



Newsletter

Dear Parents/Friends/Guardians

5th September 2008

Welcome back to the start of the new school year. I hope everyone had a relaxing summer regardless of the weather, and are refreshed ready for all the exciting new activities that will be happening during the year. For those of you who are new to the school, our fortnightly newsletter details information about events and activities that are happening in school; for example parents' evenings, trips, school photographs, special days, after school clubs etc, as well as notification of useful dates. The newsletter will be given out to the children on a Friday and at the same time will be published on our website.

Staffing

We are pleased to welcome our new staff this term. Mr Freeman is teaching Yew class, Mr Garner is teaching Sequoia class, Miss Young is teaching Holly class and Mrs Kime is teaching Beech class. Mrs Pimlott, Mrs Higgins, Miss Slater and Miss Sharp are working with the children in KS2 and Miss James is working with the children in KS1. Also, Miss Loveridge is now Mrs Willis and Mrs Humphreys is now Mrs Courtney-Baughan.

Road Safety Officer

Mrs Courtney-Baughan will continue to be the Road Safety Officer in the mornings but we need a Road Safety Officer for the after school sessions (3.10 – 3.40) on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday or all week preferably. If anyone is interested please see Mrs Courtney-Baughan or phone Georgina Longley on 07734481586.

Thank you

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for the watch that you gave to me when I left Burford. It is pink, elegant and exactly what I would have chosen. Also a big thank you for your kind words. I really enjoyed teaching your wonderful children and I shall miss them lots. I'll be keeping in touch and hope to pop in to see them later in the year. Love from Wendy Crawford.

CRB checks

As I'm sure you'll agree, the safety of the children in school is of paramount importance. Therefore it is County policy to ensure all parents who help in school, either in the classroom or with transport, are CRB checked. This usually takes about three weeks to be authorized. If you wish to help in school please collect a CRB form from the school office. This needs to be renewed every three years.

Building work



Thank you to FOB for funding the lovely sun/rain shelters in the playground. This will help protect the children from the sun at break times and lunchtimes and can also be used during class sessions during the day. FOB has also funded the new Reception garden which will enable the children to spend more time outside addressing the necessary Early Learning Goals.

We have also had new steps built along the path running from the playground past the hall. This will now allow full access around the school and improve congestion in the mornings when children leave the playground to get to their classes.

The two old changing rooms at the back of the hall have been converted into a large PE store room. This has made a great improvement and allowed us storage space for our new lunch tables.

Both these last items were funded by the schools Devolved Capital budget (money allocated to each school by Bucks but not included in the schools budget and only to be used for building works).

Food Allergies

The new lunch system is working really well and the children have been excellent! Please remember though that there are a number of children and staff in school who are at risk of an anaphylactic reaction if they come into contact with nuts (all nuts including peanuts and coconut). We would therefore appreciate it if we have no nuts in school; this includes: peanut butter, Nutella and chocolate spreads. Please could you remember this when making/packing lunches for your children. Thank you.

Security

This is a reminder about the procedures for drop off/pick up times. Please could you also try to ensure your child arrives on time in the morning as it can be upsetting for them to arrive after their class has already gone in and it is important that they start their lessons promptly without missing the introduction of the session.

Reception

Parents need to wait with their children inside the gate in front of the Reception classes. The door will be unlocked at 8.40 at which time you may deliver your children to the teacher. After the October half-term the children will join the rest of the school on the playground at the start of the day. At the end of the school day the children should be collected from the gate area in front of the Reception classes again.

Y1 – Y6

A teacher will be on duty in the playground from 8.30 each morning. From this time the school will be responsible for your children. You need to be aware that if children arrive in the playground before this time then they are your responsibility, as it is not possible for the children to be supervised. When the whistle is blown all parents need to move back and stand at the end of the path (at the corner of the car park) rather than half way along the path. Therefore please could you say goodbye to your children and then move to the end of the path after watching them walk into the playground. At the end of the day it is important that the younger children are collected rather than just allowed to wander off themselves. Parents of children in Y1 and Chestnut class should stand in the paved area opposite the Reception classes and wait for the teachers to see you. Parents of Elm class children should stand in the area by the Hexagon. No child will be allowed to go until the teacher has seen the person who is collecting them. Teachers should also be made aware if other adults have been authorized by parents to collect their children.

