guitar for all ages/abilities
- Play the music YOU want to play
- Rock School Grades taught - 100% pass rate
- Fun, modern sessions with child-centred learning

How to book your place for September:

- email/txt/ call Gil direct:
gmat796@aol.com - 07984 794 143
- Call your school office and request to be put on Gil's student list.

Smartphone Free Childhood - updates and resources

We'd like to thank all parents who were able to join the Smartphone Free Childhood Saffron Walden talk at Saffron Screen on 16 June. It was wonderful to see so many parents there from schools across Saffron Walden, including RAB. We plan to share further information from the talk for those that we're able to attend in due course. In the meantime, with the school summer holidays fast approaching, here are some more resources you might find useful:

Smartphone Free Childhood: Explorer Passport - brand new!

This summer, give your child something more valuable than entertainment: the chance to discover what they're capable of

The Smartphone Free Childhood **IRL Explorer Passport** is a free, printable passport packed with simple, screen-free adventures for children aged 7–11. Designed to be completed mostly independently, it encourages children to explore, create, solve problems and try new things – helping them build confidence while discovering what they enjoy, what they're good at, and just how capable they really are.

You can find further information and a link to download and print it here: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/resource/help-your-child-build-confidence-this-summer-with-the-irl-explorer-passport>

The Amazing Generation, by Jonathan Haidt

A fantastic read aimed at 9-12 year olds to help them understand how tech affects their brains and lives: the book offers a positive, uplifting guide for families to read together or for children to enjoy independently: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/resource/the-amazing-generation-by-jonathan-haidt>

Social media ban for under-16s

As you're probably aware, the UK Government has announced it will ban social media platforms from providing their services to under-16s. Here are Smartphone Free Childhood's answers to the most common questions parents have been asking: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/resource/uk-social-media-under-16-faq>

Alternatives to smartphones

Smartphone Free Childhood have put together this guide to the best child-friendly 'non-smart' phone options out there: simple phones, follow-on phones for older kids, GPS trackers, data-free SIMs, and more: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/alternatives>

To the beat of the drum



On Tuesday this week every child in the infant school had the opportunity to take part in a djembe drumming workshop. The children all learnt the bass and tone hand strokes, putting together a group performance with their class. The children were all wonderful listeners and had a lot of fun! Year one children have been learning about African music and drumming in their music lessons too.



PLEASE GO TO THE FINAL PAGE OF THE BUZZ TO FIND OUT ABOUT ALL THE FUN ACTIVITIES LINED UP FOR THE END OF TERM!



RAB Fest 2026 was a blast!

Huge thanks to all the RAB families who joined us round the campfire for this year's RAB Fest. On a warm and sunny weekend, the water fights certainly helped to keep us cool and it was lovely seeing the children and their grown ups having so much fun together. We've had lots of lovely feedback from parents - if you missed out this year, keep an eye on the registration link next summer and we hope to see you on the field in 2027! If you have any fantastic photos of RAB Fest that you wouldn't mind sharing to promote the event next year, please send them to rabutlerpta@gmail.com

Reception and KS1 Discos - rescheduled to Wednesday 15th July

The annual Reception Party and KS1 Disco will now take place on Wednesday 15th July!

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.

The school carpark will be closed to disco traffic.

Fab Fun Friday 2026 – next Friday 17 July

To celebrate the end of the school year, Fab Fun Friday 2026 is going colour crazy!

In exchange for a **suggested donation of £2** to the PTA (to be collected on the gate in the morning), children can cram as much colour as they like into the **last Friday of term**:

- **clothes and shoes** (no heels or heelies)
- **nails and face**
- **body glitter**
- **temporary tattoos**
- **coloured spray in your hair**
- **fun colourful snack for break time** (one small treat)
- **colourful drink in your water bottle** (no fizzy drinks)

Please note: trainers must be worn for PE lessons and swimmers should avoid hairspray, glitter and make up. All sports activities will take place as normal.

Y6 Water Afternoon - Friday 17 July

The Year 6 Leavers Water Afternoon is also making a splash on Friday 17th July, if anyone has a spare paddling pool they could donate to be a water filling station, please bring it to the office before Wednesday. Thank you!

Y6 Leavers Disco for all Y6 and Y5 children – Monday 20 July

The PTA is delighted to be working with the Y6 Leavers parent team to bring this year's Leavers Disco. Lots of fun in store!

- **Who:** All Year 6 and Year 5 children (Year 6 only in fancy dress for the parade)
- **Cost:** **£3 cash** payable on the door
- **Timings:** 6pm-7.45pm
- **6pm: Annual Y6 Fancy Dress Parade in KS2 playground** (for Y6 parents and Y5 children only)
- Y6 parents and carers to leave site quickly after parade to allow children to move inside for disco fun
- **7.45pm collection from KS2 Hall** (no child will be allowed to walk home alone)
- Sensible amount of money to enjoy the refreshments (50p-£1), photo booth (50p) and raffle (20p a ticket)
- Car park will be closed to disco traffic. Please park with consideration for our neighbours.

The fancy dress parade has channelled lots of crazy creativity over the years, from tubes of Pringles, a Barbie in a box, SuperMario, cast of Scoobie Doo, Haribos, a full Sunday lunch, a Zoltar machine, Mr Men, butterflies and more. It's a chance to let loose and dress to impress!

RAB book of poems

These wonderful books were sent home with the children this week. We are very proud of this beautiful work of creativity! We do have a very small number of books to sell. If you missed out, please contact the office or send an email to rabutlerpta@gmail.com