

# Bushey Heath Primary School

Newsletter: March 2021



Respect, Encourage and Achieve

## A vibrant school inspiring children to realise their potential

Dear Parents & Carers

### Well-being

It has been so wonderful to welcome all our children back. They have adapted and settled quickly and are working really hard to catch up on their missed learning. Please be reassured, however, that we are keeping a close eye on them to ensure we pick up any mental health and well-being issues that may have developed over lockdown. We do not underestimate the stress that our families have been, and continue to be, under.

We have a variety of measures in place to support your child's well-being. These include, but are not limited to:

- **One to one counselling** – the School employs 'Safe Space' - an external provider.
- **Drawing therapy** – a relaxing and calming environment which particularly helps children that may be feeling anxious and stressed.
- **Extra tuition** – feeling left behind in class can cause additional worries for a child.
- **'What I'd like my teacher to know'** sheets – these allow children to communicate their worries and concerns to a member of staff without having to approach them directly.
- **Emotional bottles** – here, children are given the opportunity to reflect on their emotions and how this might affect their behaviour. They 'draw' their emotion into a bottle and discuss coping strategies with a teacher or teaching assistant to ensure their 'bottles do not overflow'.
- **A named adult** that supports and mentors a child who may be struggling with their emotions.
- **'Well-being charts'** to ensure a child's well-being is closely and regularly monitored, with appropriate support being put in place as needed.
- **Opportunities for extracurricular enrichment** activities to support welfare - including gardening, cooking, caring for the chickens, music and access to the digital hub.

If you are worried about your child, please do not hesitate to contact the School and we will do our best to help.

### Reading

Mr Moody has arranged for the School to have a vending machine that serves books. Each week 3 children will receive a token. 1 for a child that has shown enthusiasm for reading and 2 chosen at random (hopefully that way we will capture those children that prefer being on their PlayStation to reading a book). We have received a donation from a parent of £200 for which we are fantastically grateful. It will go a long way to ensuring we are able to stock the vending machine with the most up-to-date and popular books. Thank you to the parents who have donated new books to this project. If you would like to contribute, there is a box in the foyer for your donations.

### The Environment

Our talented design team – Mrs Dowden and Mrs Vale continue to sweep through the School turning unloved corners into magical reading areas. We have a 'Teddy Bears' Picnic' in Year 1, Harry Potter in Year 50, an outdoor campsite in Year 2 and a blue velvet adorned theatre in Nursery! Once the lock-down is finished, I hope you will come and visit the School - it looks amazing!

## Music

Mr Hirons continues to engulf the School in music, he has introduced impromptu jamming sessions with children in the dining hall, creating a School band and ukulele 'flash mobs', and will help ensure that all children leave the School being able to read music and play a tuned instrument. Music is certainly a way of improving well-being.



## Curriculum Development

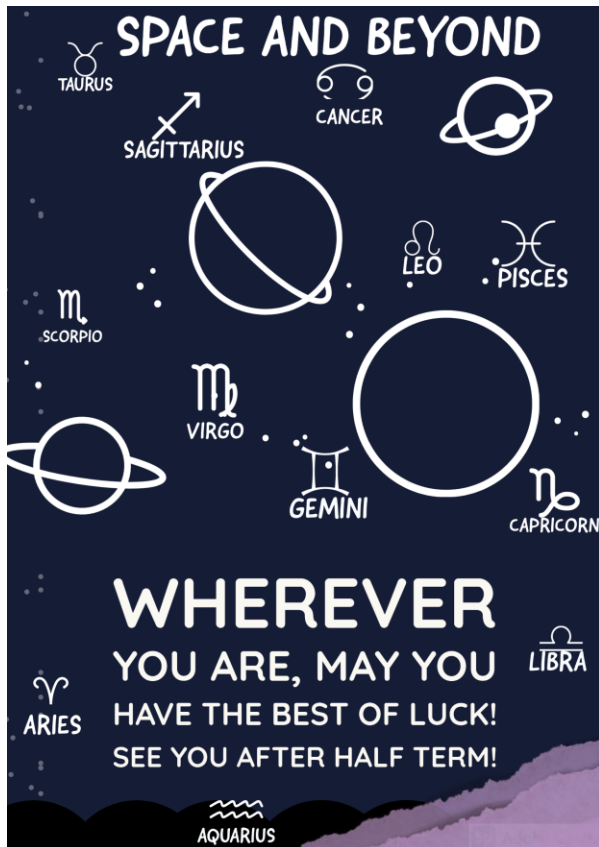
Our curriculum continues to develop apace. The School runs a 'Healthy Body, Healthy Minds: looking after myself and others' campaign. This includes our 'Seed to Plate' project. Where the children take eggs laid by our chickens and herbs grown in our herb garden and create tasty and healthy dishes in their very own kitchen. We are incredibly lucky to have Mrs Rattley who is a skilled gardener and cook working with the children. Thanks to Mrs Rattley's care and attention the greenhouse is full of plants and I am thrilled to see our kiwi plant has survived the cold weather.



