

# Buckland St. Mary

## Church of England Primary School



11th March 2024

### A message from Ethne Staniland

How are we in March already?! It has been wonderful to see the sun shining, the flowers beginning to bloom, as well as the lighter evenings coming in. Buckland has been a hive of activity so far this half term from netball development days at Holyrood, cross country at Stockland, music lessons, dance workshops, World Book Day and a visit from Ferne animal sanctuary to name just a few of the additional experiences available for our children.



Since we transferred to the ACE Multi Academy Trust, on the 1<sup>st</sup> January, we have enjoyed a close working relationship with the other ACE schools in Devon and Somerset. ACE has 3 core values of Academic Excellence, Learning to Learn (metacognition) and Character Education.

This half term, Ash, Oak and Beech class have all trialled our exciting, enquiry-based curriculum linking our History and English learning experiences. We look forward to sharing their learning journals with you at our Parents Evening on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March. It has been wonderful to see the children embracing their learning and taking pride in their work as I have walked around the school.

Families have an opportunity to meet Nick Hind, ACE Deputy CEO and William Jaworski, ACE Strategic Advisor on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. An email to ask if you are attending has been sent out by the office. Please reply so that we can organise seating and arrangements. We look forward to seeing you then.

### The Photo of the Week



WORLD BOOK DAY AT BUCKLAND

### Dates for your Diary

- 12th March– U11's Netball Development day (Beech Class)
- 15th March– Red Nose Day - Non uniform— wear a shade of red
- 15th March– FoBS Disco from 5m at the village hall
- 22nd March FoBS Non Uniform Day
- 28th March– FoBS Easter Bingo
- 29th March– Bank Holiday

EASTER HOLIDAYS– 1st April– 12th April

- 15th April– Welcome Back

Head of School- Mrs Ethne Staniland

Buckland St Mary C of E Primary School

Buckland St Mary

Chard

Somerset

Email: [admin.buckland@acexcellence.co.uk](mailto:admin.buckland@acexcellence.co.uk)

Phone: 01460 234251



academies for character and excellence

## Ash Class

What a half term Ash Class have had! We have thoroughly enjoyed being historians these past few weeks learning all about the life of Mary Anning. We began our enquiry by exploring the types of curiosities Mary Anning would have found along the beaches of Lyme Regis. These included fossils, driftwood and the odd fish skeleton washed up onto the shoreline. We have thought about the chronology of Mary Anning's childhood and where she fits along our history timeline. Ash Class have loved learning new facts about her life that made her unique, like being struck by lightning when she was just a baby!

In Maths, Year 1 have been focusing on addition and subtraction of 2-digit numbers, with a particular focus on teen numbers. Reception have been focusing on the composition of the number 10. We have used dienes, Numicon, multilink and counters to help us with our learning.

In Literacy, we have been taking inspiration from our history enquiry, and have been writing captions and notes to support our learning journey. We have also been attempting to speed up our writing using short burst writes where we have focused on using story language sentence openers.

A big well done to all of Ash Class, who have worked tirelessly this half term and thank you to parents, for your continued support at home with reading and homework.

*Miss Luesley*



## Oak Class

Oak Class are enjoying being 'historians' and learning about the start of Space travel as part of our learning enquiry. They have found out some interesting facts, like the first animals that went into space. They are finding out about the first astronauts into space and the first moon landing. They will continue to look at an astronaut and how they work, rest and play in Space. They are enjoying finding out facts and interesting information every day. Please do ask your child to tell you about their learning!

Oak Class have been fantastic mathematicians. Our Year 2s have just finished learning about measure – weight, length and capacity and are just starting a new unit on fractions. Our Year 3s are coming to the end of their fraction unit and then they will start learning how to use the formal column method for addition. It has been great to see the children's resilience and confidence increase as the year has progressed with children challenging themselves to access the deeper learning and challenge work.

