



Summerseat Methodist Primary School Newsletter



27th February 2026

Message from Mrs Whittaker, Executive Headteacher

As we begin a new half term and move towards what feels more like spring, it feels like a natural moment to reflect on growth and change.

Mrs Brown usually shares our weekly message, and she continues to lead the day-to-day life of the school with care and clarity. I remain closely involved in the strategic work of Summerseat and am in school each Wednesday, working alongside Mrs Brown and the team. Although much of my work now happens behind the scenes, I speak with Mrs Brown daily and remain incredibly proud of all that is being achieved.

Our recent external Quality Assurance visit highlighted what we already know: consistently strong teaching, a genuine sense of belonging for our children and excellent behaviour across the school. We have a stable, committed and happy staff team who are creating strong routines and maintaining high expectations so that every child can flourish.

At Summerseat, we never stand still. We continue to reflect, refine and build further. Recent developments in our inclusive provision, including updates to Blossom and the introduction of our SENSO Cube, are part of that ongoing commitment to ensuring every child receives the support they need.

We also greatly value the conversations we have with parents. The Parent Forum meetings are an important part of how we listen, reflect and improve together. Please do continue to share your feedback we are always stronger when we work in partnership.

As we move into the new term, I encourage you to look at class pages and the school website to see what your children will be learning, alongside the many wider opportunities available to them.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is a privilege to serve this community, and we look forward to continuing to grow together.

Mrs Whittaker x



We would love to welcome you!

Summerseat Methodist Primary School

Community Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a community governor on our Local Advisory Board. We are keen to welcome applications from any individual who is able to aid us in strengthening links with our wider local community and also the wider educational community across Bury.

Applications to be received by 12noon, 31st March 2026 please (application form can be obtained via the school office.)

Informal enquires welcome to the Chair of Governors - Clare Mariani
(cmariani@summerseat.epworthtrust.org.uk)

[Summerseat Methodist Primary - Home](#)

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Update Regarding SEND Provision at Summerseat

From September, Summerseat Methodist Primary School will formally operate a SEND Unit in partnership with Bury Council, rather than a Resource Provision.

This change has been made at the school's request and in consultation with the Local Authority. It reflects the needs of the majority of pupils we support and ensures that the structure of our provision aligns clearly with the needs of children allocated places moving forward.

Importantly, there is no change to the number of commissioned places. We will continue to offer 10 Local Authority-funded SEND places, as we do currently.

What does this mean?

For our families, it is important to stress:

There is no change to the children currently attending our provision.

There is no change to staffing, ethos or our commitment to inclusion.

There is no reduction in mainstream access for any child.

There is no change to the number of allocated places (10 in total).

The key difference between a Resource Provision and a SEND Unit relates to expectations around time spent in mainstream classes. Traditionally, Resource Provision places have carried an indicative expectation of around 50% of time spent learning alongside mainstream peers.

As a SEND Unit, there is no fixed percentage expectation. Instead, time in mainstream and time within Blossom will be determined entirely by each child's individual needs, stage of development and what is most beneficial for their progress.

Our core principle remains unchanged:

Every child will access mainstream learning alongside their peers as much as is appropriate and beneficial for them.

For some children, that may mean significant time in mainstream classes. For others, it may mean spending longer periods within Blossom to secure learning, regulation and readiness. Provision will always be personalised and carefully planned.

This change simply provides greater clarity and flexibility as we continue to strengthen our provision at Summerseat.

Further Information

A Trust-wide information booklet is attached which explains our Local Authority-commissioned SEND Unit provision in more detail.

If you are a parent of a child currently holding a Resource Provision place and would like to discuss this change further, Mrs Whittaker will be available on Wednesday 4th between 8:00am and 5:30pm, either in person or via Teams. Please contact the school office to arrange a suitable time.

Equally, if any parent would like further clarification, we are always happy to talk.

As always, our commitment remains the same: ensuring that every child at Summerseat experiences life in all its fullness, with provision carefully matched to their needs.

Easter Eggstravaganza



Following the wonderful success of our Christmas Fair – and with huge thanks to all our amazing parents for your generous support

– we are excited to announce another fantastic fundraiser for our school: our Easter Eggstravaganza! This egg-citing event will feature Easter Bingo and much more fun for everyone to enjoy. Save the date: 27th March, with two available sessions, 3:30–5:00pm and 5:30–7:00pm. More details will be shared soon, including information on how to book your tickets. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Miss Jones x

Exciting Development at Summerseat – The Senso Cube

We are delighted to share that a bespoke modular sensory space — The Senso Cube — will soon be arriving at Summerseat!

