



Dear Parents/Carers, students and staff,

As we reach the end of the Spring term at Arthur Bugler, we reflect on what an incredible term it has been! From themed learning weeks and educational visits to sporting achievements and even a visit to meet the Queen, this term has been truly memorable. Arthur Bugler continues to be an exceptional place to learn and work, filled with enthusiasm, dedication, and success.



Goodbye and Thank You - This will be my final newsletter as Headteacher of Arthur Bugler Primary School. I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to the entire school community for their unwavering support since I took on this role in January 2023. My first headship has been anything but conventional, with the challenges of RAAC affecting an entire school year. However, through resilience, teamwork, and positivity, we navigated these difficulties together with strength and solidarity.

Most importantly, I extend my deepest thanks to the incredible children at Arthur Bugler. They are truly remarkable and make us all proud every single day. It has been a privilege to serve as Headteacher and to be a part of the school's rich 50-year history. Having been a student at Arthur Bugler myself, it has been an honour to return in a professional capacity and contribute to this wonderful school family.

I wish Miss Glandfield every success as she takes over the headship in the Summer term. I am confident that Arthur Bugler will continue to thrive under her leadership. To everyone associated with Arthur Bugler and the Osborne Trust, I wish you all happiness and success in the future.

Farewell and Thank You to Miss Edwards - As you may already know, Miss Edwards will be leaving Arthur Bugler at Easter. On behalf of the school community, I would like to extend our deepest thanks for her dedication and contributions over the past two years. Her legacy will live on through the Horizons ASC base, which opened in February 2025 and will provide invaluable support to SEND children from across the borough for years to come.



Miss Edwards, thank you for the care and guidance you have provided to so many children and families during your time at Arthur Bugler. We wish you every success and fulfillment in your exciting new career path.

Easter at ABP - Thank you to our fantastic PTA who made Easter a really special time for the children by organising the Easter Bonnet parade and the Egg-themed competitions. The Easter Bunny also made an appearance at ABP thanks to the PTA contacts! Well done to all the children and families that took part in the Easter-themed PTA events – the bonnets and crafts were magnificent!

Year 1 Curriculum enrichment – 'Call of the Wild' - Our Year 1 students had an exciting day on their school trip to Call of the Wild! The children enjoyed exploring new sights, taking part in fun activities, and learning outside the classroom. Their enthusiasm was contagious! The trip was filled with laughter, curiosity, and wonderful memories. A big thank you to our staff and parent volunteers for making this a fantastic day for all!





PE & Sport Update (Mr Heard):



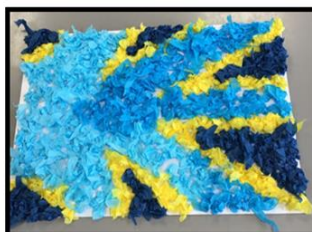
Netball: Well done to our Netball superstars who played three games this week. On Monday, 11 girls represented us in a 7-a-side game at Horndon on the Hill, which was a thrilling 24-14 goal-fest,

though we came out on the losing side. We moved on to two Hi-5 games against Kenningtons and Little Thurrock, earning a 10-4 victory in the latter—a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon in the sunshine. As always, the girls' attitude was first-class, and we look forward to the Thurrock rally in April.



Indoor Athletics – yr3 & 4: The Year 3&4 indoor athletics competition took place last Friday at Basildon Sporting Village. Sixteen children took part in a variety of running, throwing, and jumping events against 24 other schools. The children had a great day out, and for some, it was their first time at a school event. They all did us proud! Thank you, as always, to Mr. Heard, who goes above and beyond to ensure that the children at ABP have so many sporting opportunities and experiences!

Sign Language Week 2025 - Wow! What an amazing week we had - full of fun signing activities (17th March – 23rd March 2025). It was amazing to see all of the children getting involved and learning some of the basics of BSL. Several children now know how to sign their names, hello, how are you? and so much more! We completed a country-wide BSL lesson with the British Deaf Association as well as other art, computing and literacy work around the topic of British Sign Language. This week is so important and brings so much inclusivity to our school community. Well done everyone and remember to always keep signing! Thank you to Miss Cutter and Miss Edwards for organising this fantastic week for our learners.



Year 4 Bikeability: I am thrilled to share the wonderful news about our Year 4 students who participated in Bikeability training this week. This program provides vital safety knowledge and cycling skills, equipping our students with the confidence and responsibility needed to navigate the world on a bike.

Throughout the week, our students engaged in practical sessions practicing their riding skills. Well done year 4!





Congratulations - Out of school achievements! A huge round of applause to the following students for their remarkable accomplishment outside of school over the past few weeks. You continue to make us proud with your dedication, talent, and hard work!

- **Ella-Mae** won a gymnastics competition—another fantastic accomplishment showcasing her dedication and talent in the sport. Well done!
- **Pippa** was awarded Gymnast of the Week at the South Essex Gymnastics Club in recognition of her hard work, skill, and commitment—brilliant achievement!
- **Lucas** took part in the Tour de Hogg Hill, an intense three-stage cycling race, where he put in a phenomenal effort to secure 2nd place overall! To top it off, he was absolutely thrilled to receive his medal from none other than Sir Mark Cavendish, one of the greatest cyclists of all time!
- **Emily** spent two consecutive weekends competing in a prestigious dance competition, excelling both individually and as part of a troupe. She won multiple medals for her performances and, to crown it all, received the "Most Promising Younger Dancer" award—an outstanding recognition of her talent and potential!
- A huge well done to **Lenny, Freddie, Thomas, and Sid**, who represented Stanford Rugby Club in a rugby tournament at Westcliff Rugby Stadium. They had the unforgettable experience of playing an evening match on Friday, entering the pitch through a tunnel to the roar of the crowd, with music and a smoke machine adding to the electric atmosphere! They all played with passion and determination, making their club proud.



If you would like your child's accomplishments outside of school celebrated in our newsletter, please email us at admin.abp@osborne.coop, and we'll do our best to include them in future editions. Keep reaching for the stars!



Date for your diary! – COFFEE MORNING - 1st May 2025 (8.55am)

Miss Glanfield (our new Headteacher) and Mrs Armitt (our new SENCO) warmly invite you to a Coffee Morning in the school hall at 8:55 AM. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the new leadership team members at ABP and connect with the community. We look forward to seeing you there!





Safeguarding: Online support for parents/carers - INSTAGRAM

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **INSTAGRAM**

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME
Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

AI CHATBOT CONCERNS
Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

RISKS OF GOING LIVE
The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

THREADS INTEGRATION
Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

SCHEDULED MESSAGING
Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH
Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS
Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI
Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION
Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS
Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Easter break and all the best for the future!



**Mr R Turner
Headteacher**

