

Message from Mr Tagg

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're now firmly into the new term and the new year, the school has been a hive of activity already with so many great starts to new topics and learning experiences. Amongst these Year 6 have had a visit from local police officers as part of their Crime and Punishment topic and Year 3 have visited the Verulamium to fire their imaginations as they start to learn all about the Romans in Britain. Add to that our Year 3 and 4 Badminton team achieving 3rd place in the area finals and our wonderful choir performing in Birmingham at the Young Voices event last night in front of thousands of people one can see why it's been difficult to keep up with everything that's been happening. As ever, so much of what the children have been able to do has been down to our extremely hard working and dedicated staff, assisted by some very committed parent volunteers so I would like to say once again a huge thank you to everyone who helps enrich the lives of our pupils.

The first of our new programme of enrichment clubs started this week and many more will follow next week. If your child is taking part in an after school club please make sure you have everything in place for them to be collected at 4.30pm and if your child is an older pupil who normally walks home by themselves please notify their class teacher if there is any change to the normal arrangements so that the adult running the club is aware. It's fantastic to see so many children engaged in these clubs and I hope to get around to seeing many of them in action over the next few weeks. If your child's club does involve a cost please ensure you have paid via the Parent Gateway before the start of next week.

The first steps in our project to improve and enhance reading provision in the school have already taken place and it has been great to see the library already looking better and in greater use as a result of some simple changes that took place on INSET Day. I've also been hearing some positive feedback about the changes to the reading scheme and we are hoping that very soon we will be able to further improve the resources with another injection of new books to inspire the children. The support of our hard-working PTA for the project is a cornerstone of what we hope to achieve and I know they will be encouraging all of you to support fundraising events throughout the year to assist them in our collective vision for the school. Please keep an eye out for events and activities that will really make a difference and lend your time and support to making our reading resources and provision the best it can possibly be.

Please remember newsletters will now be fortnightly so the next one sent out will be on Friday 31st January. However, as always, there will be other communications from the school and it is important you take a few moments to read them when they come out to keep in touch with what's going on and any specific requests we may have of you. Have a great weekend.

PTA News

- The **5p Class Challenge** is live! Help your child's class fill their bottle- it's amazing how many you can find in piggy banks/drawers etc.! The winning class keep their money- can anyone beat Turing class?
- We are excited to be hosting our second ever **Race Night** on Saturday 14th March at Buckingham Primary School. Compered by Andy Rolls, a great evening's entertainment is planned from 7pm, including a Gin Bar. Tickets are £12.50 each, including food and your first drink. Buy your tickets now: www.pta-events.co.uk/buckinghamprimaryschool for this adult-only event. Friends are welcome. And please email pta@bps.bucks.sch.uk if you are free to help run the evening.
- Finally, we have a fantastic 110 people now supporting us on **Amazon Smile**. Thank you! If you have an android phone, Amazon Smile can now be accessed through the normal app.

Reminder regarding Extended Care bookings

Polite reminder to parents regarding BPS club. Please can you ensure that you book your child's place in Breakfast and after school club using the Gateway system. Even if you have a credit on your account you still must book them in on the required days as we are limited with numbers. If you cannot book a particular day this is because it is already fully booked so please ensure you make alternative arrangements for this date. If you are making a payment using Tax Free Childcare you must send a screenshot of the payment with the reference code to the below email confirming this has been done in order for it to be added promptly to School Gateway. If you are paying using childcare vouchers or Tax free childcare please ensure that you email us confirming how you want the payment allocated i.e how much to after school and how much to breakfast club. Also be aware that it does take several days for vouchers to be received and therefore payments to be added to the system. If you raise a voucher during school holidays this cannot be guaranteed to be added to the system before we return.

Email any queries to extended@bps.bucks.sch.uk

Enrichment Club Reminders

If your child has been allocated a place on a club that requires payment, please could you ensure that you make this payment through School Gateway by Monday 20 January to secure the space. There are still a number of outstanding payments. If you no longer require a space then please contact the school office so this place can be allocated to another child.

As a reminder, to make payments, log into School Gateway and select the 'My Payment' tab from the main menu. The payment option for each individual club will then be available.

Nursery

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays. We hope that you found time to look at the websites that were sent to you before Christmas. We would really value your feedback using the questionnaire sheet.

