

Bures Primary CEVC School

Update for the Parish Councils – January 2023

It is with much sadness that my first item concerns the resignation of our Headteacher, Ruth Slater, at the end of the forthcoming summer term. Ruth has been with us since 2017 and in that time has made a huge contribution to the life and success of our school and it's place in our community. We shall miss her dearly and wish her, and husband Adrian, a long and happy retirement.

Inevitably our thoughts turn to finding her successor, and in that regard we are now underway with support from both the local County and Diocesan advisors with a view to making an appointment this term.

Just a quick reminder that the Primary School Application Deadline is Saturday 15th January 2023 for children starting in Reception next September.

I promised last time to add more about our new vision and here it is.

"Together we experience every day as an exciting adventure that never stops. We treasure time close to home but are ready to expand our horizons, exploring beliefs, visiting different lands, and celebrating cultures. We discover characters who have made a difference, both great and small. Side by side we wrestle with mathematical monsters and scientific beasts. We create the unimagined – works of pure beauty. We savour the victory when we accomplish each quest before moving on to the next. We learn to fight the fear of failure and joyfully celebrate every success.

At Bures, we dare to dream big – embracing the adventure within."

"I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.' Philippians 3 v 14"

This lies at the heart of everything we aim to achieve for everyone connected to our school.

Turning back to events before Christmas.

West End in Schools visited Bures and worked with classes 1 - 6. The children learnt The Ramayana, a Hindu story that is the basis of Diwali. Each class were told the story and then learnt a dance telling the story. The children loved the workshop and all came out with big grins on their faces. The older children stayed engaged and active for up to an hour and produced some amazing performances.

For Children In Need £ 149.79 was raised, with many thanks to all staff and families who supported this appeal.

Many children and families attended the Remembrance Ceremony at the St Mary's Church War Memorial. Most were there as part of the uniformed organisations but we were hugely grateful to Bethany and Emily from Year Four who, supported by their parents and Mrs Manning, represented our school, presenting a poppy wreath on behalf of our community. I know they did a great job and were proud to do it.

The children once again contributed some stunning designs for the December Church Magazine.

The Christmas Panto visit to Beauty and the Beast, at the Mercury Theatre in Colchester was a real highlight of the year for staff and children alike (oh yes it was...). The cast put on a brilliant performance as always and the children were quick to join in with booing and hissing at the baddies and loud encouragement for the heroes. Mr Allen bravely went up on stage having been chosen as a 'volunteer' by the Dame – the children loved seeing him up there. We are grateful to the PSA for providing the funding for the coaches as this helped to make sure every child could take part in this wonderful Christmas tradition.

The Reception and KS1 children gave us a wonderful performance of 'A Miracle in the Town' which demonstrated how confident even our youngest children can be with a bit of help from their teachers and friends. It was clear that all the children enjoyed the opportunity to have their moment of fame on the stage! The narrators spoke with lovely clear voices and there was some excellent singing and inspirational acting. The children looked great in their costumes, thanks to the hard work at home. A big thank you to all our staff but especially to Mrs Fairley, Mrs Platt, Mr Ray, Mrs Wilcox, Mrs Fox and Miss Moore who made sure everything was rehearsed and ready in time for us all to enjoy.

Also special mention of the KS2 Carol Service. It was wonderful to be able to be back in the church again to share this special occasion together. Each class contributed in their own way through songs, a dance and poems and prayers as well as some extra treats such as the recorder club performing Jingle Bells, a piano solo and our Glee Club sharing a song from 'Nativity'. The children performed with confidence and enthusiasm and were a real credit to the school. Thanks must go to the staff team for their hard work in preparing and practising and to all at St Mary's Church for making us feel so welcome and helping to make sure everything ran smoothly.

Finally, the fabulous Riding Lights production of "Nearly The Goat" put on for the School at the Bures Community Centre on 16th December was incredibly well received and enjoyed greatly by the children. The two actors who shared the story were superb and the set was amazingly inventive and made it feel like we were in a theatre. We would like to thank Murray, Sue, Alan, Mary and Daniel from St Mary's for all of their efforts to make this happen and kick off everyone's Christmas festivities in such a fun and exciting way. The PSA were on hand to offer refreshments and raised a brilliant £110.00 for the school. Thank you to Phoebe (Evelyn Y5 and Martha Y3) for co-ordinating this and being such a fantastic PSA Chairman and thank you to the other parents who joined her in the kitchen!!

We are currently looking for one or two enthusiastic people to join our friendly Midday Assistant Team. the job is all about ensuring that lunchtime is safe, healthy and enjoyable for our pupils. It is a great opportunity to take an active part in school life. Many of our current teaching assistants began their journey into school in this role and have never looked back. Where possible we would like someone to work five days per week from 11.55 am - 1.05 pm but if you could only do one or two days per week that would be helpful too. Please contact us via telephone (01787 227446) or email (primary@bures.suffolk.sch.uk) if you are interested in this exciting position.

Thank you for taking an interest in our School. If you know of anyone who is looking for a Primary School place for their child or children, please contact the School Office to see where we currently have spaces.

Kind regards,

Tim Fairbairn
Chair of Governors
6/1/23