This should ensure the safety of your children and your co-operation in this would be much appreciated!

Staff Training

Please note that this year the training days for staff when the school will be closed are 5th January 2009, 22nd June 2009 and 20th July 2009.

Parents Meeting

There will be a meeting for all parents with the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body on Monday 29th September from 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the school hall. This will be an information session on our plans for the year and how the school will be developing in the future. More details will follow in a separate letter.

Fruit/snacks

If you provide a snack for your child (KS2 as fruit is provided in FS and KS1) please could you ensure only fruit or vegetables are provided for morning break. We are part of the healthy schools project; therefore chocolate, sweets, biscuits, fruit winders etc are not allowed.

Year Group Objective meetings

You should have received a letter about a meeting regarding your child's year group. These are being held over the next two to three weeks. If you haven't received one, please ask at the office. There is no problem with bringing younger siblings but please be considerate to others if your child is disturbing the presentation. Thank you.

French Club - Wednesdays 3.15 - 4.00 pm

This will begin next Wednesday, 10th September. There are still a few places left for children in Years 1 and 2. I am also happy to take children from Year R. If you would like your child to attend, please bring a cheque for £49 to cover this term's fees, payable to Mrs C Barlow, to the school office as soon as possible. Please write your telephone number on the back so I can contact you to confirm that your child has a place.

Thank you

Catherine Barlow.

Music lessons

Brass lessons have already started this week. Piano lessons will start on Friday 12th September. Woodwind lessons will start on Wednesday 10th September. Violin lessons will start on Thursday 11th September. Electric guitar will start on Wednesday 10th September and Classical guitar will start on Thursday 11th September.

Homework Diaries

All of KS2 now have new Homework Diaries so that we can keep a closer check on homework. Your year group objectives meetings will explain fully how these will be used by the children and how your contribution is essential for the system to work. Please could you re-inforce to your child the importance of keeping the diary clean and dry, as the expectation is for the children to be responsible for their belongings.

Polite Request

The office staff are very happy to answer queries, pass on information to staff etc but are finding there is an increasing number of parents phoning for information that is posted on the website (eg term dates, club dates and times). Before phoning the office please could you look on the website. Also, if you have told your child they will be going home with someone else, please do not ring the office to ask them to remind the children as this is very time consuming. The office staff would like me to pass on their appreciation in this matter.

