



21st November 2025

“Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.” And He said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”
Luke 23:43

Pupil Premium/Free School meals

Once again, we are asking FOR ALL parents to look to see if they are eligible for Free School Meals (even if your children are in Reception/Year 1 or Year 2). If you are eligible and apply, then this brings much needed funding into the school to help us help all of the children achieve their best. Please see the information below:

If your child is in a Key Stage 1 year group and you get one of the qualifying incomes shown below it will help the school if you make a claim for free school meals, as they can get extra funding.

From Year 3 onward free school meals are only available if you get one of the following:

- Universal Credit - and your earned income is less than £7,400 a year, after tax and not including any benefits
- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, providing you are do not get Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income is less than £16,190
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you get Working Tax Credits you will not be eligible unless you are receiving the four week 'run on' payment after stopping work.

Free school meals are available for pupils at local authority maintained primary and secondary schools, including academies. They are not available for children at private or independent schools.

They are also available for eligible households with:

- children at local authority-maintained nurseries, providing they receive education before and after lunch
- students aged between 16 and 19 who go to Elms Bank Specialist Arts College sixth form
- students who receive Income Support or Income-based Jobseekers Allowance in their own right

Applications can be made on the Bury council website www.bury.gov.uk (type in Free school meals). If you need any support, please ask at the school office.

No Toys/Football Cards in School Please

Please make sure that your child/children do not bring in toys or football cards into school. They are not allowed and when they have been brought in, they have got lost/damaged and caused upset. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bikeability

Next week our Year 6 children will be taking part in their Bikeability sessions throughout the week. Any bikes brought into school can be left inside overnight throughout the week if required so that they don't need to be brought to and from school.

Sacramental Programme Mass

This Sunday (Sunday 23rd November at 11.30 am) is the next Children's Mass for those children on the Sacramental programme at St. Marie's church.

Parents' Evening

Our Autumn Parents' Evening takes place on Wednesday 26th November from 3.30 pm onwards. Appointments have been set up and we hope that all parents are able to attend to speak to your child's class teacher and to look at their work. Any parent without an appointment please speak with Mrs Barber.

Year 5/6 Mass: Thursday 27th November at 2.00 pm

The Year 5/6 Mass takes place on Thursday 27th November at 2.00 pm in the main hall. We would love for as many parents to join us.

Own Clothes Day

Next Friday (28th November) we are inviting the children to come into school in their own clothes in return for bringing in something for the Christmas Fair.

Nursery/Reception/Year 1/2/3 - a box of chocolates
Year 4/5/6 - A bottle of soft drink/alcohol

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair will take place 2.00 pm - 3.45pm on Friday 5th December. On this day we are asking if all children can be collected at 2.00 pm so that they can visit the stalls with parents (if not then the children will stay in class as normal until 3.05 pm). If you cannot collect your child at 2.00 pm can you please contact the office just so that we can make arrangements for these children – thank you.

We are looking for any parent volunteers who can help prepare for the fair to come into school on Monday 1st December (AM or PM). Please let the school office know if you can help.

Christmas Luncheon

We will be holding our Christmas Lunch on Monday 15th December. All children currently on dinners will have received the menu – please tick your child's choice and return by 1st December. Any child currently on sandwiches can also take part for the price of £2.70 – a copy of the letter can be obtained from the office. All forms and monies are to be returned by Monday 1st December – any forms received after this will not be accepted due to the ordering of the food – thank you.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Monday 15th December children are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper with their uniform – this is not a non-uniform day - should they wish to do so.

Christmas Nativity Plays

A letter will be going out on Monday via Arbor regarding the upcoming EYFS and KS1 nativity plays and the purchase of tickets – please keep an eye out for this letter.

Golden Ticket Reading Challenge

The Golden ticket challenge continues this half term. The winners will be invited a special Christmas Grotto experience in school during our last week of term.

Thank you for all of your continued support in hearing your children this term in hearing your children read!

School Uniform

It has been great to see all of the children looking smart in full school uniform. Thank you for this. Please do ensure that all uniform is labelled (especially jumpers which have a habit of getting lost!) and that children bring a coat to school, even if the weather is sunny- just in case. A polite reminder that school shoes must be worn for school and not black trainers (except in Nursery/Reception where black trainers are permitted)

Please make sure that your child has their full PE kit in school. PE consists of white T-shirt and black shorts. Pumps must be worn inside and trainers are allowed for outside only. Plain black jogging bottoms or plain black leggings can be worn for outside lessons.

