

## Bures Primary CEVC School

### Update for the Parish Councils – November 2022

Just a quick reminder that the Primary School Application Deadline is Saturday 15th January 2023. Our next Open Day for Reception 2023 is on the 18th November 2022.

Ms Slater was delighted to attend the Bures Music Festival Celebration Evening at The Eight Bells, where the School was presented with a donation of £850. We plan to spend this on purchasing more musical instruments to allow more children to enjoy learning to make music of all kinds. We are incredibly grateful to all involved with the BMF for providing us with this great opportunity.

Before half-term we invited parents to join their children in the classroom to take part in a Learning Café to learn more about the 'No Outsiders' programme that we are introducing more widely throughout this academic year. We already have a 'No Outsider's' Assembly each week where staff share a photograph which encourages the children to discuss how we can make everyone feel welcome and valued despite, or even because of, our differences. We are keen to ensure that all our children embrace an ethos of No Outsiders: everyone different, everyone welcome.

Thank you to everyone who joined our Harvest Celebrations. We had a great morning. Reverend Cath and the team made us feel incredibly welcome and the children did a great job. Cath shared a Bible story that allowed one Dad to show off his dance moves! The story reminded us that Christians believe that God welcomes everyone, especially the poor and the sick or injured, and wants us to do the same. The children shared poems, prayers, lots of fabulous artwork and were very impressive with their singing of the Harvest hymns and songs. Thank you to all members of the school community for the generosity you showed with your gifts. These will be sent to the 'Sudbury Foodbank' who have apparently experienced a 38% increase in need this year - it is great for the children to see how their small contributions can help others. A final thank you to all our staff who worked hard to ensure the children were able to share their Harvest work so confidently. A lovely community occasion early in the school year.

We marked World Mental Health Day with an assembly with our KS2 children on finding good ways to keep ourselves and others mentally healthy. We talked about our emotions and how we sometimes need help to manage the feelings we have. We talked about the fact that one really good way to help us feel mentally healthy is to be kind to

others. Ms Slater used this theme for the stimulus of the KS1 assembly later in the week when we revisited the story 'Have you Filled a Bucket Today'.

The KS2 sleepover was a massive hit! Ms Slater wanted to put out a massive thank you to the teachers who gave up their Friday evening and to the PSA volunteers who worked really hard to make sure everything ran smoothly in the background. We could not have made it work without everyone who donated their time and support. The sleepover raised £1000! Well done everyone!

Since returning from half-term we have had a wonderful week back in school working hard to find the artist in everyone! It has been lovely to see the children learning new skills and having the chance to express their ideas using a variety of media. Our Art Exhibition at the end of the day showed just how creative and imaginative our children could be as well as demonstrating their proficiency in drawing, sketching and painting. As part of art week every child has been asked make a careful sketch of their shoe after being taught sketching and shading skills. It will be great to compare these drawing from those done by our youngest to those done by the oldest children. Most classes have taken the theme of 'No Outsiders' to allow children the freedom to develop their own piece of artwork. In Year 6 they linked their artwork to their topic resulting in some dramatic pieces inspired by the Blitz. On Thursday, a group of Governors came in to look at our provision in art as part of their role is to make sure our provision across all areas of the curriculum meets our children's needs effectively. The Governors really enjoyed their visit and were particularly impressed with the children's behaviour and willingness to talk about their work. Our thanks go to Mrs Baker, our Art Leader for organising our Art Week along with the staff and children for entering into the activities with such enthusiasm.

And finally, and most importantly, the school leadership have been working over the last year to review and revise the Vision and Values which underpin everything we do at school. We have developed a new Vision statement which we are now ready to share. It is really important that all stakeholders in our school understand this vision and the part they play in achieving great things for our children. We are holding two Parent Workshops so all parents can find out all about the new vision statement and how this will impact on our work in school. I shall be able to provide further details for the Parish Councils in my next update in January.

We continue to urge parents to think where they are parking and to not park their car in a way that could cause an obstruction to other drivers or put the children's safety at risk. We ask the parents be mindful of local residents and obstructing their driveways. We are limited on parking in the area and although the car park is not attached to the

school, it is still everyone's responsibility to park sensibly. We ask that if parents are able to walk, we encourage them to leave their car at home whenever possible.

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  
10/11/22