In art, the children have completed pictures inspired by the artists Alice Kettle and Hannah Rae. They each made a painted a sewn seascape picture which combined the children's painting, sewing and mark making skills. The children considered the colour palate that they wanted to use when they painted their canvas. They then used their sewing skills to make expressive marks - emphasising the wind, waves and sand. What fabulous artists we have in Oak Class!

*Mrs Henning and Mrs Staniland*



## Beech Class

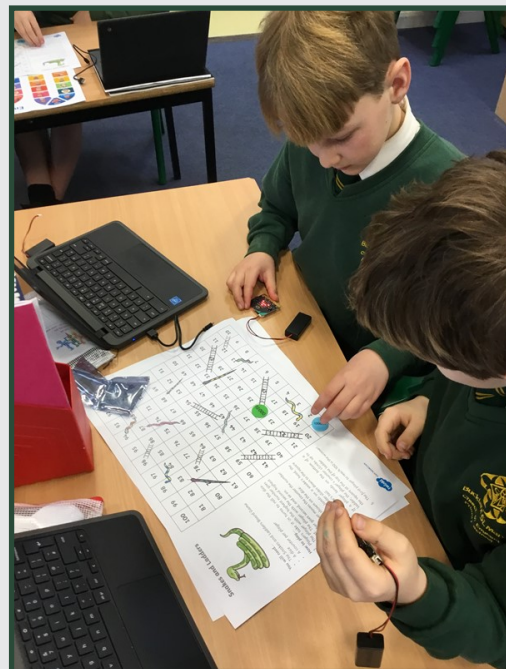
Beech class have truly embraced their role as 'Historians' this term, focusing on the Tudor period, researching primary and secondary sources, reading extracts from Shakespeare, and discussing the uses for Tudor artefacts. So far, we have looked at the Battle of Bosworth and how that shaped the Tudor dynasty, and discussed which monarch we would prefer to be ruled by. (not many of us chose Henry VIII or Mary II!) We will be continuing the topic by exploring Tudor life, focusing on Henry VIII and his decisions which shaped religion in our country.

In Maths, Year 6 have been busy learning about algebra and linear sequences, looking at the rules to follow and how to satisfy variables. in Year 5, our focus has been multiplication and division using the short division method. We have been practicing talking through our methods, and the Year 5s have all become really confident to share their working out and can recognise where they have made a mistake and confidently show how to correct their work. In Year 4, our focus has been fractions of quantities and finding equivalent fractions. We have enjoyed using the fraction bingo to check our understanding and to talk about our knowledge.

Micro bits have been a huge hit in Beech class! We are learning how to programme our micro bits for different functions. So far, we have made our own name badges, and even turned them in to dice to play board games together. We will continue to find out what more they can do!

Many of Beech class now have roles of responsibility across the school through different jobs. They are all showing great responsibility in these roles and being positive role models to the younger children, we are all really proud of the work they are doing to help the school, Well done!

*Mrs Marriott*



## Willow Nursery

In Willow class we've had a busy start to the year by recapping our numbers from 1-5 and are now exploring 2D shapes like triangles, squares and circles etc. For the younger children, we are looking at mark making and holding equipment to make these marks ready for writing.

We have joined Ash Class for a engaging forest school session around the school grounds which we all enjoyed. The children developed their fire safety skills around the fire pit. They followed instructions and listened carefully, both skills we are always working to improve.

During this half term we have followed the children's interests of Paw Patrol and Superheroes using this to enhance our provision. They have made characters and discussed these using the play doh and other creative materials. They have made a bus for the characters and have been jumping like superheroes in PE.

You will have noticed that we have started planting seed for Spring and shall continue to look at growing and the lifecycles of plants and animals into the summer. The aim is this will end with us being able to eat some of our produce to let the children explore a wider range of different flavours and textures.

*Mrs Napper and Ms Dore*



## Forest School

We are only a week into our new forest school timetable and it is already proving popular with the children, who expressed their excitement of having shorter sessions more regularly.

