



**BUXLOW**  
Preparatory School

# Buxlow Bulletin

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Date of issue: Friday 19th January 2024

*Facta non Verba*



# Update from Mrs McLelland, Headteacher

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Welcome to the first edition of the *Buxlow Bulletin* - a weekly newsletter that aims to give you more insight into the goings on at Buxlow, with a snapshot from each year group in the school. The *Buxlow Bulletin* will also provide you with key dates for your diaries and events that you / your children may wish to be involved in. Please take a moment to read this each week over a cup of tea, share it with your children too.

If you would like to advertise your small business through the *Buxlow Bulletin*, please do contact me via email for consideration: [head@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:head@buxlowschool.org.uk)

Staffing updates: We extend a warm welcome to Mrs Timea Tama as our new Nursery Manager. Timea has already made a positive impact on the Nursery provision, and we look forward to seeing the team go from strength to strength. Miss Leanne will be leaving Nursery at the end of February after 3 years at Buxlow. Leanne is off to explore the world. We wish her all the best for her adventures and thank her for all her hard work and commitment to Buxlow. Mrs Seema Khitani will join the Nursery team at the beginning of February. Seema has 20+ years' experience working in Nurseries and will be a great asset to the team.



# School Updates

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Stars of the week:

Reception – Shlok, Year 1 – Mark, Year 2 – Suraj, Year 3 – Faaris,  
Year 4 – Kaylen, Year 5 – Aryan, Year 6 – Leila.

Congratulations to the recipients!

House Points – Well done to **O' Donnell** for a total of 135 points this week!





# Reception

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We wanted to update you on the exciting learning experiences that your child has been engaging in this term in the Reception class. Our focus has been on exploring the theme of "People Who Help Us" in our community. This unit is allowing the children to develop a deeper understanding of the roles and responsibilities of individuals who play a vital role in our society.

One of the stories we have explored is "The Jolly Postman." Through this story, the children have learned about the important role of a postman and the tasks they undertake. They have been using their phonics knowledge to write simple letters to their loved ones. The children are thrilled to have the opportunity to walk to the nearest postbox and post their letters themselves. This hands-on experience has brought the learning to life and has created a sense of excitement among the children.

In addition to the postman, we have also delved into the role of firefighters. The children have learned about the firefighter's uniform, the skills required to be a firefighter, and the equipment found on a fire engine. They have enjoyed dressing up and engaging in role-playing activities, where they have simulated different fire scenarios. The children have also learned the emergency service number, further enhancing their understanding of the importance of firefighters in our community. One particularly enjoyable activity was creating a fire engine using edible materials such as Crackbread, red icing, brown sticks, and Oreo's. This activity not only allowed the children to be creative but also provided a delicious treat for them to enjoy.

In mathematics, our focus has been on place values up to 10. The children have been actively involved in sorting objects, creating different amounts, and practicing writing numerals and words. They have also been counting forward and backward, as well as exploring the concept of "1 more" and "1 less." These activities have helped to develop their number sense and foundational math skills.

Overall, the Reception class has been actively engaged in a range of fun and educational activities centered around the theme of "People Who Help Us." These experiences are allowing the children to develop a deeper understanding of the roles and responsibilities of individuals in our community. We are delighted to see their enthusiasm and engagement in their learning.



# Year 1

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Students in Year 1 are learning about fairy tales. They have read, sequenced, and retold several different well known stories. Children have created and described their own fairy characters, as well as, described their own setting for a fairy tale.

In Maths, Year 1 children are developing their place value and number sense skills. They are learning to find 10 more and 10 less, to partition numbers, and to find numbers on a number line. In addition, children are developing their understanding of tens and ones.

In our other subjects this week:

In history, Year 1 studied Richard III and William the Conqueror. In science, children were introduced to materials. In geography, they explored the geography of Scotland, creating posters for the capital city of Edinburgh.

Questions to ask your child:

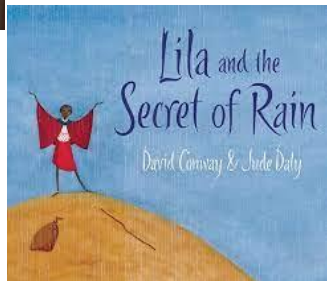
- Describe the fictional characters in the stories that they read at home. Is it a human, animal, or imaginary creature?
- What is the name of the current king of England? Can you name a previous king or queen?
- How many countries are in the UK? Can you name all four?