This carefully designed space will enhance our provision by providing an additional calm, regulated environment to support children who benefit from sensory strategies outlined in Occupational Therapy guidance. It will allow us to further strengthen the inclusive support we already offer within our school community. Importantly, The Senso Cube will also be used more widely across school. It will create wonderful immersive opportunities to enrich our curriculum — from exploring ocean habitats to stepping into desert landscapes — enabling small groups of children to experience learning in creative and engaging ways.

As a small school, space is always at a premium, and this development will also help free up and protect existing areas so that all children continue to access the environments they need to thrive.

We are very excited about the difference this will make for our pupils and look forward to sharing photographs once it is installed. We expect it to arrive towards the end of the month.





World Book Day



Fast approaching is one of my favourite days in school – World Book Day, which this year falls on Thursday 5th March!

Last year the children had such fun dressing up and taking part in our Extreme Reading competition, and we can't wait to celebrate again.

We're inviting children to come dressed as their favourite book character, and this year we'll be hosting a fabulous World Book Day Fashion Show! Children will have the opportunity to walk the runway, showcase their creative costumes and shine in the spotlight – with prizes up for grabs.

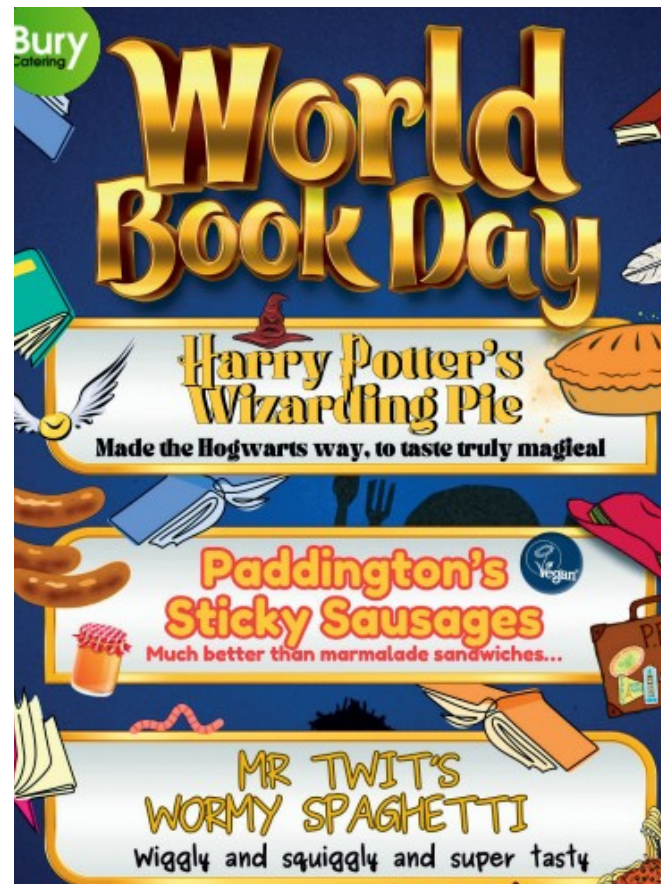
We'll also be launching our very own "Spud-tacular Story Stars" competition, where children can transform an ordinary potato into a beloved book character. Get creative and bring your decorated potato into school by Wednesday 4th March to enter – there will be prizes for these too! We're looking forward to a day full of stories, imagination and lots of fun.

Miss Jones x



To coincide with World Book Day Bury Catering have incorporated some changes to the school menu on Thursday 5th March

Please be sure to log in to SchoolGrid and choose which spectacular dish your child would like!



Attendance Every Day Counts!

This week's winners are...



	Acorn	Oak	Beech	Ash
% this week	94.9	96.4	90	97.2

Diary Dates

4 th Mar 9am	Acorn Leading worship Parents welcome
4 th Mar AM	Year 5 to Woodhey
5 th March	World Book day
10 th March	Whole school football day
13 th Mar 9am	Mother's Day Shine Worship
17 th March	Let's Go Sing Ash class at Blackburn Ice Arena
20 th March	Non-Uniform Day

This Week's Awards

Who has been shining at Summerseat this week?

Shine Award	Value Award
Acorn (Nursery & Reception) Daniel	Acorn (Nursery & Reception) Reuben
Oak (Year 1 & 2) Poppy	Oak (Year 1 & 2) Ted
Beech (Year 3 & 4) George B	Beech (Year 3 & 4) Aiden
Ash (Year 5 & 6) Louis	Ash (Year 5 & 6) Heidi



Remember, you are always welcome to join us for our Friday Shine assembly. It is an open invitation. If your child is going to receive a reward, you will get a message on Thursday via the Parent App.

House Captain Awards



Hoyle



Hamer



Rogerson