

The Buttsbury Bulletin

Buttsbury Primary School, Billericay

Spring 2025

Wonderful World Book Day!

By Violet Costello and Holly Lague

What an eventful day Buttsbury Primary School had on Thursday 6th March. All years, from EYFS to Year 6, participated in their annual World Book Day. It was an opportunity to indulge in the pleasure of reading books (which was the school's theme for this year's World Book Day).



The Buttsbury Bookworms turned up to school in an array of amazing costumes. Harry Potter remained an extremely popular choice and the Head Teacher – Mrs Robinson – made everyone smile dressed as Dennis The Menace from the classic children's comic, The Beano. A year six student, Scarlett Metcalfe, claimed that it was lovely to see everyone dressed up as their favourite book character. One of the organisers of World Book Day 2025, Mrs Cattini, exclaimed, "The costumes were absolutely magnificent. By far the best that we have ever had!"

Throughout the reading-inspired day, one of the most important activities was 'Drop Everything And Read,' which allowed students to immerse themselves in their chosen book. Another fun and engaging event was an inter-house quiz. This is always popular as the children get to compete and show their awesome reading knowledge of world-famous books and authors.

After break, the Year 6 pupils had the opportunity to visit the EYFS classes. Mrs Pretlove (Year 6 Teacher) enthused, 'It was wonderful to see the youngest children in our school share their love of books with Year 6.' All of the children clearly enjoyed this session and it definitely fitted in with the School's theme – 'Reading for Pleasure.'



The reading extravaganza ended with a very special time: Dads reading to the children. It is reported that the children loved hearing the Dads' favourite childhood stories and they were perfect reading role-models.

World Book Day at Buttsbury Primary School was a wonderful celebration of reading for pleasure.

Year Six Super Sleepover

By Alice Brooks and Ivy Duerden

On Friday the 31st of January 2025, 85 excited Year 6 students attended a giant sleepover in the Buttsbury Junior School hall.

After their arrival, the eager children set up their beds next to their friends. Then, the pupils headed over to the infant school where they played a variety of games such as wink murder and musical statues. Hetty Fearn (Class 6P) reported that it was all fun but the games were her favourite bit.



When they returned to the Junior School, the children got into 'bed' and began to watch the film, Despicable Me 4. Midway through the movie, the sleepy students were treated to hot chocolate and biscuits. "It was so cramped in the hall; I felt like I couldn't move, however the biscuits were so good!" stated Emily O'Keefe (6R). After the film, which the pupils had thoroughly enjoyed, they nestled down in their sleeping bags and were allowed to talk to their friends for approximately half an hour. Eventually, everyone drifted off to sleep.

In the morning, when everybody was awake, all of the exuberant pupils headed outside to play games with their friends. When they went back inside to the hall, they were greeted by the delicious scent of fresh sausages and bacon baps. For their breakfast, the starving students could choose from baps, cookies, fruit, yogurt, orange juice, apple juice or water. The two amazing cooks, who arrived early to cook everyone's meals, were Helen and Corinne. After this, they took part in even more activities and then were reunited with their parents.

All the students that attended say that the current year 5s have a lot to look forward to. This was a truly awesome event!



Perfect People Who Help Us!

By Sophie Sinnott and Emily O'Keefe

During the week beginning the 3rd of February 2025, EYFS had multiple visits from "People who help us". The children were very excited to hear about the wonderful and crucial work of pharmacists, coast guards, firefighters, doctors and paramedics.

The children were taught a very important lesson: how to ring an ambulance using the number '999'. Furthermore, the young learners were given essential advice about how to stay safe on the beach. The firefighters were extremely popular and some of the enthusiastic 'budding firefighters' had the opportunity to dress up in the uniform. All of the children loved this and Joshua (Rabbits) stated, "I know that firefighters put the fire out and save cats who get stuck in trees. They wear a special firefighter suit. I think they are very brave!"

The information presented by the doctor, paramedic and pharmacist was also valuable and the pupils asked lots of interesting questions, which furthered their understanding.

In conclusion, everyone at Buttsbury Primary School hopes that the special visitors had a lovely time at their school. Additionally, all of the EYFS students and teachers had an astounding time learning all about Billericay's real-life superheroes!



Super STEM Week

By William Stafford and Callum Lewis

In the week beginning Monday 10th February, children at Buttsbury Primary School took part in a fabulously planned STEM week. Each year group had their own specially

organised timetable, with problem solving and

practical activities that kept them inspired and excited all week long.

