

# Busbridge Infant School Bulletin

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to this 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Busbridge Bulletin. The development of the school's Vision and Values has reached its final stages and I am delighted to share this work with you as it compliments the Social, Moral and Spiritual Culture (SMSC) within the school. This, combined with an update of the School's website development and the School Development Plan are features in this edition. Happy reading!

Best Wishes, Darren Heatley

## Vision & Values

Our values underpin all that we do at Busbridge Infant School. They reflect both how we operate as a school as well as the skills and behaviours we want children to develop during their time here. We believe that developing the right attitudes and attributes will not only help children to become better learners, but also create responsible, successful citizens, well equipped for the future.

At Busbridge Infant School, we value:

- Creativity
- Resilience
- Collaboration
- Respect

We take opportunities every day to learn about our values, notice them in action and celebrate them. You will see them at play in how children interact with each other, the relationships staff build with children and how staff work together and with families. Children understand why they matter to their life and learning and can recognise them in themselves and others.

At Busbridge Infant School we aim to develop all children to be creative thinkers who can learn just as well independently as with others, who are resilient in the face of challenges and respectful of themselves, others and their environment. We believe in the continual pursuit of excellence and are driven to make Busbridge Infant School the school of choice locally for its inspiring learning opportunities, nurturing environment, rich resources and learning spaces and holistic child development.

We aim to:

- Provide a safe, happy and inclusive environment, where all children feel valued.
- Inspire children to develop a life-long love of learning through excellent teaching and a rich variety of experiences that stretch their natural curiosity and creativity.
- Enable all children to make progress and reach their full potential, right across the curriculum.
- Develop children to have self-belief, confidence and resilience.
- Teach children the importance of respect, value diversity, and develop the skills to work successfully with others and build positive relationships.
- Develop a love of nature and respect for our environment, capitalising on our outdoor spaces and taking all types of learning outside when we can.

# Busbridge Infant School Bulletin

The concept of the 5 R's has been an established language for the children but our recent work highlighted that these were not always understood clearly by the children and staff. This has been discussed with the children and staff and over this Summer term there will be less focus on the language which refers to children being resourceful, having reasoning and being responsible.

The Golden Rules will also remain, as these are clear for our youngest children to learn when they start at our school. Each rule is supported by these books:

- Be Honest
- Be Gentle
- Look after property
- Be Kind
- Listen to others
- Work Hard



## Social, Moral, Spiritual & Culture (SMSC)

This is referred to as the SMSC and it is an expectation that these elements run through the school's curriculum and can a feeling within a school.

The document "Promoting fundamental British values as part of SMSC in schools Departmental advice for maintained schools" 2014, provides an introduction. ***"All maintained schools must meet the requirements set out in section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of their pupils. Through ensuring pupils' SMSC development, schools can also demonstrate they are actively promoting fundamental British values. Meeting requirements for collective worship, establishing a strong school ethos supported by effective relationships throughout the school, and providing relevant activities beyond the classroom are all ways of ensuring pupils' SMSC development. Pupils must be encouraged to regard people of all faiths, races and cultures with respect and tolerance. It is expected that pupils should understand that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law. The school's ethos and teaching, which schools should make parents aware of, should support the rule of English civil and criminal law and schools should not teach anything that undermines it".***

The full document can be found here:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/380595/SMSC\\_Guidance\\_Maintained\\_Schools.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf)

For those of you who have been invited to Celebration Assembly at Busbridge Infant School, you will know that this occasion clearly promotes the School's strong ethos of achievement, balanced with nurture and a real sense of belonging to one of the three House Teams. The children sing and sign the 'Welcome Song' to everybody and then selected children are chosen by their class teachers to receive a certificate of achievement from their class teacher. This can be for some wonderful learning and demonstrating one of the new School's values of Respect, Resilience, Creativity or

# Busbridge Infant School Bulletin

Collaboration. Another highlight is witnessing the children's excitement when they hear which team have the most points as they reach their team goal!

