



# The Bardfield Buzz

Newsletter #26 Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026

We've almost reached the end of the Spring Term, and what a term it has been! Thank you to all our parents and carers for the support you have given your children and our school. Working together truly makes the biggest difference to children's progress and confidence with their learning.

I have added a number of key dates to the calendar for next term, so please do take a moment to note them down. I'll continue to update these as we move through the term.

## Staffing

We are sadly saying goodbye to Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Leslie this week. They have each given so much to our school, and we are incredibly grateful for their dedication, care and hard work. We wish them both every success and happiness in their future endeavours, and we hope they leave knowing the lasting difference they have made to our children and our community.

## Break the Rules Day

Thank you for your support with 'Break the Rules Day'. The children had such fun and it was lovely to see their different approaches to breaking some of the school rules. We raised a huge £345.73 which will go directly towards some new picnic benches for the children to use. Well done to Garwood Class who raised a whopping £102.13 which wins them a special prize.

## Easter Challenge

This week we will be sending home our traditional Easter Sponsorship Challenge. We'd be grateful if you could encourage your children to take part over the break. This year, we are raising funds to enhance our reading provision by expanding the range of books available to pupils. Every contribution, big or small, will help us nurture confident, enthusiastic readers.

## Reading Meeting

In response to feedback from our recent parent survey, we will be holding a 'How to Support Your Child with Reading' session on Monday 20th April at 2.30pm in the hall. All parents are warmly invited. The session will cover Phonics, reading fluency and comprehension, and is suitable for families with children from Reception through to Year 6.

We hope you can join us — even one new tip or strategy can make a real difference to your child's reading journey.

## Online Safety

This week's attached leaflet, from The National College, is titled '**12 Top Tips for building Cyber Resilience at home**'. Please take a few minutes to read these each week, as they offer practical advice to help you support your child in staying safe online.

## School Bags

We ask that parents avoid sending children into school with large bags. Our cloakrooms simply aren't designed

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for them, and they often end up on the floor, creating a health and safety risk as well as increasing the chance of items being misplaced. The only things children need each day are their reading book, diary and water bottle.

At the end of the term, we will send home further guidance about the size of bags we can accept going forward. Thank you for your support with this — when we all work together, the school runs smoothly.

### **‘Imagination Station’**

We are currently working on an exciting project to enrich our playtimes. After Easter, we will be introducing our Imagination Station, which will be housed in the new shed on the top playground.

Our new Imagination Station is all about giving children richer, more creative play experiences. By offering open-ended resources and plenty of freedom to explore, we will be creating playtimes that spark curiosity, teamwork and problem-solving. Children will be able to choose items that inspire imaginative worlds, collaborative games and inventive ideas — the kind of play that builds confidence, social skills and resilience.

As part of this project, we are collecting resources. These do not need to be new and can have seen better days. If you are having a spring clean over the break and come across any of the items listed below, we would be extremely grateful for any donations. We would like all children to donate an item or two from the list if possible.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April will be **‘Imagination Station Day’**. Children can bring in their donated items on this day and we will add them to our station. If you

have bigger, bulky items to donate please feel free to drop them off this week, over the holiday or during the first week back.

Great Bardfield Primary School are collecting...

- Pots, pans, baking trays, cake tins, kettles
- Jugs, kitchen utensils, bowls, funnels, colanders
- Wooden planks, pallets, disks, blocks, logs
- Plastic crates, boxes, bottles
- Old phones, keyboards
- Toy cars, trucks, trains, buggies, prams, wheels (all sizes), wheel barrows (child sized)
- Pipes, tubes, drainpipes, guttering
- Cable reels, hoops
- Paintbrushes, plant pots
- Dressing up clothes, bags, suitcases
- Large fabric, tarpaulins (for den building)
- Buckets and spades
- Cones, clipboards, chalk
- Wicker or plastic baskets (all sizes), laundry baskets

...and any other unwanted items you have which might be useful.

*We hope you have a lovely week.*

*Mrs Crow and Team GB*

### **Important Dates for your diary**

#### **March**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Spring Community Concert

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

Rocksteady Concert

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Last day of Spring Term

#### **April**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

First day of Summer Term

‘Imagination Station Day’

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

PTA Frozen Fridays begin

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

Reading Meeting 2.30pm

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## May

### **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

Class photographs

### **w/b Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

SATs Week

### **w/b Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

Y5/6 Residential

## June

### **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

Swimming Lessons begin

### **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June &**

### **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June**

Sports Days

### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

Bardfest 12pm -5pm

### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June**

Bring your pet to school 1.30pm

### **w/b Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

Secondary Transition Week

## July

### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

PTA Colour Run

### **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July**

Frinton Beach Trip

### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July**

Year 6 Pool Party 3.30pm

### **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

Open Classroom 3.30pm

### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July**

Proms in the Playground 3.30pm

### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

Leavers Assembly 2pm