

A MESSAGE FROM
MRS STANILAND



Buckland St
Mary CofE
Primary School

How is it half term already? The school has been a hive of activity and the children have been thoroughly engaged in their learning enquiries. It has been wonderful to see them having the opportunity to be geographers, writers, mathematicians, musicians and explorers to name just a few!

The children have also enjoyed many enrichment activities and events already this year from cross country races, ukelele lessons, cricket development days, a Gamelan music workshop and our wonderful Harvest Festival service.

Beech class have enjoyed their Forest school half term ending with the 'The Big Wild walk 2024' to raise money for The Wildlife Trust - a fitting end to the half term's focus of our character gateway of citizenship where we have been learning about what it means to make a difference in our home, school, community and the wider world through showing drive, empathy and compassion. I have loved seeing Willow class getting out every week to enjoy our newly developed onsite Forest School area too. A fantastic example of making a difference to our school - well done for all your work with this Beech class!



Thank you for coming in to celebrate your children's learning both in our 'Praise and Share' celebration assemblies and also at our parent's evening this week. It was wonderful to see the children's confidence grow as they talked through their learning and shared their learning journals with pride. Thank you also to our Year 6 volunteers who were responsible for welcoming families, sharing books and managing the timetables - you did yourselves proud!

Have a restful half term with you families - we look forward to welcoming you back in November.



**Citizenship
Compassion & Drive**
Make a difference to my home,
school, community and the wider
world through showing compassion,
empathy and drive



Ash Class



MISS NADINE LUESLEY



What a half term Ash Class have had! We have completed two enquires this half term. We have thought scientifically when answering our question, 'How does Buckland change through the seasons?' and considered the correct clothing needed to stay warm during the Winter and cool during the Summer.

We have explored outside to identify the signs on Autumn and commented on the ever-changing Autumnal weather.

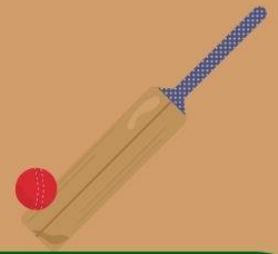
In our Geography enquiry, we have explored the key features of our local area and have worked hard to 'be a Buckland tour guide'. We have identified man-made and natural features of Buckland and used an atlas, Google Earth and Google Maps to explore the wider areas of Buckland. After half term we will be creating an information leaflet about Buckland to end our enquiry.

We have really enjoyed getting to know our Beech Class buddies. We have spent time with them sharing stories, singing and being shown how to use the track pad and keyboards on the chrome books. Beech Class have been brilliant in helping us to also sign out of the chrome books and shown us how to plug the chrome books back into the cabinet correctly.





Oak Class



**MRS KAREN HENNING AND
MRS ETHNE STANILAND**



The end of the first half term is nearly here, and the class have settled into routines, learning and collaborating as a class.

The children really enjoyed the cricket, which sadly finishes this week, but they have learnt so many new skills and had so much fun. These skills will be built upon in PE lessons and will help them as they learn to play other sports.

The class have been developing their literacy skills through our new English enquiry. At the start of this enquiry, we found a pile of junk left in our classroom! We asked around but couldn't find out who had left it there so we shared it out and worked collaboratively to build a model with our group.

The children then write their own instructions on how to build them. Quite difficult when there are so many different parts!

Oak Class have been learning all about nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs using the word class rap and other activities to help us remember them. They are then using these to make their own writing more interesting.

Through this enquiry we are reading a wonderful book called *The Robot and the Bluebird*. The class will be writing their own version to share with Ash class after half term.



AUTUMN



Ash Class

MISS NADINE LUESLEY



In Literacy, Ash Class have been using adjectives in their verbal sentence composition to add details to their descriptions of pictures. Reception have worked really hard to use the stem sentences in their verbal sentences. Reception have also been working hard to hold their pencils correctly and to write their names. Year 1 have been challenging themselves to use the stem sentences to verbally create descriptive sentences and then write these in their books. Year 1 have been working hard to use their phonics in their writing and to remember capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

Thank you for your continued support with reading and phonics sounds at home. Ash Class have been enjoying earning extra team points for reading recorded in their reading records.