There is a revised schedule for assemblies every term which details the focus of the **School's values** and **British Values**. Children are encouraged to remember these by the 'hand poster' which models:

- the thumb representing democracy (thumbs up or down)
- the index finger representing the rule of law (pointing to the list of rules)
- the tallest finger representing the acceptance and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs (pointing to the highest)
- the wedding finger for respect (rings usually worn on this finger)
- the little finger for individual liberty – (little me in a big world)



This term the focus is on **Respect** and the children listen to a story with links to this. They are also given an opportunity to reflect as part of the collective worship requirements.

Curriculum planning includes the rights of the child. A simplified version can be found here:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/content/dam/global/reports/uncrc-child-friendly-version1.pdf>

## Website Redesign

South Farnham Educational Trust are working hard with the school leaders to develop a new website. The existing one will be 'cloned' to provide a corporate and professional look which will provide all visitors to Busbridge Infant School site with an easier way to find information. It will consist of the following headings:

**About Us** – An important first stop to finding out about our Values, Ethos and School Vision. It will also contain sub-heading such as Safeguarding, Policies, OFSTED, Local Governing Body and Public Sector Equality Duty information.

**News and Activities** – This section will keep you abreast with current Newsletters, Bulletins and School News such as open mornings for New Entrants.

**Curriculum** – Here is where you will find the learning and information applicable to individual year groups.

**Parents** – If you are looking for school forms, term dates, access to your child's home learning information or the Rights of Your Child, then visit this section.

# Busbridge Infant School Bulletin

**Results** – Statutory reporting of the school's data and performance is here.

**Services** – Additional services such as hiring the hall, online payments and information regarding the Disclosure and Barring Service are all here.

**Contact Us** – If you would like to visit or have questions, you can find out how to get in touch here.

## School Development Plan

The previous priorities have been reviewed with the support of South Farnham Educational Trust and a new revised School Development Plan is being prepared. There will still be a focus on the existing priorities but due to the rapid improvements already made, leaders will now be monitoring the impact of these as part of high quality leadership.

## Safeguarding Update

The recent review of progress against the Safeguarding priorities has identified how much work has been achieved and the important role that everybody plays in safeguarding all children. The Local Authority will be confirming, in writing, the progress in regard to the transformation of the Safeguarding Culture now evident at Busbridge Infant School. I am expecting to receive this letter next week which I will also share with you. This week a check was carried out by a senior member of the Trust on the Single Central Record. There were only positive comments about the accuracy and thoroughness of the checking and work on it to date.

## Update from the Governors

We are delighted to announce the appointment of 2 new Governors, Gemma Potter and Ben Reynolds who we are sure will be a huge asset to the team.

After completing a degree in Criminology, Gemma joined Surrey Police and worked in the Intelligence Unit. This led her onto a career in the Probation Service, initially delivering Cognitive Behavioural Programmes to groups of Offenders. She went on to qualify as a Probation Officer, completing a degree in Community Justice as part of the training. Since this time she has worked in a Public Protection Team where she managed the most serious offenders both in the community and custody; in an Integrated Offender Management team with the police, working with prolific offenders/drug users and now in a Court setting where she provides sentencing recommendations to the Courts. She has dealt with numerous child protection cases/attended conferences and safeguarding is key to her day to day work. Gemma has two children, the oldest being a current pupil at Busbridge Infants.

Ben owns his own business and has a particular passion for Enterprise and Creativity. Having previously won the renowned Great British Entrepreneur Awards, he is now a judge for those and other start-up awards. He also mentors Enterprise graduates at the University of Birmingham. Prior to this, Ben graduated with a first-class Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering and cut his teeth on the British Airways graduate programme for Commercial Leaders. He subsequently worked for BBC Studios as Head of Marketing, sitting on the senior leadership team. Ben has two daughters, the oldest is a current pupil at Busbridge Infant School and his youngest is at nursery.

# Busbridge Infant School Bulletin

We are also sorry to say goodbye to Rachael Balls who has decided to step down due to work and family commitments. Rachael has done a huge amount of work on safeguarding since the Ofsted report and we are very grateful for her hard work.

Gemma will now take on the role of safeguarding governor alongside Julia and has already had a handover meeting with Rachael and Julia and her first meeting with Mr Heatley and Julia to review the termly safeguarding audit.