## Digital Media Hub – Lunchtime Club

We have been using Adobe Spark to turn your text and photos into a professional-looking, attention-getting graphics. The children show high interest and I have seen the progress the children have made by familiarising themselves with the program and producing beautiful and creative logos and graphic posters.

Mr Meeko



## **BUSHEY HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL - DIARY DATES**

**Please remember to check our website for additions to the School Calendar**

<http://www.busheyheathjm.herts.sch.uk/our-school/calendar>

### **SPRING 2021**

25 March GB Meeting 4

26 March Spring 2021 Terms ends 2:00 pm

### **SUMMER 2021**

12 April Summer 2021 Term begins

13 April Year 4 Swimming 1

20 April Year 4 Swimming 2

27 April Year 4 Swimming 3

4 May Year 4 Swimming 4

10 May Parent/ Carer Consultation - Early Years 3:30-5:30 pm

10 - 13 May SATs Week

11 May Year 4 Swimming 5

12 May Parent/ Carer Consultation - KS2 3:30-5:30 pm

13 May Parent/ Carer Consultation - KS2 4:30-6:30 pm

17 May Parent/ Carer Consultation - KS1 3:30-5:30 pm

18 May Year 4 Swimming 6

18 May GB Meeting 5

19 May Parent/ Carer Consultation - Early Years 4:30-6:30 pm

20 May Parent/ Carer Consultation - KS1 4:30-6:30 pm

25 May Year 4 Swimming 7

31 May - 4 June Half Term

7 - 11 June Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week

8 June Year 4 Swimming 8

10 - 11 June Year 5 Cuffley Camp 2021 Trip

14 June Inset Day 5

15 June Year 4 Swimming 9

21 - 25 June Year 6 Boreatton Park Trip 2021

22 June Year 4 Swimming 10

29 June Year 4 Swimming 11

6 July Year 4 Swimming 12

6 July GB Meeting 6

8 July Secondary Transition Day

9 July Occasional Day

13 July Year 4 Swimming 13

20 July Year 4 Swimming 14

22 July Summer 2021 Term ends 2:00 pm

### **AUTUMN 2021**

1 September Inset Day 1

2 September Autumn 2021 Term begins

22 October Occasional Day

25 - 29 October Half Term

1 November Inset Day 2

9 November Individual Photographs

21 December Autumn 2021 Term ends 2:00 pm

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### **SPRING 2022**

5 January Inset Day 3  
6 January Spring 2022 Term begins  
14 - 18 February Half Term  
1 April Spring 2022 Term ends 2:00 pm

### **SUMMER 2022**

19 April Summer 2022 Term begins  
30 May - 3 June Half Term  
6 June Inset Day 4  
21 July Summer 2022 Term ends 2:00 pm  
22 July Inset Day 5

### **AUTUMN 2022**

1 September Occasional Day  
2 September Inset Day 1  
5 September Autumn 2022 Term begins  
24 - 28 October Half Term  
31 October Inset Day 2  
21 December Autumn 2022 Term ends 2:00 pm

### **SPRING 2023**

5 January Spring 2023 Term begins  
13 - 17 February Half Term  
31 March Spring 2023 Term ends 2:00 pm

### **SUMMER 2023**

17 April Inset Day 3  
18 April Summer 2023 Term begins  
29 May - 2 June Half Term  
5 June Inset Day 4  
20 July Summer 2023 Term ends 2:00 pm  
21 July Inset Day 5