October Newsletter

Learning at Ludgershall

Butterfly & Bumblebee Class

What a fantastic first term we have had in Reception! The children have settled into school life beautifully and have enjoyed exploring our topic, ‘People Who Help Us’. We have been learning all about the important jobs that people do in our community, including police officers, firefighters, paramedics and members of the Army.

The children have enjoyed learning about the different ways these people help and keep us safe. Through stories, role play, discussions and practical activities, they have had lots of opportunities to develop their understanding while building their confidence, communication and teamwork skills. We have particularly enjoyed pretending to be emergency service workers and thinking about how we could help others. It has been wonderful to see the children’s curiosity and enthusiasm as they have begun their first term at school!

Year 1 & 2 Learning

It has been a fantastic half term in KS1! In Mathematics, we have been developing our understanding of place value, using practical resources to represent, compare and explain numbers. In English, Year 1 have been building their sentence writing skills through Drawing Club, while Year 2 have enjoyed writing a narrative inspired by The Bear and the Piano.
In History, we have explored The Great Fire of London, learning about how the fire started, spread and changed the city. In Science, children have investigated animals and their habitats, including learning about simple food chains.
Our Art learning has been inspired by nature, with children developing their sketching skills and creating digital artwork. In Computing, we have been learning about technology around us, practising how to use a mouse and keyboard confidently.

TODAY'S DATE IS
FRIDAY
25th
SEPTEMBER

CONTRACTOR
Scientist

Years 3 & 4

This term, Years 3 and 4 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Ancient Egypt. The children have explored what life was like during this period of history, taking part in a range of hands on activities, including wrapping each other as mummies, creating their own clay cartouches and using hieroglyphics to communicate messages.

In Science, the children have been learning about the three different types of rocks and discovering the important work of fossil hunter Mary Anning, including the inspiration behind the famous tongue twister, "She sells seashells by the seashore." Alongside this, the children have been working hard to improve their recall of multiplication facts. In English, they have already produced a range of writing, demonstrating their creativity and growing ability to write effectively for different purposes and audiences.

Kestrel, Buzzard and Kingfisher

This term, UKS2 have enjoyed a range of exciting learning opportunities across the curriculum. In English, we have completed a setting description, character description, recount and narrative based on the book Leo and the Gorgon's Curse, linking closely to our topic of Myths and Legends.

In Science, we have explored the solar system, learning about the planets and their unique features.

In Art, we have developed our understanding of perspective and used these skills to create detailed drawings, as well as designing our own imaginative mythological creatures.

In History, we have learned about the Ancient Greeks, exploring their achievements and discovering how their influence can still be seen in many aspects of modern life today.

Open Classrooms

Thank you to all the Parents & Carers who were able to join us for Open Classrooms this week! We hope you were able to enjoy looking at your childs learning and see how well they have settled into this first Term.

Attendance Matters

Our current whole school attendance is **94.8%,** and we are working together to achieve our target of **96%.**

Every day in school makes a difference, and regular attendance is vital for children's learning, progress, confidence and social development. We would really appreciate your support in ensuring children attend school every day wherever possible.

As we approach the colder months, children can still come to school with mild coughs, colds and sore throats if they are well enough to take part in the school day. If required, we are able to administer Calpol (with parental consent) or contact you if your child begins to feel worse during the day.

Thank you for working with us to give every child the best possible opportunity to succeed.

A huge well done to Badger Class who had the best Attendance for Term 1!

Lateness = Lost Learning

Arriving just 10 minutes late every day adds up to over 30 hours of missed learning each year. Lessons often start with key instructions — missing them can make the whole day harder to follow.

Holidays in Term Time = Gaps in Knowledge

Taking a 5-day holiday during term time means missing 25 lessons. Children who miss school regularly are more likely to fall behind in reading, writing, and maths.

Struggling with Attendance?

We understand that sometimes things are tough. If you're facing challenges with getting your child to school, please talk to us. We're here to help with morning routines and health concerns.