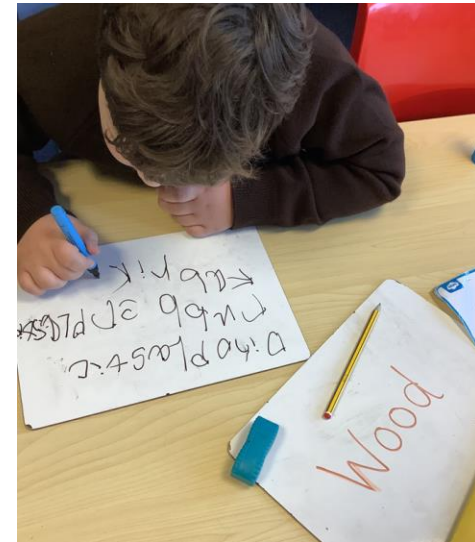


# Year 2

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In Year 2 English this week, we've been diving into the world of suffixes using the story 'Lila and the Secret of Rain.' The children have been really enjoying it and feeling confident using suffixes! In Maths, our focus has been on division. Every day, we're seeing improvement, and the children are becoming more confident. They're even starting to make connections between multiplication! In our exciting Science lessons this term, we have been exploring everyday materials and learning all about what objects are made of and what their properties are.



# Year 3

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In Year 3 this week we have covered the topic of Subtraction in Maths, knowing when to use certain methods. We have written stories based on the work of Michael Foreman and linked our History and Geography topics (Local History, The UK) to our production of Oliver. We were very excited to be given our parts on Monday! We also visited Brent Library - we love looking at what's on offer and debating which books to choose.

In Years 3 & 4, we have been concentrating on Latin verbs this week. We learned that in order to understand, who did the action, in a sentence, we must look at the endings of the verb. Based on our knowledge of verbs, we went onto construct simple Latin sentences. Children are learning to look at how Latin sentences are structured. Furthermore, we are making comparisons with how English sentences are structured.

Greek Myths form a very important part of any Latin lesson. This week and next week, we will be learning and completing work around the story of Daedalus & Icarus.





