



The Butler Buzz

R A Butler's Weekly Newsletter – 6 October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Farewell

We say farewell to Davina Mills who has worked in kitchen for over 20 years. She has been a key member of the team and has served well over 1.5million lunches in that time, that is a lot of washing up too! Thank you Davina for all your hard work, we wish you all the very best in your retirement and hope you get to enjoy some lunches of your own.

Inset Day—Friday 20th October

We would like to remind you that Friday 20th October is an Inset Day and the school will be closed to children. Children return from half term on Monday 30th October.

Harvest Donations



A huge thank you for your incredible generosity for this year's harvest collection for the Uttlesford Foodbank and the Rotary Club's support for Ukrainian Refugees. We know this will help make the winter months for those that are facing difficult conditions maybe just a little easier.



PE Kits

We had a meeting this week with Fosters, our PE suppliers. Unfortunately they, along with others, continue to have problems with their supply chain. We know this is causing an inconvenience for you and they have apologised for this. It is absolute fine for your child to wear a plain dark or white t-shirt with dark shorts in the interim. As soon as we receive any orders in school, we will inform parents directly.

As a reminder our PE uniform expectations are as follows:

- ~ Compulsory RAB logo-ed polo shirt (available from Fosters)
- ~ Navy Blue shorts/skort
- ~ Navy blue socks
- ~ RAB or navy blue tracksuit
- ~ Skins – your child may choose to wear skins during the winter. These should be navy blue or black only, no bright colours
- ~ Trainers – dark or white, no bright colours



Bugs and Birds

Year 4 had a wonderful trip to Rye Meads RSPB reserve on Tuesday. They went on Nature Walk, using binoculars to observe habitats, spent time in bird hides spotting different species of birds and did some pond dipping, examining the different herbivore and carnivore creatures the found. This links to their topic this term 'Living Things and their Habitats'. The children had a fabulous day and we are very grateful for the parent helpers who came with us.



Kurling & Boccia Competition

16 children from KS2 took part in a local schools Kurling and Boccia competition on Wednesday. All children had a lovely morning working as a team and playing some great shots in both the Kurling and Boccia. They all did amazingly well with our year 6's coming in 2nd place overall in the Boccia and our mixed Y4/5 team taking 3rd place. Well done to all involved.



World Mental Health Day—Tuesday 10th October

On Monday every child will be taking part in an assembly where they will learn about the importance of taking care of our mental health. They will see a video of Ant and Dec talking about this and setting them a homework challenge to talk to someone at home about their feelings. Every child will come home with a discussion booklet. It would be really great if you would engage with this with your child. There is no need to send this homework back to school.

Diary Dates Next Week



9-13 Oct	Week 3 Summer Menu
9 Oct	Connection Coffee Morning 9am
9 Oct	Y2 Wonder Dome
10 Oct	Reception Harvest Festival 9am
10 Oct	World Mental Health Day
13 Oct	Y5&6 Swimming @ LBLC
31 Oct	Deadline for Y7 (Sept 2024) Applications



Parking In and Around School

Unfortunately there have been a number of incidents that have occurred this week both in school and in the local streets. Our neighbours in Farmadine Grove have been in touch regarding two separate events. There are very young children running and crossing the road without parental supervision, not stopping to look. This problem is exacerbated by parents parking on double yellow lines on both sides of South Road, making visibility very limited and making it hard for residents to pull out safely. The residents drive slowly up their road but are very concerned **that it is an accident waiting to happen**. Please can you ensure your children are crossing roads safely and that you respect the parking restrictions in the locality.

In a separate incident a family from our school was parked in the private road and just as they were leaving they threw all their rubbish out of the car into road. We teach our children Respectful Relationships in school and we ask that this is extended to our neighbours.

In a separate event, if you are using the school carpark, at the permitted times, please can you be mindful when opening your car doors, as a staff car was hit this week. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe and relationships with neighbours positive.

Lost Property

We are drowning in un-named jumpers and snack pots, this un-named haul was collected in 24 hours. Please can you take time this weekend to ensure all your items are named, including snack pots and lunch boxes. Even if you think your clothing is named, please can you ensure it is legible and not just initials. We get a lot of faded and unreadable names which means we cannot reunite children with their lost items. Thank you,

Events in Essex

We have been informed of two events taking place over the coming months:

Children's Events this Half Term for Primary Schools

Pop along to Essex Libraries for some half term time. Meet author Kate Read and enjoy a reading of her book, One Fox, followed by a fun counting and art activity. Or, enjoy an introduction to Black History Month, a reading of "Malik's Bridge", and a workshop where you'll design and build your own bridge. Events are for all children aged 3 to 10.