In Maths, Year 1 have recapped place value, where we have focused on counting one object at a time, one more and one less and more than a number and less than a number. We have moved onto addition where we have used tens frames and explored the part, part, whole model to support our understanding of additional fact families. We have used counters to help us visualise the numbers we are working with. Reception have focused on their counting to 10 and the composition of numbers to 6. We have been focusing on 1 to 1 counting where we have spent lots of time ensuring to count one object at a time to find the total objects. Reception have also been learning to write numbers to 6.

Oak Class



**MRS KAREN HENNING AND
MRS ETHNE STANILAND**



The year 2's have been working on their addition and subtraction, concentrating on their number bonds to help them see patterns when the numbers get bigger as they are working with numbers up to 100.

Year 3 have also been working on addition and subtraction and are currently learning how to add and subtract using the formal column method.

We are coming to the end of our RE unit on What is it like for someone to follow God? We have looked at covenants – promises and we role-played a marriage service. We also have been looking at the story of Noah and the Ark from the bible.

In French, the class have been learning how to greet one another, ask each other their name and ask how they are?

Have a lovely relaxing half term, enjoy the autumn days and see you all on the 4th November ready for the run up to Christmas.



Beech Class

MRS LUCY WELLS-BURR
AND MRS KAREN HENNING



Beech Class have had an exciting end to our first half term! Last week we were lucky to have the opportunity to go to Holyrood for a Gamelan Workshop. The Gamelan is an Indonesian orchestra made up of lots of incredible percussion instruments. Beech Class learned all about where it comes from, the importance it plays in Indonesian communities and the spirituality of it. The children were then able to play a Gamelan instrument to create a whole class piece of music! It was incredible. Their concentration, care and drive to succeed was impressive, I was so proud of all of them!

In our learning in school, we have continued our geography enquiry and have learnt all about the human and physical features of the UK and Africa and have compared them. We are going to be writing an information page on the challenges that Africa faces.

In maths, Year 4 and 5 have been learning all about addition and subtraction. Year 4 have looked at formal methods and how to use them effectively. Year 5 have been learning about mental methods and how to efficiently solve maths calculations.

Year 6 have been learning about multiples, factors and prime numbers. The class have been making good progress with their times tables on TTRS, so keep up the great work! Please can you remind your child to continue playing 3 games in the garage section each week.



Willow Nursery



MRS KELLY NAPPER



Wow, end of half term already, and what a fantastic half term it has been! The children have all found their feet and are really enjoying being independent in their choices and play.

We have been out and about whatever the weather; enjoying the Forest School area, the woods, and the outside area. A bit of rain has not stopped us!

The general theme of this half term has been water play. The children have absolutely loved it!

The children have been enjoying a cooking activity every week, learning about ingredients, how to follow them, and mixing and prepping. So far, we have made bread, scones, cookies, cakes, and biscuits.



Another firm favourite of the children's is helping with the animals. They are all keen to look after the snails, fish, and guinea pigs, feeding them, cleaning them out and handling them.

After half term we will be starting our own enquiries just like the school do throughout. Our first enquiry question will be "How have I changed since I was a baby?". This will feed into our 'My family' theme that we have been doing. The end result of the enquiry will hopefully see the nursery children telling school students all about themselves and their family. We are extremely excited to start this, and know that the children will enjoy it also.

We hope you all have a fantastic half term, from Mrs Napper and the Nursery team.



FoBs

It's the end of term!

I hope you all have a spooktacular time at the Spooky Disco! This iconic event is always a hit and this year promises to be no different. This is one you won't want to miss!

The spooky fun takes place in the school hall from **3.30-5.30pm on Thursday, 24th October**. For a small **£1 suggested donation**, come dressed in your most enchanting costumes and wild hairdos for an evening full of fun!

Pick up will be as normal, and please note parental supervision is essential. There will be BBQ, tuck shop treats and both cash and card accepted. Come hungry, and come spooky! The witching hour approaches!