A Visit from Lovell Building

We were delighted to welcome two visitors from Lovell Building into school recently to deliver engaging workshops for all of our pupils. With a number of building sites currently active in our local area, the sessions provided valuable information about staying safe on and around construction sites. The visitors also spoke to children about the wide range of jobs and career opportunities available within the construction industry, helping to inspire future aspirations. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the hands on activities, including the chance to dress up in construction safety equipment and hear about real life experiences from professionals working in the field. A huge thank you to Lovell Building for providing such an informative and interactive learning experience for our children.

A Visit from the Fire Service 🚒

We were delighted to welcome the Fire Service into school last week, who brought along their fire engine for the children to explore! Our youngest children enjoyed a special talk as part of their People Who Help Us learning, where they learned about the important role firefighters play in keeping us safe. They even had the exciting opportunity to sit inside the fire engine!

Afterwards, the whole school had the chance to meet the firefighters, take a closer look at the fire engine, and learn more about the amazing work they do in our community.

School Council

Throughout our meetings, the new councillors have learned lots of important new vocabulary, including words like chairperson, agenda, clerk, minutes, unanimous, and majority. After some thoughtful discussions and votes, Valentin was elected as our new Chairperson, Antonina as Vice Chair, and Piper as Minutes Secretary. We've also been working hard to update the children's Code of Conduct to ensure our school continues to be a kind, fair, and respectful place for everyone.

Supporting our Service Families

At our school, we are proud to support our Service families. If your child has a mum, dad or family member who is due to be deployed, please let us know. We understand that deployments can bring changes and challenges for children and families, and we are here to help. Whether it's a friendly chat, emotional support, or simply keeping an extra eye on your child during this time, we will do all we can to support you. Mrs Ormerod, our Service Champion, is always happy to have a conversation and explore ways we can help. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if there is anything we can do for your family

A reminder: Our new wraparound care, JAG offer a 15% for blue light or MOD90 holders.

Guinness World Record attempt!

On Thursday 8th October, our pupils in KS1 and KS2 joined the National Literacy Trust and the British Council to aim to set a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for the most people reading online in 12 hours.

The record attempt is part of the Take 10 to Read campaign in the National Year of Reading 2026. Now in its fifth year, Take 10 to Read highlights the wellbeing benefits of reading and encourages people of all ages to take just 10 minutes to read on and around World Mental Health Day.

Each key stage was joined by a world-renowned author:

- **KS1:** A reading of *Super Uma* by **Rashmi Sirdeshpande**, followed by a draw-along activity with illustrator **Nakul P**.
- **KS2: Frank Cottrell-Boyce** read from *The Blockbusters!* and explored themes including cinema and culture.
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The in-built reading time was in each session and forms part of the Guinness World Records attempt.

We will find out whether a new record has been set by the beginning of November.

Fingers Crossed!!

🔥 Firework Safety 🔥

As we approach Bonfire Night on 5th November, we will be spending some time reminding children about the importance of staying safe around fireworks and bonfires. Through assemblies and class discussions, children will learn about simple but important ways to keep themselves and others safe while still enjoying the celebrations. Why not ask your child what key firework safety tips they have learned?

🎃 Halloween Safety 🎃

With Halloween also just around the corner, we will be talking to children about how to stay safe if they are planning to go trick-or-treating. We will encourage children to:
Always go out with a trusted adult.
Stay with friends and family members.
Only visit homes of people they know or houses that are clearly welcoming trick-or-treaters with decorations.
Be respectful of others and stay safe when out and about.

These important messages will be reinforced through assemblies and classroom discussions to help everyone enjoy a fun, safe, and happy Halloween and Bonfire Night. 🎆👻

Thank you for your support in helping us keep all of our children safe.

🍂 Harvest Donation Thank You 🍂

A huge thank you to all of our families who have generously donated items for our Harvest Collection so far. Your support is very appreciated.

We are delighted to be working alongside Tesco, with all donations being passed on to their local food bank to support individuals and families within our community.

✏️ Half Term Writing Challenge!

Get your pencils, pens, or keyboards ready because it's time for our Half Term Writing Challenge!

