

# Busbridge Infant School Bulletin

Dear Parents/Carers

This edition of the Busbridge Infant School Bulletin brings you the latest developments across the school with regards to progress against the Key Priorities which were identified following OFSTED. The pace, momentum and excitement to join South Farnham Educational Trust continues and the planned deadline of joining on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 is on track.

Best Wishes, Darren Heatley

## Progress Update on the School's Priorities

**1: Ensure a consistent approach to phonics is implemented throughout the school. Introduce a new systematic, synthetic phonics programme and implement whole-school training to ensure a consistent and robust approach.**

- This week saw Governors completing a Learning Walk to see for themselves the delivery of consistent, well-paced and accurately pitched phonics and reading sessions with every year group. Governors saw children engaged, challenged and able to rehearse the skills previously taught to access their Little Wandle reading sessions.
- A parent/carer survey will be available following the Little Wandle information sessions previously shared. Please look out for an email next week, and take a few minutes to provide us with feedback to further our improvement journey so that we can tailor further advice and support for you.
- Some initial anecdotal feedback has suggested that additional tangible hard copies of books would be easier to share and we are looking into the cost of purchasing some to get us started – however I can't make any promises!

**2: Develop the curriculum so that it contains subject specific content and is logically sequenced, providing children with the knowledge they need to progress to the next stage of their education. Focus on English, Maths and 2 foundation subjects.**

- South Farnham Educational Trust have shared with us a successful model of curriculum plans for implementation in the Summer Term, and staff will receive training on this.
- These Medium Term plans will be available on the school's website under the Curriculum section next term.
- Woodland School will be a stronger feature of the school curriculum and taught to every year group by Mrs Butterfield who has recently been awarded Level 3 certification as a Forest School Leader, for which she received the following feedback *"Really fabulous school rationale – long sessions for learners, commitment to qualified leaders, qualified teacher status and Forest School Leader means a quality programme for all learners will develop"* Sue Edwards, People & Wildlife Manager, Surrey Wildlife Trust. Your child will benefit from her expertise and her passion to make Woodland School Learning part of our ambitious curriculum. Our congratulations go to her for this.

**3: Develop and embed the provision of SMSC, Equality, Diversity, and British Values throughout the school.**

- We will revisit the school's work on Vision and Values as part of the next INSET day (Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022).

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- The themes of Tolerance and Rule of Law have been shared through assemblies this Spring Term. For the Summer Term, the focus will fall on Democracy for the first half-term and Individual Liberty for the second half-term.

## School Admissions – Reception September 2022

We are asking for your help to spread the word and promote our wonderful school to any new prospective parents who are considering a place for their child in September 2022. School offers will be sent to parents on 19<sup>th</sup> April, with a deadline for accepting or declining the space by 4<sup>th</sup> May.

To help parents make an informed choice, the Early Years Team are planning a 'Stay and Play' open afternoon to showcase the school's Early Years environment at its best. This event will be on 21<sup>st</sup> April at 2.00pm and a flyer will be sent out to new prospective parents, via local nurseries. Further events will be held to support the transition of all new Reception children later in the Summer term.

## 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. The next step will be to redefine further priorities to embed a strong safeguarding practice across Culture, Compliance and Training.

## Update from the Governors

Anna Dawkins, Hannah Roche and Julia Jagelman carried out a Learning Walk on Wednesday this week. We had the chance to see the Little Wandle teaching in full swing, observing phonics and reading sessions across all year groups. We were really impressed with the huge progress made in implementing the scheme. Yesterday evening we had a full governing body meeting to review progress and actions taken this term. Also this month, Anna, Gayle and Hannah R were on the panel for the Deputy Head recruitment which involved a presentation, panel interview, observation of teaching and interaction with school council. We had a really strong field of candidates (so strong South Farnham are interested in talking to several of the candidates we rejected) and look forward to working with Hannah Jones in her new role. Gayle has had meetings with Mrs Sollufi and Mr Heatley regarding the implementation of Little Wandle and updating the curriculum. Hannah J carried out a Learning Walk with Rachel Edwards on Monday, with a focus on provision for SEND children. Anna has had regular update meetings with Mr Heatley and attended a South Farnham governors meeting.

Unfortunately, our Vision and Values follow-up session was delayed till next week due to Covid.

We are looking forward to judging the children's Easter creations next week and wish you, the children and the staff a very well-deserved break.