New or amended dates in bold

Dates for your Diary

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tuesday 9 th September | Y5 Objectives meeting 2.30 – 3.00 |
| Wed 10 th September | Y4 Objectives meeting 2.30 – 3.00 |
| Thursday 11 th September | Y2 Objectives meeting 2.30 – 3.00 |
| Friday 12 th September | Y6 Objectives meeting 2.30 – 3.00 |
| Monday 15 th September | Travel Plan meeting 1.30 – 3.00 |
| Monday 15 th September | Y1 Objectives meeting 2.30 – 3.00 |
| Wednesday 17 th September | YR Objectives meeting 2.30 – 3.00 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Monday 22 nd September | FOB |
| Friday 26 th September | Y3 Objectives meeting 2.30 – 3.00 |
| Monday 29 th September | Parents Forum 2.00 – 3.15 |
| Thursday 2 nd October | Parents meeting 7.30 – 9.00pm |
| | Y5 to Bloomsbury Theatre |
| | 11+ Tests |
| Friday 3 rd October | Harvest Festival |
| Monday 6 th October | Book week |
| Wednesday 8 th October | 11+ Tests |
| Friday 10 th October | Petworth Orienteering championships |
| Saturday 11 th October | Petworth Orienteering championships |
| Tuesday 14 th October | Y6 to Kew Gardens |
| Wednesday 15 th October | Book Fair all this week |
| | Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm |
| | Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm |
| Thursday 16 th October | FOB |
| Monday 20 th October | Superschools sports celebrity day |
| Wednesday 22 nd October | Y6 school journey parents meeting |
| Thursday 23 rd October | End of first half-term |
| Friday 24 th October | Individual and sibling group photographs |
| Wednesday 5 th November | British Schools Orienteering Champs – Camberley |
| Saturday 15 th November | British Schools Orienteering Champs – Camberley |
| Sunday 16 th November | Y3 Roman Day |
| Tuesday 18 th November | Publication of 11+ results |
| Friday 21 st November | Christmas Bazaar |
| Friday 28 th November | FoB 8.00pm |
| Monday 1 st December | 1.30 – 3.00 KS1 concert for grandparents |
| Tuesday 9 th December | 1.30 – 3.00 KS1 concert for parents |
| Wednesday 10 th December | 1.30 – 3.00 KS1 concert for parents |
| Thursday 11 th December | Choir at Albert Hall |
| Friday 12 th December | OAP Christmas Party |
| Monday 15 th December | Carol Concert 7.00 – 9.00pm |
| Tuesday 16 th December | Christmas Parties |
| Thursday 18 th December | End of Term |
| Friday 19 th December | Staff Training Day |
| Monday 5 th January | Term Starts |
| Tuesday 6 th January | Creative Week |
| Monday 2 nd February | Creative Week display in School Hall |
| Monday 9 th February | Parents evening 4.00 – 7.00pm |
| Wednesday 11 th February | Parents evening 4.00 – 7.00pm |
| Thursday 12 th February | End of first half-term |
| Friday 13 th February | Educate Me in school: Oceans |
| Thursday 5 th March | 1.30 – 3.00 Lower KS2 concert for grandparents |
| Tuesday 24 th March | 1.30 – 3.00 Lower KS2 concert for parents |
| Wednesday 25 th March | 1.30 – 3.00 Lower KS2 concert for parents |
| Thursday 26 th March | End of Term |
| Friday 3 rd April | Term Starts |
| Monday 20 th April | Y5 residential trip to Osmington Bay |
| | KS2 SATs all week |
| Monday 11 th May | Y6 residential trip to Barton Hall, Devon |
| Monday 18 th May | End of first half-term |
| Friday 22 nd May | |
| Monday 15 th June | Class and Sports Teams photographs |
| Tuesday 16 th June | KS1 Sports Day 9.00 – 12.00 |
| Wednesday 17 th June | KS2 Sports Day 9.00 – 12.00 |
| Thursday 18 th June | KS1 reserve Sports Day |
| Friday 19 th June | KS2 reserve Sports Day |
| Monday 22 nd June | Teacher Training Day |
| Tuesday 23 rd June | KS1 2 nd reserve Sports Day |
| Wednesday 24 th June | KS2 2 nd reserve Sports Day |
| Thursday 2 nd July | Summer Music Concert 7.00 – 9.00pm |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Friday 3 rd July | Reports go home |
| Tuesday 7 th July | Y6 Induction Day |
| | Whole school class swap |
| | New Reception parents meeting 2.00 – 3.00pm |
| | Upper KS2 production for grandparents 7.00 -9.00pm |
| Wednesday 8 th July | Upper KS2 production for parents 7.00 – 9.00pm |
| Thursday 9 th July | Upper KS2 production for parents 7.00 – 9.00pm |
| Monday 13 th July | Bobby Graham concert 1.30 – 3.00pm |
| | Open Evening 6.00 – 8.00pm |
| Thursday 16 th July | Leavers Assembly for parents |
| Friday 17 th July | End of Term |
| Monday 20 th July | Teacher Training Day |

Yours Sincerely



Mrs. K Whittington
Headteacher

This newsletter is also available electronically on the school website. If you would like to receive an automatic email please refer to the 'subscribe' section on the school website www.burfordschool.co.uk