We would love you to use your imagination and creativity to create a piece of writing based on one of the exciting themes below:

🌟Choose from:

The Mystery of the Missing Pumpkin 🎃
A Magical Creature in the Playground 🦄
The Day the Leaves Started Talking 🍁
A Secret Door at School 🚪

Your writing could be:

A short story 📖
A poem ✨
A diary entry 📔
A newspaper report 📰

It can be funny, adventurous, magical, mysterious, or exciting. The choice is yours!

Challenge Details

Include your name and class on your work.
Bring your writing to school on the first day back after half term.

Every child who takes part will receive a special Headteacher Sticker to celebrate their effort and creativity!

Key dates Term 1 & 2

Term 1

Monday 12th October - EYFS (yr R) Open Classroom 2.45-3.15pm.

Tuesday 13th October - KS1 (yr 1/2) Open Classrooms 2.45-3.15pm.

Wednesday 14th October - UKS2 (yr5/6) Open Classrooms 2.45pm-3.15pm.

Thursday 15th October - LKS2 (yr 3/4) Open Classroom 2.45-3.15pm

Friday 16th October- Break up at 3.15pm for October Break.

Non-uniform day for pupils who bring in £1 voluntary contribution each for School Fund.

Term 2

Monday 2nd November - Children return to school.

Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th November - Yr 6 Bikebility

Wednesday 11th November – Phonics Party morning 9-9.30 for EYFS and KS1 parents.

Thursday 12th November - Year 3/4 Parent workshop 2.30pm - multiplication times table check. (please note this has been moved from 05.11.26)

Monday 16th November – Odd socks day.

Monday 16th - Friday 20th November - Anti-bullying week.

Tuesday 17th November – KS2 Parent Meetings

Wednesday 18th November – EYFS/KS1 Parent Meetings.

Monday 23rd November - Individual School Photographs.

Tuesday 24th November - EYFS 2027 starters Open Morning 10-11am.

Wednesday 25th November – Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 8th December – EYFS/KS1 Christmas Performance

9.30am - adults only **2pm -** children & siblings welcome.

Thursday 10th December - Christmas Jumper Day.

Wednesday 16th December – Church Christmas Service.

EYFS/KS1 – 9.30am KS2 – 2pm

Thursday 17th December – Christmas disco & parties in school.

Friday 19th December - Break up at 2pm.

Non-uniform day for pupils who bring in £1 voluntary contribution each for School Fund.

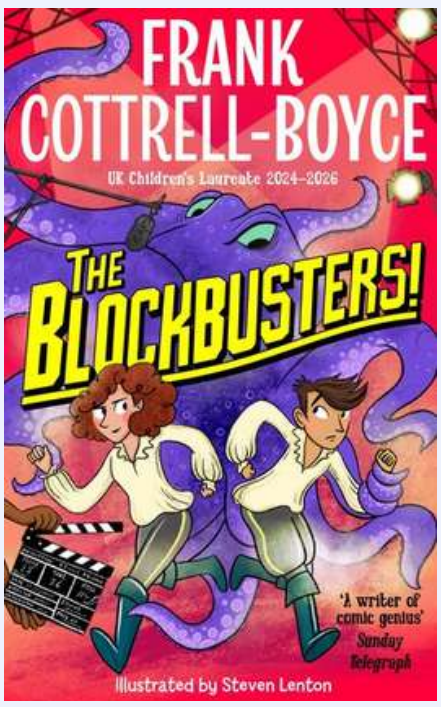
Term 3

Monday 4th January - Children return to school.

Please note some of these dates may be subject to change if needed.

School Book Club

We really enjoyed reading Six Weeks by Matt Goodfellow at our most recent Book Club.



Our next Book Club meeting will be on Monday 23rd November at 3.15–4.15pm, where we will be reading The Blockbusters by Frank Cottrell- Boyce. We will ensure copies of the book are available in each Key Stage 2 classroom, but children are also welcome to borrow a copy from the library or bring their own.

BBC 500 Word Competition

The UK's biggest children's story-writing competition for 5-11 year-olds opens for entries from Tuesday 29 September and closes 9pm, Friday 6 November 2026.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/articles/zctk7v4

Thank you for your continued support.
It makes such a difference to our school community.