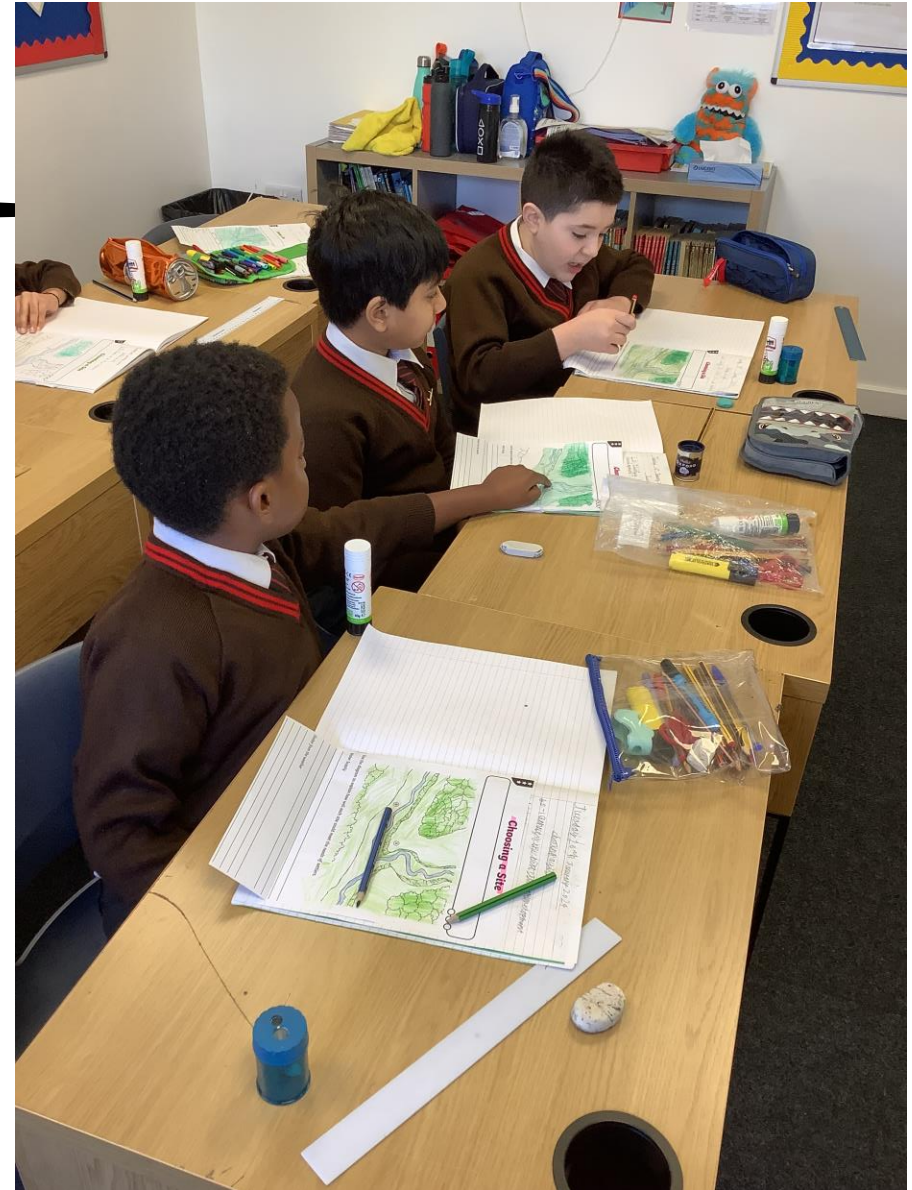
# Year 4

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In Year 4 this week the children have been working through multiplication and division questions in Maths. It is great to see them develop their confidence. In English they have been revising their grammar and features of recounts to write their own recounts of past experiences. Year 4 have been very excited in receiving their parts for Oliver! and they thoroughly enjoyed the movie which helped them to understand their character and the plot.

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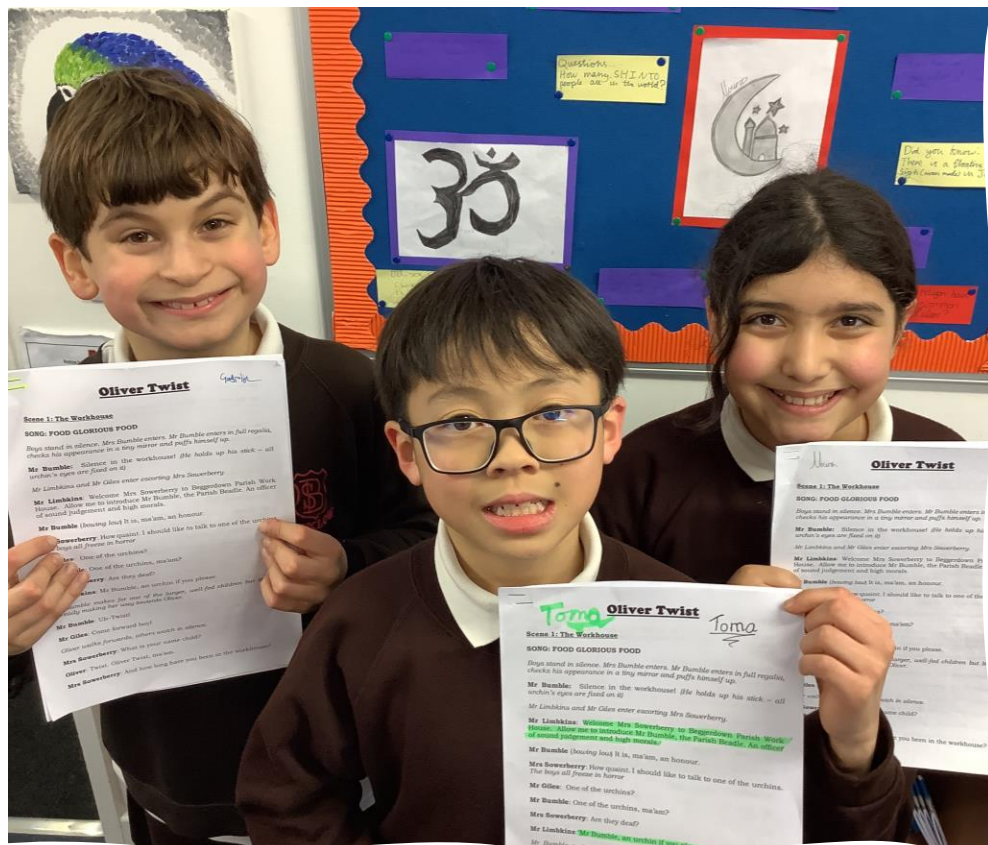