We have been thrilled to have parents offer their help, THANK YOU! If you are available to help setup from 2pm or lend a hand with tidying up afterwards we'd LOVE your support!

New Dates for the Diary!

We are excited to announce some new additions to the calendar! Donations wanted and deeply appreciated. Bake for Books is here!

One bake sale, per term, per class to support our Bake for Books fundraiser.

Each class will take the lead, with parents and guardians invited to help raise much-needed funds to fill our school with new books!

First up, is Beech Class on Thursday 21st November at 3.15pm. Get your aprons on and let's bake a difference!

Saturday 14th December 10-12 Buckland Church Christmas Coffee & Crafts

Join us for a festive coffee and craft morning. Get creative, and connect with the community. Take a moment to relax with a cuppa during the holiday madness whilst the children enjoy free crafts.

Don't forget to check the noticeboard for updates and event reminders too – its filling up fast and looking busy!

Next Stop: Christmas fun!

We will be focusing on all things festive as we dive into Christmas celebrations and fundraisers! The return of school film night is on the cards too!

Our fundraising efforts are currently focused on supporting both Forest School and Physical Education. We are thrilled this month to have contributed £850 towards the essential Forest School 'Kit'. This will enhance the sessions and the school will own it for future adventures!

Next Meeting: Thursday 7th November at 3.15pm in the School Hall.

We'd love for you to join us! We have heard that some parents find it tricky with little ones in tow, its definitely a juggling act! But don't worry, come prepared with snacks and entertainment. Plus, the school has always been supportive with after school care and clubs, helping us focus on the meetings. We are also open to ideas – if popping on the TV or offering activities for the children would help, let us know! We're a friendly bunch and would love to see more of you there.

Thank you for all your support!

Wishing everyone a fantastic half term break.

Octobers 100 Club winners are: -

1st Prize £10 Delilah Farmer

2nd Prize £5 Kelly Napper

£2.50 entry to be paid monthly into the FoBs bank account via standing order.

If you would like to be added to / or increase your monthly prize draw, please speak to a member of FoBs



Upcoming Events this month

Date	Event
Monday 4 th November to Friday 20 th December 2024	AUTUMN 2
Monday 4 th November	First day of Autumn 2
Monday 11 th November	Remembrance Service, 10:45am. Extra-curricular uniforms may be worn
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need Day (details to follow)
Friday 21 st November	Beech Class- Bake for Books
Tuesday 26 th November	Under 11 Basketball development - Holyrood sports hall (12-2pm - details to follow)
Friday 29 th November	Non-Uniform Day in exchange for Luxury Items for FoBS Christmas Hampers

BAKE FOR BOOKS!

Save the Dates! Raising funds for new school books.

To be organised by the children and their parents/guardians, each term, per class.

Donations gratefully received. Lets get baking!

BEECH CLASS - THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER, 3.15PM

OAK CLASS - THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY, 3.15PM

ASH CLASS - THURSDAY 3RD APRIL, 3.15PM

WILLOW CLASS (NURSERY) - THURSDAY 5TH JUNE, 3.15PM



Remembrance Day- Monday
11th November
Lest we Forget

School Information Board

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and future success starts with good attendance!



Remember - your education is important - don't miss out!

Attendance

Whole School - 97.01%

Ash - 95.68%

Oak - 96.91%

Beech - 97.48%



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

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 and 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

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.

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this; filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has Restricted Mode for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who a child has been talking to. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.

2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of 'blind spots' in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply whenever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially other phones, too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.

3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi, are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online account. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.

4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only are certain apps addictive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can badly disrupt sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.

5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions: purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers implement these fairly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds of pounds if a child gets carried away. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.

6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unpleasant content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.

7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, bear in mind that these won't cover WiFi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpalatable aspects of social media and the web.

8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can react poorly to parental controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.

9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental summaries provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to let you spot any warning signs – but companies often add new features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable). Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wiggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.

10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble wrapping the internet can do more harm than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alphr. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New Statesman, CNET, the Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Gizmodo, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College