



Burbage C of E Infant School

September 2018



This is the first newsletter for this academic year, and I would like to give a very warm welcome to all the new children and parents that have started this term.

We have some new staff to say hello to, and some staffing changes to tell you about. Mr Aiden Probert has joined us to teach PE and Sports. He will also be running many of our after-school clubs. Mrs Laura Elverstone has finished her teaching qualification, and is joining us as a teacher in Year 1. Mrs Galvin is now teaching in Year 2, and Mrs Graham will be teaching for this year in Year 3 in the Junior School.

A big hello to Miss Crook, who will be working alongside Mrs Khadka in 1K for most of the year. Miss Crook is training to be a teacher as part of the Schools Direct Programme.

As I am sure you will know, I am now permanently the Executive Headteacher for both the Infant School and the Junior School, with Mrs Barwell (Infants) and Mrs Peckover (Juniors) supporting me as Deputies. Mrs Edwards now also fulfils the new role of Assistant Headteacher at the Infants. It has been a busy, but exciting year, for both schools, with many great achievements. In June the Infant School had a really positive Ofsted Inspection. This was a short inspection, checking that we remained "Good", but many strengths were identified, and it identified many areas that the school had considerably developed since the previous inspection in 2013. The end of EYFS results and Year 1 phonics screen were very good again this year and Year 2 SATs results continued to improve, from the previously very strong results achieved in 2017. We were especially delighted with the Year 6 SATs results at the Juniors. Significant gains were made in all subjects (of 10% +) compared to the previous year. 73% of children achieved the expected standard in all areas. This is 12% higher than the 2017 results and 9% above the results for all children nationally. I would personally like to congratulate all the children for their hard work and perseverance. Whatever your results, you all made massive progress, and you're all amazing. I am so proud of each and every one of you!

The new arrangements mean that the two schools can work together much more closely than has been possible in the past, and we have already met jointly this term to plan how we can develop the curriculum across both schools to be much more comprehensive and cohesive. We still have many plans that we want to undertake, and this is only the start of the journey for us, but we feel these early achievements demonstrate the hard work and determination that we all have to make Burbage Infant and Burbage Junior School the best possible primary provision it can be. Thank you for your support with this.

Mrs K Allen

Executive Headteacher

MORNING PROCEDURE

The new Reception (EYFS) children have settled in well this week and are ready to begin school full-time from Monday, 10th. As all children in the school will be coming in at the same time, please be aware that corridors and cloakrooms get very busy. If your child is happy to come into school independently, we would encourage this. The doors will open from 8.45 to 8.55 am. After that time please go to the office to sign your child in.

BOOKWORMS



Mrs Galvin is keen to restart our Bookworms group, where parents or grandparents volunteer to support children with their reading. More information about this is to follow, but if you are interested and want to find out more, please come and chat to Mrs Galvin.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

As a Church of England School, we follow a scheme for our daily acts of collective worship called "Roots and Fruits" that focuses each half-term on one of twelve Christian values. Our value for this half term is **Generosity**. We will not just talk about giving things like presents and money, but also giving our care, our friendship and our time. We will learn that "God loves a cheerful giver," (2 Corinthians, 9.7). Generosity is an important theme in the Bible, and God's generosity, or "grace", is described as love given freely and unconditionally - an important idea for everyone, regardless of their faith or background. The theme will conclude with our work on Harvest, where we once again collect food for local pensioners, sheltered accommodation and local food banks.

Members of the local churches regularly come into school to lead the collective worship, based on stories from the Bible.

We are keen to celebrate children's achievements in our collective worship. If your child has *recently* achieved a badge at swimming, won a trophy in a sporting event, taken part in an arts festival, or has achieved any other such award, and they would like to share this with us in our Friday Good News Worship, please bring the certificate to school (no badges though, thank you as these can get lost!)

ATTENDANCE and TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

Our attendance policy can be found along with a number of other key policies on our website (www.burbageinfants.org).

Please note, we cannot authorise holidays in term time except in the most exceptional of cases.

We do not usually need to resort to fining parents or

MATHS LIBRARY

Our maths library now takes place after school every Tuesday until 3.40 pm in the back of the library from 11th September. This is a chance to borrow games that will help your child practise their maths in a fun way. It will also be open - for years 1 and 2 only - on Wednesday lunchtimes.

UKULELE TUITION

As part of their music tuition year 2 will be starting ukulele and singing lessons this term, delivered by Mrs Natasha Haddock who also teaches our violin lessons.