# Year 5

This week, there has been great excitement as we have given out the scripts and the parts for our Year 3, 4 & 5 production of 'Oliver'. Year 5 are all delighted with their parts and have lots of lines to learn between them. They are all very eager to get rehearsals started!

Naturally, this does not take our focus away from the 11+ Preparation and, this week, we have focused on our 11+ comprehension skills for different texts, as well as doing an 11+ Maths paper under exam conditions, as well as practicing our non-verbal reasoning skills.

In French, Year 5 have been revising their parts of the body and will soon be doing a conversation at the doctor's talking about their ailments. They have been singing the head, shoulders, knees and toes song in French too.



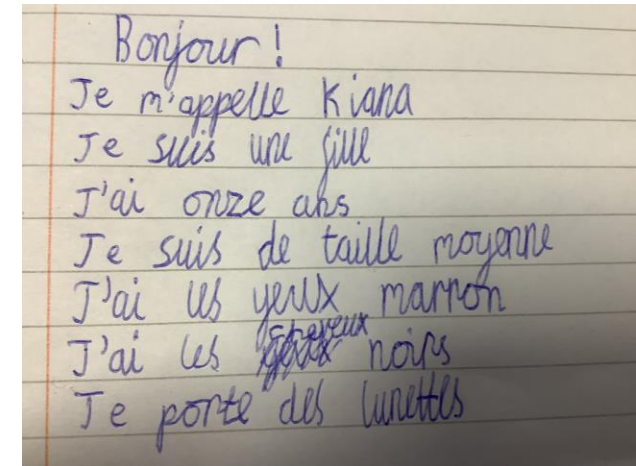
# Year 6

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In English, we have been studying The Highwayman poem to further our understanding of making stories with conflict and atmosphere.

In Maths, we have been working on place value and number. This week we have been working to understand the reasons why operations with negative numbers don't behave in the same way as they do as operations with positive numbers.

In French, Year 6 are learning to describe themselves and others. They started with gender, height, eyes and hair colour. They will also be learning adjectives to describe their personalities. They are working towards producing a poster for a wanted person.





# Eco Council

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- We are continuing to accept donations of toys, books and other resources that are in good condition for the Nursery. Let's save the planet by reducing the need to buy new products!
- Please ensure children are bringing reusable water bottles to school. Disposable bottles are not permitted according to our Eco-Code.
- Team members – Javon, Sara, Milan, Karim, Gabriel and Amelia (Year 6 Eco-Council leader)
- Next meeting: Wednesday 24th January, 08:40



# ILG Photography Competition 2024

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- All pupils in Nursery through to Year 6 are invited to participate in the ILG Photography Competition.
- Deadline for all submissions to be sent to Buxlow: Wednesday 28th March 2024.
- Please email entries to [h.hamilton-turner@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:h.hamilton-turner@buxlowschool.org.uk)

## Photography Competition 2024



On the theme of

## ***Movement***

### Competition Rules:

- The photograph must be taken by a pupil
- No digital editing allowed
- One entry max per pupil

### Categories:

- Early Years
- Year 1/2
- Year 3/4
- Year 5/6
- Year 7/8

The competition will be judged by professional photographer **Jon Cartwright**. Jon has photographed some of the world's most famous people and his work has appeared in all major UK newspapers and most popular magazines. He has also exhibited in galleries including the Saatchi and the National Portrait Gallery, and featured in the British Journal of Photography.  
[www.joncartwright.com](http://www.joncartwright.com)

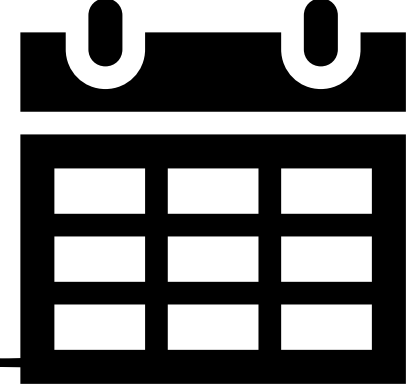
The winning photograph in each category will receive a £20 book token. The overall winner of the competition will receive a £30 book token. Results will be announced Week Beginning 18th March. Winning and runner up entries will be displayed in a virtual gallery.