Mrs. Sherwood (6S teacher) quoted, 'It was wonderful to see the children challenged by a super range of STEM tasks!'

In EYFS, the children had lots of multi-coloured fun! They learnt all about how rainbows are formed and used Skittles to make vibrant (and very delicious) edible rainbows. In addition, they made 'walking rainbows,' and an ice mountain came to their classes with a spectrum of colours all over it.

One year up, in Year 1, the excited pupils were reading a book about Ada Twist, who is a little girl that is curious about the world, and asks a lot of 'why' questions. They also explored the weather and made wind socks, which are used to measure the power of the wind. Finally, the children had lots of enjoyment making a giant domino trail and were thrilled by the vibrant raincloud in a jar.

In the Junior School, from years 3-6, there were a wide range of technical and brain-boggling activities. In years 3 and 4, they created some of the most 'egg-cellent' egg aircrafts, that were launched high into the air! At the top of the school, Year 5 and 6 designed their own robotic hands, which could actually hold solid objects!

David McConnell (Year 6 pupil) reported, 'The engineering aspect was great and we built some very cool stuff.'

The Super STEM Week was sensational and inspired the upcoming Scientists and Engineers: who knows what one of the Buttsbury Primary School pupils might invent in the future ...?



Creative Careers Fayre

By Alannah Cronin and Ruby Warren-Gunn

On Tuesday 21st of January 2025, Year 6 participated in a Careers Fayre. Parents, of children at Buttsbury Primary School, were invited into the school to inspire the pupils and to give them an understanding of the exciting jobs they could do when they leave school.



Some of the representatives came from well-known companies such as Netflix and the BBC. The students were also very enthusiastic about speaking to football coaches from Southend United, a paediatric physiotherapist and a lawyer. Furthermore, local firefighter Harry Atkinson fascinated everyone with his amazing equipment and many of the pupils tried on his helmet.

It was a motivating afternoon and it is reported that the Year 6 students were highly engaged and excited to get a glimpse into what they might be doing in 10 to 15 years' time.



Sensational Year of the Snake

By Olivia Cullen and Peter Fallouh



On Wednesday the 29th of January, the Year 1 children immersed themselves in Chinese culture by learning about Chinese New Year. The pupils – and teachers – were delighted to welcome Mrs Gao as she explained the festival in wonderful detail and answered the enthusiastic children’s questions.

Year 1 were fascinated to discover that the date of the Chinese New Year changes each year (according to the lunar Moon) and that there are 12 Chinese Zodiac signs, which are all animals such as the Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat and Monkey.

Over the course of the day, the children participated in many exciting activities including the snake dance and tasting traditional Chinese foods.

The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and loved learning about another culture.



Dance in a Day

By Chloe Hayes and Hetty Fearne



On Friday the 17th of January, 19 talented Buttsbury Primary School pupils took part in a day of fun and dance led by Amanda Colbecki, Principal of Bailar School of Dance. The children worked on their choreography, with help from Amanda, for the whole of the school day. The session

concluded with a performance to the dancers’ parents and peers.

The main aim of the ‘dancing day’ was to promote exercise and love of dance. Some of the girls were from Bailar School of Dance while others attend Adagio School of Dance. This was a wonderful opportunity for the dancers as they could observe each group’s unique style.

After a delightful (and demanding) day of dancing, the artists were able to showcase a 3-minute performance, which demonstrated a variety of styles and tricks - from cartwheels and backbends to graceful ballet. The audience were amazed by the polished and skilful routine and the girls received a huge round of applause. “It was amazing to see what they could do in just a day!” enthused Laurel Beaumont (6P)

Let us hope these delectable dancers continue with their dancing dream and thrill many more audiences in the future.

Caveman Explorers

By Violet Toll and Abi Walker

On the 5th and 6th of February, the excited Year 3 explorers set off on a historical journey to Thorndon Park. This prehistoric adventure was organised to enhance the children’s fantastic knowledge of the Stone Age.

The exiting visit was full to the brim of amazing, Stone Age activities such as starting a fire, with cotton wool; forging for materials and food; and constructing homes, in which their distant ancestors would have lived.

Maggie Dear (3M) reported that her number one activity was making the mini-houses for the caveman fairies. In addition, Blaine Mountford said, “My favourite activity was building the camps because it was so much fun and I loved tying the sticks on a tree!”

Year 3 had a sensational Stone Age experience, and are looking forward to their next historical time travel trip to Colchester Castle, In Year 4.