This term the Swans room is looking at traditional tales, the Cygnets are looking at stories, and the Chicks are looking at nursery rhymes.

For lunches we follow the school menu and have option 1 unless otherwise specified. Please see the lunches on the parents area of the website. If you require a change of session please complete the relevant form allowing half a terms notice before the change as we are unable to guarantee any changes.

Please remember to use the School Gateway for making payments as any sent via parentmail will not be received. If you are making a payment via Tax Free childcare please email a screenshot of the payment item or we are unable to credit the amount to your account.

Holiday Club booking form for February holiday club will be available via the website from Friday 17 and closing date is 3.30 on Tuesday 4 February, spaces are subject to availability and are not guaranteed.

DID YOU KNOW that the Early Years Foundation Stage, EYFS, has a 3 prime areas of learning, communication and language, physical and personal, social and emotional development.

Foundation 2

We hope you all had a super Christmas break and thank you so much for all the lovely thoughtful gifts!

What a super start we have had to the new term! We have begun our new topic of 'Fabulous Fantasy' and the children have come up with some amazing ideas for learning including superheroes, castles and dragons and traditional tales. We have been learning about winter for the last two weeks through winter themed stories such as Frozen. In maths we have been learning about numbers up to 10, learning to count and represent the numbers practically and using drawings. In phonics, we have completed our assessments. We also had an exciting visit from a real train driver! Thank you to Maisie's dad, the children were all very inspired!

Next phonics learning will be as follows:

Mr Sloss' group: Practising to blend all phase 2 sounds and identify initial sounds

Mrs Wilson's group: Beginning phase 3 sounds - j,v,w,x,y,z,zz,qu

Mrs Das' group: qu, ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa

Mrs Roach's group: ai, ee, igh, oa, long and short oo, ar, or.

In Maths we will be comparing numbers and amounts within 10 focusing on language such as one more/less/fewer. We will also be learning about Chinese New Year, traditional tales including Cinderella and Rapunzel with a focus on castles/palaces. We would love to receive any junk modelling items such as cardboard tubes, yoghurt pots and small boxes to make castles. **Please can these be brought in by Wednesday 22nd January.**

To support at home:

Literacy - Read at least 3 times per week and record in reading records. This can be their reading book, library book or books/texts/words from home. Check your child's reading record for sounds to practise following the assessments. Talk and write about traditional tales/castles. Make up/role play own stories. Write invitations, label a castle picture.

Maths - Practise counting objects to 10. Compare amounts within 10.

Reminders:

We have many children without Welly Walk kit - please can this be sent back in to school.

Children must wear proper school shoes and not trainers or boots.

Year 1

Welcome back and a very warm welcome to our new member of the year 1 team, Mrs Norton. We have lots of exciting learning to share with the children through our "Incredible Me" topic. We will be learning about influential people from the past and present and we hope to welcome some special visitors to support us with this topic. The "Superhero" theme will be fed through our wider learning. We will learn about a Super Bat in English and in Art, we will be creating some Super Hero cityscapes and will study the work of Roy Lichtenstein. We are really excited to be able to work alongside the sports coaches in outside games lessons. Your child now has their new reading book; they are now responsible for changing them independently between 8:45 and 8:55 each morning. Please do remember that FULL PE kit (outdoor and indoor) should be in school at all times. A date for your diary – we look forward to welcoming you to a Parent craft session on Thursday 13th February 2:00pm to 3:15pm. Please could we ask you to support us by sending in clean recycling (cereal boxes, bottle lids, etc). Thank you for your continued support.

Year 2

Year 2 have settled back into school brilliantly! We all enjoyed our Scottish Day on Tuesday as a Super Start to our new topic of 'Our Beautiful Britain'. We explored maps and identified Scotland as part of the UK and found cities, rivers, lochs, mountains and other landmarks to indicate on the maps. We discussed the culture and history of Scotland, looking at; food, kilts, Loch Ness monsters and Highland Games. We even tried to speak some Gaelic! The children investigated tartan by weaving paper and found it was much harder than it looked. We started with Scotland as we will be studying the Katie Morag stories by Mairi Hedderwick which are set on the island of Struay. In the next few weeks, the children will be writing their own stories based on this setting. The CBBC website has lots of supporting activities for these stories. In Maths we are focussed on division and learning the times tables.