**Closing Date: Friday 1st March**



# Dates for your diary

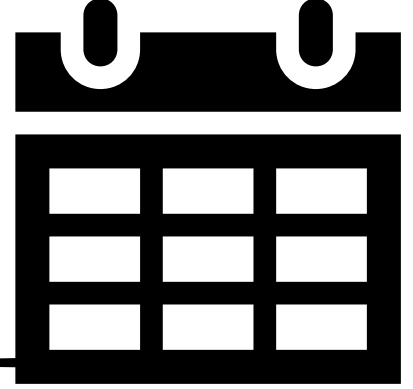
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- Thursday 25th January - Years 3, 4 and 5 to the British Museum (all day). Please wear full winter uniform and bring a disposable packed lunch.
- Monday 5th February - Children's Mental Health Week
- Wednesday 7th February - Safer Internet Day, ILG Parent Workshop on Teams at 19:00
- Friday 9th February - Chinese New Year celebration - The Year of the Dragon
- Monday 12th - Friday 16th February - Half Term for pupils in R, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
- Monday 19th February - Years 3 & 4 to National Gallery (all day). Please wear full winter uniform and bring a disposable packed lunch.

# Dates for your diary

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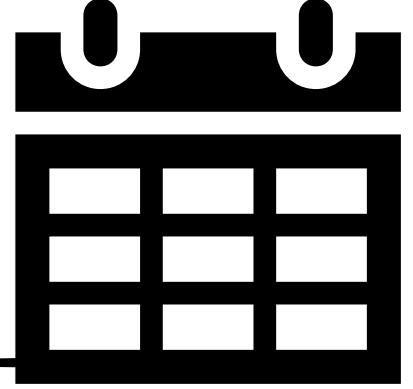


- Tuesday 20th February - Year 6 to Natural History Museum
- Tuesday 20th February - Year 1 & 2 to Transport Museum
- Friday 23rd February - Dress up in your House Colours
- Monday 26th February - Open Morning for Prospective Parents
- Wednesday 28th February - Nursery Parents' Stay & Play
- Thursday 7th March - International Womens' Day
- Friday 8th March - World Book Day - Dress up as your favourite book character
- Monday 11th March - Parents' Evenings this week
- Friday 15th March - Science Week Rotation Day



# Dates for your diary

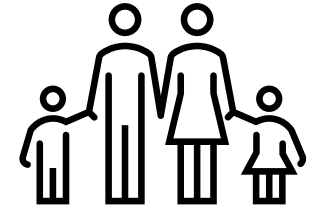
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- Wednesday 13th March – Year 5 & 6 to National Gallery
- Wednesday 20th March – Year 3, 4 & 5 production of Oliver! 16:00 at The Lycee International de Londres, Wembley
- Thursday 21st March – World Poetry Day: Buxlow Poetry Competition
- Friday 22nd March – 12:00 End of term for R, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6. Easter Break
  
- Summer Term starts on Monday 15th April 2024

# ILG Refer a Friend Scheme

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Did you know you could receive up to £750 rebate on your fees by referring friends and family to Buxlow?

For every family that you refer whose child/children join, and completes at least two full terms, you will receive a rebate on future fees, as a thank you.

Buxlow community is special and unique, and we want to share it with as many families as possible. By referring your friends and family, you are not only helping our school grow, and expand our facilities, but also giving others the opportunity to experience the same high-quality education and supportive community we strive to provide.

If you have someone in mind who has not yet contacted us, but would welcome our call, simply provide their contact details to the School and we will take care of the rest. The rebate will be paid once the child / children referred have completed two terms at Buxlow.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to welcoming new families to our school.