Support and Help

It is really important to us at school to know that if any parents/families are struggling for whatever reason then we are here to help as much as we can. Please do speak to the class teachers or directly to me if you need any

support in any way. Sometimes we can direct you to other professionals for support or we may be able to help ourselves. We are here to help.

Reception Admission

The online portal for applications for children to attend Reception in September 2026 is now open. This can be accessed via www.bury.gov.uk/primaryschool/admissions. The deadline for this is Thursday 15th January.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 24 th to Thursday 27 th November	All day	Year 6 Bikeability Course
Wednesday 26 th November	3.30 pm – 7.00 pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 27 th November	2.00 pm	Year 5 & 6 Mass
Friday 28 th November		Own Clothes Day – Donations for Christmas Fair
Monday 1 st December	3.05 pm	Deadline for ALL forms for Christmas Lunch and payment
Thursday 4 th December	9.00 am	Year 4 Class Assembly
Friday 5 th December	2.00 – 3.45 pm	Mini Christmas Fair (we ask that all children are collected from their classrooms at 2.00 pm if possible)
Tuesday 9 th December	1.30 pm	EYFS Christmas Production – details to go out on Monday
Wednesday 10 th December	9.30 am	EYFS Christmas Production – details to follow on Arbor
Thursday 11 th December	9.00 am	Christmas Panto for the whole school
	6.30 pm	KS1 Christmas Production – details to follow on Arbor
Friday 12 th December	1.30 pm	KS1 Christmas Production – details to follow on Arbor
Monday 15 th December	TBC 12 noon	EYFS Craft Morning Christmas Lunch Christmas Jumper day (with their uniform please)
Tuesday 16 th December	2.00 pm	Advent Mass in Church
Thursday 18 th December	9.00 am	Year 5 Stay & Pray
	3.05 pm	School closes for the Christmas holidays

Attendance Matters

As a school, we have always had really good attendance compared to other schools in the local authority. Good attendance is everyone's responsibility and we must maintain this and continue to improve. There is currently a renewed drive from the Department of Education and schools must be seen to promote excellent attendance. Whilst we appreciate there are times that children cannot come into school and individual children that we know about have medical conditions that impact on their health, we still need to do everything as a school to promote and celebrate excellent attendance.

Class attendances for this week.

Year Group	Attendance %
Reception	89.3%
Year One	99.3%
Year Two	96.7%
Year Three	95.8%
Year Four	95.8%
Year Five	99.7%
Year Six	96.5%

Well done to Year 5 for having the best attendance this week!

The class with the best attendance will receive an extra playtime each week.

Celebration Assembly

Our weekly celebration assemblies will take place at **2.30pm** on a Friday afternoon. Parents are welcome to attend, especially if your child has been awarded a certificate. If your child has been awarded a certificate, you will be sent a message the day before to invite you to the assembly, should you wish/be able to attend.

This week we congratulate the following children:

Nursery	-	-
Reception	Fizza Hussain	For being a shining star in Reception
Year 1	Thomas O'Connor Burhaan-Hayder Shah	For being a Year 1 superstar! For always trying his best across all subjects!
Year 2	Joshua Fermo	For trying so hard with his reading. Keep it up!
Year 3	Liliana Palac	For being a superstar in Year 3! Always putting 100% effort in! Keep it up Lili!
Year 4	Fareeha Ahmed	For a wonderful 'can do' attitude for learning! Keep it up!
Year 5	Alan Zarychta	For impressive work and participation during Reading Explorers this week. Keep it up Alan!
Year 6	Hammaad Mohammad	For an excellent diary entry!
Mr McRae	Ronnie Mooney	For being a helpful, kind superstar!

Where a child's name has not appeared on the table above, it is because permission has not been given to include names on newsletters etc. Please contact the school office to amend this if needed for the future

A Final Note

Our assembly this week was called 'Brothers and Sisters'. In the Gospel reading, we heard Jesus remind his followers that 'there may be trouble ahead' and that in times of need they should remember to ask for God's guidance. We talked about how Jesus is always there for the children and will listen to their worries. We also reminded the children about the importance of talking to a safe adult if they have any concerns.

Wishing you all a lovely week.

God bless,

Mr McRae
Head Teacher



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England