Please continue to use TT Rock stars and practise with your children at home. We are really excited about Reading this term and look forward to getting new books funded by the PTA. Please read each reading scheme book twice, once for fluency and then for comprehension. Note any tricky sounds in a bubble and write HR to denote a home read.

Thank you for your support with this.



Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the new term and the new year. We immersed ourselves into our new topic Veni Vidi Vici with our wonderful trip to The Verulamium Museum in St Albans. The children were fascinated to learn about every day Roman life and they thoroughly enjoyed the day!



Homework will now be set on a Wednesday and it will be due in by the following Monday. There will be a lunchtime club available on a Monday lunchtime for anyone who has not been able to complete their task in the given time.

Year 5

We have had a wonderful start to the Spring Term in Year 5, it's lovely to see the children really engaged in their learning. Children didn't remain in school for long on the first morning back but boarded a plane to a destination unknown! Once boarding and the safety instructions were complete, children learned that they were flying to China where we will be spending the term. Throughout the day children explored some aspects of Chinese culture and heritage, topics we will be developing as the term continues.

We would like to remind you about our Parent Craft session on Tuesday (9-10:30am) where we will be making Chinese dragons and our performance on Friday afternoon (3pm) to share these with you. Any donations of large cardboard boxes or old bed sheets would be greatly received.

Friday 17th January 2020

Year 4

We have had a very busy first week back in Year 4. Our Super Start Anglo Saxon craft day was a fabulous introduction to our new topic: Why Choose Buckingham? from the Anglo Saxons, to the Present Day. The children researched Anglo Saxon daily life, made brooches and some even created their own Anglo Saxon houses.

The Year 4 Badminton team attended the Buckingham Partnership final on Monday 13th January where the standard was extremely high. Playing incredibly well as a team, the eight children managed a fantastic third place out of nine schools. Well done everyone!



Gateway

Schoolgateway



From January, Buckingham Primary will no longer be using Parent mail. Please take a moment to register for our new system, School Gateway, so that you will be able to pay for dinners and trips for your child, as well as book them into extended care. Check your emails and the school website for more information, or speak to the Office.

Year 6

Happy New Year! The children have settled back from the holidays well, working hard and sharing stories from the past fortnight. Last week, we had our Police Day, which was a great success! The children came in dressed as their favourite police officers. We then investigated a crime scene, took part in a murder mystery, took victim statements and conducted a chromatography investigation. In the afternoon, we were visited by PC Sharon Cann, who spoke about the role of the police and shared equipment used by officers.

This week, we have started our new class text, Holes. The children have enjoyed it so far and we are certain they will enjoy it.

If you have not yet, we would appreciate it if you could get your child a copy of Holes. In topic, we have been continuing to look at the police. In maths, we have been looking at converting fractions to decimals and vice versa. The children have found this particularly challenging.



Key Dates

January

20th	Y5 & 6 Basketball (selected children)
21st	Y5 Parent craft
23rd	Sports Leadership Day (selected children)
24th	Y5 Dragon Dance to Parents
27th	Y3 & 4 Basketball (selected children) Mock SATS Start / SATS Information Evening 5.30pm—7.00pm
28th	Buckingham University Students visiting Year 2 SATS Information Morning 9.00am—10.30am
31st	Y6 magistrate visit

February

3rd	KS1 Dance (selected children)
4th	Parents Evening
6th	Parents Evening
7th	NSPCC Number DAY
7th— 14th	Book Fair
11th	Yr5—Yr6 Squash (selected children)
13th	Parents Craft Afternoon Year 1
14th	End of 5p Challenge



Spring Half Term

Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2020

The museum will be offering two quiet hour sessions for families and children with special needs on Tuesday 18th & Sunday 23rd between 10am—11am.

Open 11am - 4:30pm
 Adults £10.00, Children £7.00,
 Concn. £8.00, Families £30.00
 Tickets give free re-admission for 12 months



For more information please visit
mkmuseum.org.uk



Spring Half Term

Monday 17th February 2020 to
 Friday 21st February 2020

Five days of special activities geared for our younger visitors

Open 11am - 4:30pm
 Adults £10.00, Children £7.00,
 Concn. £8.00, Families £30.00
 For more information please visit
mkmuseum.org.uk