Each class will have 4 sessions at 2.15 pm as follows:

- 2J - 6th September to **27th September**
- 2KG - 4th October to **1st November**
- 2CD - 8th November to **29th November**

Parents of each class are invited to the fourth session (see dates highlighted above) at 2.15 to 3.00 pm. Please just come to the main reception to sign in.

FIRST AID IN SCHOOL

We have revised our communication procedure with parents/carers following feedback and advice. If your child has an injury in school he/she will receive necessary treatment by a first aider. The incident will be logged. From next week accident slips will only be sent home for bumped heads and/or other more serious injuries. In addition, if your child bumps their head a wristband will be put on to ensure that everyone knows and can keep an eye on the child for the rest of the school day and beyond. Please ensure the wristband is removed the same day at home.

SAFEGUARDING

You will notice posters around school detailing the names of our Designated Safeguarding Leads in school (Mrs Allen, Mrs Barwell, Mrs Edwards and Mrs Galvin). If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of a pupil, please feel free to speak in confidence to one of these members of staff.

CONTACT NUMBERS

May we please remind you to keep us updated with any change to your phone numbers or email addresses. We will soon be sending home Data Collection Sheets for you to check we have the correct information for you, your child and your contacts. We now legally need at least two contact numbers for each child. Please check that we have these for your child. Thank you.

incurring legal proceedings, but we would consider this if

- The child's attendance was lower than 90%
- The child was taken out of school on more than one holiday within an academic year
- The holiday was for an unusually long period.

Thank you for your support in this area.



CURRICULUM EVENINGS

We will be holding curriculum meetings in each class to let parents know what children will be learning about this term, and ways they can support their children at home. These meetings will all run from 6pm to 7pm and will take place on the following days:

- Year 1 – Monday 24th September
- Reception – Wednesday 26th September
- Year 2 – Thursday 27th September

This will not be an opportunity to discuss children individually with the class teacher; parents will have this chance at Parents' Evening later in the term. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible at these events. A crèche will be provided for Infant School children (separate letter to follow).

PTA

There will be a welcome evening for parents in the staffroom here at 7.30 pm on Monday 17th September. Everyone welcome. Our PTA does amazing work for the benefit of the children. Look out for the yellow PTA letters in book bags!

JUNIOR SCHOOL PARENT TOURS

If any year 2 parents would like to look round the Junior School, please ring the school office on (01455) 630970 to book on a tour with Mrs Allen.

PARENTMAIL

Further to our message to you yesterday, ParentMail have emailed all the pupil contacts for whom we have addresses on our system, so hopefully by now you should have received a welcome message from them asking you to register. If you have more than one child at our school, you will only need to register once.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS - YEARS 1 & 2

There are still some places available on our clubs except football. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

SOME NEW TERM SAFETY REMINDERS

The start of term is always a good time to remind people of the following:

Parking and the Car Park – Please remember that the only parents we can allow to use our car park are disabled users with a Blue Badge. If you or someone who will be visiting the school has a blue badge, please let us know. *It is also important that pedestrians use the gate at the side of the school, opposite the entrance door, and do not walk across the car park.*

Parents can park in Grove Road, but where possible, we would encourage parking at the Methodist Church and walking the short distance up Wesley Walk. If you do park in Grove Road, please note that parking on the zigzags is illegal.

Also, although strictly speaking it is legal to park opposite the school, it makes it extremely dangerous for the children on our crossing so we would urge parents not to do so. Wherever parents park, please do so courteously. If you are at all unsure, our Lollipop Lady on Grove Road, Mrs Greatwood, is happy for you to ask. She will be able to point out the best and safest places to park.

Crossing Patrols – We have two crossing patrols; one opposite the school, one on Hinckley Road near the public car park. Please use these patrols, even if it means taking a short detour. Firstly, we have had to fight for these patrols and if they are not used, we will lose them. Secondly, the habits you form now with your children will be the ones they follow later, when they are walking to school on their own. By taking the time to use the crossings you will be securing your children's safety as they grow up.

Dogs – Leicestershire County Council forbids dogs on their school property at all times, even when carried. Please do not tie your dog up near the main entrances to school.

Smoking – Please note that the school and its grounds is strictly a non-smoking site, including vaping.

Play trail and play equipment - Please note that play trail, tyres and play equipment is only for use during school time by school children supervised by school staff. Please do not let children or younger siblings play on any of this equipment before or after school. This also applies to equipment kept in the storage boxes in the playground.



(List of dates to follow w/c 10th September.)