Do pop into Saffron Walden Library to see what is taking place locally.

The Lord Lieutenant Competition has Launched Across all Schools in Essex

The Lord Lieutenant has launched a [competition](#) to kick-off the Essex Year of Numbers. We're inviting children and young people to create a 2D/3D display (maximum size 1m2 or 1m3), with a short video presentation creatively showing the many ways numbers are used in everyday life. Entries can include number patterns, diagrams, calculations, explanations, photographs and models. The competition offers students the chance to think creatively about maths and its everyday use. The deadline for entries is 31st January 2024.

The Children's Commissioner Survey



The Children's Commissioner has launched *The Big Ambition* to hear directly from children and young people across the country about what they need to make their lives better. The survey wants to hear about their schools, communities, family life and the wider world, as well as what they want for their future, their hopes, dreams and aspirations. The survey is for all people to the age of 18. 6-18 year olds can complete the survey themselves, those under six or needing support can have an adult completing the survey on their behalf. If your child to take part, you can find further details [here](#).

Clerk Vacancy


The Governing Body is currently looking to appoint a new clerk. Please see our flyer. You can find full details on our [website](#)

Finance Officer

We are also recruiting for a Finance Officer to join our office team. Please do share details of this role within anyone you think may be interested. Training will be available. You can find further details [here](#).

		RAB READING OLYMPIANS	
BRONZE Rory P Charlie C Joemaria S Martha S Bonnie K Elsie B Sidney T Lyla C		SILVER Kavanch K Evie SM Heidi P	GOLD Sophia F Matilda D
		RAB BOOKWORMS	
BRONZE Ava D Bryher T Esme W Jesse P Sophie M Daniel W		SILVER	GOLD





R A Butler Academy

Clerk to Governors


We are looking to appoint a Clerk to our Governing Body to provide clerking services at our Full Governing Body meetings and committee meetings.

This is an exciting opportunity for someone to join an established governance team and work flexibly around a calendar of scheduled meetings, supporting the Executive Headteacher and Governing Body in the delivery of governance policy, working within the broad context of legislative requirements. Tasks primarily involve setting meeting agendas and writing minutes.

The successful candidate will have excellent communication and organisational skills, be able to work independently and able to organise their own time whilst working to strict deadlines.

Start: January 2024
Salary: Self-employed - £200 per meeting (up to 12 meetings per year)



For further details please visit rab.academy/vacancies


R A Butler Academy Infant & Junior Schools part of the Saffron Academy Trust

R A Butler Academy
South Road
Saffron Walden CB11 3DG

Future Diary Dates

16-19 Oct	Parent Consultations	7 Dec	Y1 Christmas Play 2pm
16 Oct	Y6 Roman Day (costumes)	7 Dec	Y2 Christmas Play 5pm
16 Oct	Junior Flu Immunisation (Infants in Dec, details to follow closer to the time)	11 Dec	Connection Coffee Morning 9am
19 Oct	EY & Y1 Teddy Bear Run	12 Dec	Early Years Christmas Play 9.15am
20 Oct	INSET Day—Children not in School	13 Dec	R-Y6 Book Look 8.40-9.10am
21-29 Oct	Half Term	20 Dec	10.30am Christmas Carols @ St Mary's Church all welcome
30 Oct	Children return to School	20 Dec	1.30pm End of Term
13 Nov	Connection Coffee Morning 9am	You can find term dates for this academic year and next here .	
6 Dec	Y2 Christmas Play 2pm		
6 Dec	Y1 Christmas Play 5pm		

 Stars of the Week 		
<u>Reception</u>		
Catarina F	Leo T	Oscar S
Theo W	Derry D	Harry W
<u>Year 1</u>		
Oliver H	Pippa M	Amaya R
Charlotte M	Connor B	Ronnie E
<u>Year 2</u>		
Ned S	Tom D	Anya H
Elsbeth B	Freddie B	Seb C
<u>Year 3</u>		
Annie L	Bea S	Sophie M
Freddie S	Enas S	Jesse P
<u>Year 4</u>		
Leo B	Ella B	Johnny M
Charlie T	James L	Phoebe E
<u>Year 5</u>		
Henry B	Lily G	
Summer M	Kate C	
<u>Year 6</u>		
Emmy B	Emilie P	Ellie G
Oliver E	Stanley C	Freddy P
Infant Lunchtime Cup	RJD	
Junior Lunchtime Cup	6MB	