

The 4 Bees Newsletter

'Life in all its Fullness': Believing ~ Being Our Best ~ Being Creative ~ Belonging



Newsletter No. 16

22nd January 2026

"Celebrating Our OPAL Success"

OPAL Accreditation Update

As many of you know, our school took part in a full OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) accreditation assessment yesterday. Although the weather wasn't on our side, our children shone brilliantly throughout the day. Nicola, our OPAL mentor, described them as "joyous" — a word that perfectly captures their spirit, creativity, and enthusiasm for play.

We are delighted to share that the accreditation was successful. The official results will be announced during tomorrow morning's Celebration Assembly.

A heartfelt thanks goes to Miss Clewett for her unwavering passion, commitment, and belief in the power of children's play. Her leadership has been instrumental in driving this work forward.

The accreditation recognises the significant improvements made to our play environment, the quality and variety of play opportunities now available and the strong systems the school has put in place to support play.

This achievement reflects the collective effort of staff, children, and the wider school community. We look forward to building on this success and continuing to create joyful, meaningful play experiences for every child.

Bee Kind Winners



Reception— Harry
Year 1— Dylan
Year 2— Rosie
Year 3— Alice
Year 4— Leo
Year 5— Jackson
Year 6— Nicole

Headteacher's Awards

Reception Noah
Year 1 Alex
Year 2 India
Year 3 Ivy Mae
Year 4 Morgan
Year 5 Etienne
Year 6 Ollie



We would like to warmly invite you to our **Celebration Worship tomorrow at 9.05am.**

You are welcome to join us for a hot drink from 8.45am. Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Mrs Vessey



If you go down to the woods today....



Reception & Year 1 children enjoyed a wonderful forest school session this week, filled with curiosity, conversations and plenty of smiles. They sat together in a circle beneath the trees, the children took time to look closely and listen to what was around them - they chatted excitedly about what they could see, hear, and feel - even the "squelchy mud" that caused plenty of giggles!

Numbersense

This term we are starting our new Numbersense programme across the school. This is a specialised number bond and times table programme that aims to help all children develop confidence and fluency in their times tables. Times tables are essential to children's mathematical development as they underpin many different areas within maths such as fraction, decimals and percentages.

We are excited to use this Numbersense programme to develop all children's timetables and give them strong foundations within maths.

Mrs Burton, Maths Subject Lead



On
Monday 26th January
 At the
Birchanger Social Club
7:30pm
All Welcome

Diary Dates— Spring Term 2026

Class Assemblies:

Kestrels—13th February

Puffins—27th February

Doves—13th March

Wagtails—20th March

Magpies—27th March

Children's Mental Health Week—wc 9th February

Safer Internet Day— 10th February

Half-Term—16th-20th February—children return to school on Tuesday 24th (23rd is an Inset Day)

Young Voices (Yr 5 and 6) at the O2—23rd February ~ Details will follow

Book Week—wc 2nd March (Fancy Dress Book Character Day—Friday 6th March)

Mothers' Day Lunch—Friday 13th March

Weekly Scores on the Doors

Air	158	Congratulations to Air who are our weekly house point winners!
Earth	141	
Fire	123	
Water	80	



Please come and help yourself to free **Pret-A-Manger sandwiches and treats**, provided by Touchpoint, at 5.30pm tonight. Also remember our **free weekly yoga** with Che which is at 7.00pm in the hall every Wednesday.