# E-Safety Workshop for Parents & Carers: Wednesday 7th February, 19:00

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Please find below the Teams link to an ILG Parent Talk about **Keeping Children Safe Online**. This talk is for all parents with children in any Inspired Learning Group School. The talk will be suitable for parents and guardians with children from Nursery through to Sixth Form age. It will take place on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 from 7pm**, with the opportunity for questions after.

The talk will be presented by Alan MacKenzie, a well known esafety advisor with years of experience working with children and families and other key agencies in promoting and advising on keeping safe online. Please do click on the link below where Alan shares a short video on introducing himself and the key areas he will be covering.

<https://vimeo.com/801544412/48bc0eae86?share=copy>

I look forward to you joining the presentation, and no doubt we will all learn more on how to keep our children safe online.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 346 594 079 312

Passcode: hw6RJK

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

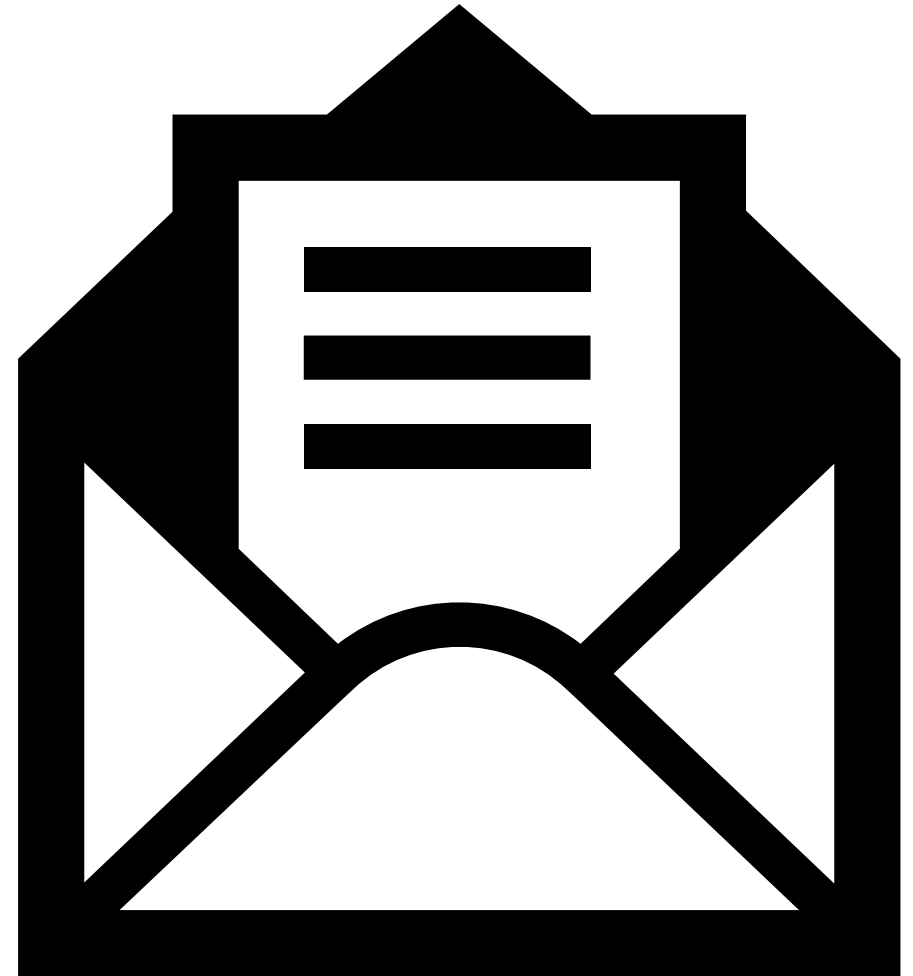




# Key contacts:

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- Headteacher: Mrs McLelland – [head@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:head@buxlowschool.org.uk)
- Administrator: Ms Shipp – [admin@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@buxlowschool.org.uk)
- Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Zaman – [N.zaman@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:N.zaman@buxlowschool.org.uk)
- Nursery Manager – Mrs Gercosne Tama  
[nursery.manager@buxlowschool.org.uk](mailto:nursery.manager@buxlowschool.org.uk)





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