



The Butler Buzz

R A Butler's Weekly Newsletter – 15 December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are slowly drawing to the end of a busy term, this is to remind you that school will **finish at 1.30pm on Wednesday**.

New arrival

Congratulations to Mrs Stringer and her family on the arrival of baby Ottilie earlier this week. Mum and daughter are doing well and we can't wait to meet her.

Diary Dates Next Week



| | |
|-----------|---|
| 20 Dec | 10.30am Christmas Carols @ St Mary's Church |
| 20 Dec | 1.30pm End of Term |
| 5 Jan 24 | Inset Day School Closed to Children |
| 8 Jan 24 | Children return to school |
| 15 Jan 24 | Deadline for Reception & Y3 2024 Applications www.essex.gov.uk/admissions |



A Miracle in Town

What a wonderful performance from our Reception children with their production A Miracle in Town. The hall was completely packed out with a highly appreciative audience. We were treated to beautiful singing, fantastic projection and lots of Christmas magic. Well done to all of Early Years we are so proud of you.

Christmas Dinner

An enormous thank you to our amazing kitchen team for serving over 650 Christmas lunches, which were truly delicious!. There were Christmas tunes in the hall and all the children wore the Christmas hats they've created. It is always a very festive event.



Jumpers & Puddings!

Earlier in the week the children voted in a PTA poll to dress Mrs Vincent as either a Christmas Pudding or a Christmas Fairy. Look what won.... We've loved seeing all the Christmassy Jumpers today and thank you all for your donations, we've raised over £400 for Save the Children and KidsInspire.



Menu for Next Week

Please see below changes for next week's menu:

Monday

Red: Jacket Potato—Tuna Mayo

Green: Jacket Potato—Cheese & Beans

Pancakes with Maple Syrup

Tuesday

Red: Spaghetti Bolognese

Green: Quorn Bolognese

Fruit Platter

Wednesday

Red: Hot Dog in a Roll

Green: Vegan Hot Dog in a Roll

Strawberry Mousse

When we return from the holidays it will be [week 3](#) of the menu.

Elfridges


The PTA's pop up Elfridges store did a roaring trade this week. Over a thousand gifts were wrapped and £1300 raised for the school. Thank you to all our PTA elves who decorated the room the beautifully and were on hand to help wrap and keep the supplies stocked. We hope you enjoy opening your gifts.



Carols at St Mary's Church—Wednesday 20th December

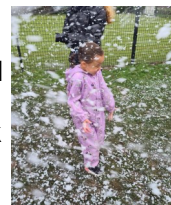
You are warmly invited to join our Carol Concert which will start at 10.30 at St Mary's Church on the last day of term. Once the children are all seated we will open the West Porch doors (the front of the church) for you to join us, we kindly ask that you do not enter the church until invited to do so. Please be aware that we have been advised by the church that food and drink are not permitted in the building.

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 RA Butler Academy Infant & Junior Schools

Mr Smith's Christmas Assault Course

We hope your washing machines have forgiven us! The muddy, soggy weather did nothing to dampen the children's spirits as they took part in Mr Smith's annual assault course. With Christmas tunes and the snow machine on max the children thoroughly enjoyed seeing how many laps they could complete. A big thank you to all the Y5 and Y6 children who helped out and to Mr Smith for putting on a great event.



Seesaw Etiquette

Please can we remind parents that Seesaw is not a forum for asking teachers about administrative issues. Most information you require can usually be found in The Butler Buzz which is sent out every Friday and can also be found on our [website](#) or in correspondence sent out via SchoolComms or Seesaw so please do look through your messages. You can always check information with the school office or year group WhatsApp groups. Thank you for your support with this.

Library Winter Reading Challenge

Looking to keep your children reading over the holidays then why not pop into Saffron Walden Library and sign up for their winter challenge which is running until 3rd February. You can find out more on their [website](#).



Message from Police

Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are? Visit www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online. #StaySafe

Tech-Free Christmas



The latest flyer from the National Online Safety team has tips for a [Tech Free Christmas](#)

Clubs

Please can payments for Spring Term clubs be made by Tuesday 19 December.

Y2 Applications for Y3 2024 & Reception 2024

Don't forget **all applications must be submitted on-line by 15th January 2024**. You can apply via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions Please email Wendy on admin@rab.academy and let her know you have completed your application.

|  | Stars of the Week |  |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| Reception All of Catherine Rayner | All of Nick Butterworth | All of Julia Donaldson |
| Year 1 Theo W Robyn B | Cillian C Nellie D | Joseph T Asya G |
| Year 2 Remmy V Quinn H | Bella M Oliver C | Darcy E Ivy S |
| Year 3 Benjamin S Finn H | Zico C Victor H | George F Suki G |
| Year 4 Lucie T Riley D | Lucas A Bale L | Jess B Alex P |
| Year 5 Robin A Phoebe S | Henry R Heidi B | Alice I Raife H |
| Year 6 Leila P Ava | Meredith F Rose S | Alistair S Tammy K |
| Infant Lunchtime Cup Junior Lunchtime Cup | 2MG 4CC | |

|  | RAB READING OLYMPIANS | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| BRONZE Zara S Imogen L | SILVER Bonnie K Rosie B Stanley C | GOLD Lyla C |
|  | RAB BOOKWORMS | |
| BRONZE Noel J Bertie M Alex P Alfie T Raphy W Zac W | SILVER Dougie B Henry M Dion G | GOLD |

Dodgeball

Two of our Y4 teams qualified to the next round of competitions and travelled to Felsted to take part. Unfortunately we got stuck in a bit of traffic on the way there but the children were so resilient, they arrived to play 18 consecutive games with little break in between! That's a lot of dodging, ducking and diving! Yellow team showed some great teamwork and fantastic catching skills and our blue team threw some fantastic balls and fought hard, amazingly they still managed to come second in their group despite playing so many games to make it through to the 3rd/4th place playoffs. They drew the first set of games and then narrowly missed out to secure 4th place. Both teams did so well considering the obstacles they had to overcome and we definitely have lots to build on for next year!



RAB PTA 100 Club – congratulations to our winners this month!

Christmas bonus this week, so double winnings!

1st prize (£90) number 73

2nd prize (£50) number 11

3rd prize (£20) number 26

All December prize winners will be notified.

Future Diary Dates

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 15 Jan | Connections Meeting 9am |
| 19 Jan | Y6 Parent Workshop (SATs Maths) 9am |
| 24 Jan | Y5 History Off the Page WW2 Day |
| 29-31 Jan | Y4 Burwell House |
| 12 Feb | Connections Meeting 9am |
| 14 Feb | Y5 Parent Workshop (Reading) 9am |
| 15 Feb | Y1 Parent Workshop (6Rs/Phonics) 9am |
| 16 Feb | Whole School Parent Book Look 3pm |
| 19-23 Feb | Half Term |
| 7 Mar | World Book Day |
| 11 Mar | Connections Meeting 9am |
| 25-28 Mar | Parent Consultations |
| 28 March | Easter Term Ends 1.30pm |
| 15 April | Children Return to School |

You can find term dates for this academic year and next [here](#).