

# Bushey Heath Primary School

Newsletter: December 2018



A vibrant school inspiring children to realise their potential

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## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents / Carers

This is just a short newsletter – a mini newsletter if you will – to share a bit of good news and cheer as we head towards the Christmas break.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your patience as the new windows are installed and apologise for any inconvenience caused. Year 5 is now complete and the window fitters are moving on to the kitchen, then the hall and finally the Nursery. As well as reducing the school's electricity bill, the new windows will provide an improved learning environment for our children as it will be easier to regulate the room temperature.

The school is always looking for ways to improve the environment for your children and I am delighted to confirm that a recent County Audit has graded the school's Health and Safety as 'Outstanding'. Whilst all staff contribute to the culture of health and safety, I particularly want to thank our Office Manager – Julie James - and our Caretaker – Christine Feuell – for their major contribution towards the school securing this grading.

Secondly, for those that follow us on Twitter, you will be aware that we are increasingly using this as a means of communicating some of the activities your children participate in.

Whilst we have used the whole school Twitter address for some time now, we are now introducing twitter handles for all the staff so that you can follow an individual class. Currently, this is being trialled by Mr Moody, Miss McClure and Mrs Giffiths but will be rolled out by all teachers in the New Year. I really would encourage you to follow the school and your class teacher at: [@busheyheathjm](https://twitter.com/busheyheathjm)

We are finding that authors of children's books are more than happy to respond to Tweets from the children which include book reviews. This one below, by Archie, is a particularly fine example of one such review. Maybe your child has completed some work at home that you would like us to share on Twitter.

I am delighted to say that the chickens are finally outside which is a real relief for all. We will be setting up a rota for children from upper key stage 2 to look after them. If your child is selected, we will be asking your permission for them to carry out this duty and also will be asking them to bring in a pair of old shoes. Who knew chickens could make such a mess?

Finally, congratulations to the children and staff on their wonderful school plays. They have been a delight to watch and are a testament to the skill and hard work of your children and our staff.

*Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year.  
Penny Barefoot*



<https://twitter.com/MrMoodyBH>  
<https://twitter.com/msmclureBH>  
<https://twitter.com/MrsGriffithsBH>

### The Skylarks' War By Hilary McKay Book Review

The Skylarks' War is a moving novel about WW1 told through the eyes of the two Panrose children: Peter and Clarry. The book follows them from childhood to a successful adulthood, which is very uncommon in books.

Possibly the best part of this book is the loveable characters. There is not a single pointless character, every single one plays an important part to the plot. Somehow Hilary works her magic and I honestly feel like I have known all these characters, especially my favourite one, Clarry, for all my life.

There were three chapters I particularly enjoyed. One of these being chapter twenty-two. I really liked this chapter because it truly showed the cruelty of the war. It tugs at your heartstrings and portrays how many innocent lives were lost.

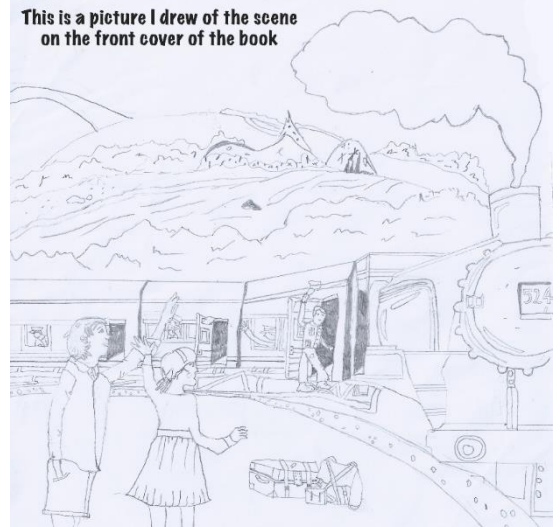
The second chapter I enjoyed is chapter thirty-three. The children's cousin, who is currently up-front on the battlefield, sends them a letter, which is so melancholy but so beautiful and sounds a little bit like a Shakespearean lament. '... There used to be grass and quietness. Is anything left how it was before? So many things are gone. Are you still the Clarry who sent the butterflies? Or have you vanished too?'

The final chapter that I want to point out is chapter fifty. It ties up the story amazingly and leaves you with a uplifting ending.

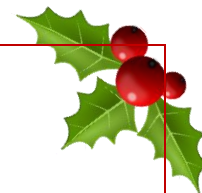
This delightful story covers many qualities of human kind including love, determination and loyalty. I'd recommend this book to anyone over ten years old and rate it four out of five stars.

By Archie Coffer

This is a picture I drew of the scene on the front cover of the book



## BUSHEY HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL - DIARY DATES



### Autum 2018

#### Date

19 December at 11:00  
20 December  
21 December at 14:00

#### Summary

Nursery Christmas Songs 11:00  
Christmas Dinner  
Autumn 2018 Term ends 14:00 finish

### Spring 2019

#### Date

7 January  
10 January  
18 January at 09:00  
5 February at 13:30  
6 February at 18:00  
7 February at 14:30  
7 February at 19:00  
18 - 22 February  
12 March  
21 March at 19:00  
28 March at 16:30  
1 April  
2 April at 15:30  
5 April

#### Summary

Spring 2019 Term begins  
Year 6 trip to RAF Museum  
Class Rep Meeting 09:00  
Year 4 Play 13:30  
Year 4 Play 18:00  
Reception Learning Journals 14:30  
GB Meeting 19:00  
Half Term  
Nursery Learning Journals 11:30 & 14:45  
GB Meeting 19:00 (1)  
Parent Consultations 16:30-19:00  
Year 3A & 3G Sharing Assembly 14:30  
Parent Consultations 15:30-18:00  
Spring 2019 Term ends

### Summer 2019

#### Date

23 April  
23 April  
30 April  
7 May  
13 - 17 May  
14 May  
14 May  
16 May at 19:00  
20 - 24 May  
21 May  
27 - 31 May  
3 June  
4 June  
4 June at 14:30  
11 June  
12 June  
18 June  
20 June at 19:00  
21 June  
24 - 26 June  
25 June  
25 June  
28 June  
2 July  
4 July  
4 July at 16:00  
9 July  
10 July at 14:00  
11 July at 18:00  
16 July  
17 July at 14:00  
19 July  
22 July  
23 July  
24 July

#### Summary

Summer 2019 Term begins  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 1  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 2  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 3  
SAT's Week  
Year 3A & 3G Hatfield House Trip  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 4  
GB Meeting 19:00  
Year 6 Boreatton Park Trip 2019  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 5  
Half Term  
Inset Day  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 6  
Reception Learning Journals 14.30  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 7  
Early Years Sports Day  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 8  
GB Meeting 19:00 (1)  
KS1 Sports Day  
Year 5 Hayling Island Trip 2019  
Nursery Learning Journals 11:30 & 14:45 (1)  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 9  
KS2 Sports Day  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 10  
International Day  
Open Evening 16:00  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 11  
Year 6 Play 14:00  
Year 6 Play 18:00  
Year 4 Swimming Lessons 12  
Year 6 Leaver Assembly 14:00  
Summer 2019 Term ends  
Inset Day (1)  
Inset Day (2)  
Occasional Day