This half term we will be working towards a special 'Fire Site Safety and Management' Certificate. The children will have the chance to share their knowledge and understanding on the importance of safe campfires.

As well as this, children will be building on core aspects of Forest School such as social, intellectual, physical, communication & language, and risk management skills. Through these skills, children will be building skills of independence, resilience, self-esteem, self-confidence, emotional literacy, creativity, safe practices, and health and well-being.

We are currently on the lookout for donations of tools and materials that would benefit the children and the Forest School site – anything from pallets, spare wood, saws, hammers, nails, screws, string, rope, planting materials. If you have anything spare and would like to donate it, please contact Mrs Napper.

## FoBS



A huge thank you to FoBS for arranging the Leap Day Bounce and thank you our families for all the sponsors! A massive £415.20 was raised.

Over the next couple weeks FoBS are holding an Easter Disco and Easter Bingo! Please do come along to support your school at these events!

## Blackdown Benefice

We had a fantastic time, welcoming Fr John into the Blackdown Benefice during his visit to the UK. Beginning with a Benefice lunch and prayers, Fr John then embarked on busy week, visiting our villages and schools; getting involved in assemblies and watch Open Book performances. During a Q&A session, all of the children also enjoyed learning about Fr John and his life in Zambia – especially how to tackle a hungry lion! Fr John was also hosted by several members of our congregation, who offered traditional British meals, trips to Somerset museum, a visit to the local golf driving range (he was a natural!) and Lyme Regis (Fr John had never seen the sea before his trip here to the UK!). In addition, Fr John also joined our congregations for worship, offering a wonderful testimony to his ministry and faith, at our monthly Family Worship. We now look forward to developing our relationship with Fr John, his Parish, and local schools, over the coming weeks, months and years.

*Revd Nick Jerrett*



## Other News

Sharon from Ferne Animal Sanctuary came to visit us last week to talk to the children about pet care and arranged activities with the children. Each child came home with a free child's ticket to visit Ferne too! We are still collecting donations for Ferne so please do drop any spare cash you would like to donate.



We were really fortunate to have Kelly Leigh come in and run a dance workshop with the children from Oak and Beech class last week. We hope to arrange some more sports themed events with Kelly in conjunction with her role at Holyrood Academy over the next few months!



Congratulations to Miss Luesley on the successful completion of her Masters of Arts in Education with University of Worcester.



## Safeguarding Updates-

### Our School Vision

'That they may have life, life in all its fullness.' John 10:10

At BSM C of E Primary School everyone matters. We strive to be an inclusive community providing an outstanding education for all. Our lives are enriched through the teaching of Christian Values to grow as global citizens in an ever-changing world.

### Safeguarding

Safeguarding is high priority at Buckland St Mary Primary School. We take every opportunity to ensure that our pupil's safety is paramount. We want our pupils to be healthy and happy and to develop well, both physically and mentally. The school follows the latest Government Guidance to ensure we are fulfilling our duties in this important area.

Our Designated Lead (DSL) is Ethne Staniland our Deputy DSL's are Nadine Luesley and Kelly Napper.

Our school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy can be found online at: [www.bucklandstmaryceprimaryschool.co.uk/577/safeguarding](http://www.bucklandstmaryceprimaryschool.co.uk/577/safeguarding)

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child you can either talk to our DSL or DDSLs or you may phone Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224.

There is lots of online safety advice on our website – please follow [this link](#) to help keep your child safe.

### Contact Information

If you change any of your contact details, please inform the school office as soon as possible so that we may update our records. It is imperative that we have up to date details at all times.

Phone: 01460 234251 Email: [admin.buckland@acexcellence.co.uk](mailto:admin.buckland@acexcellence.co.uk)

## Attendance Breakdown

Ash - 94.98%

Oak - 95.57%

Beech - 93.14%

**Whole School - 95.45%**

