

BURFORD SCHOOL



Burford School

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Newsletter

Dear Parents/Friends/Guardians

13th November 2009

Building Work

Thank you to all those people who helped us with moving furniture and equipment during the run up to half-term! Particular thanks to Mr and Mrs Green, Nick Lerner and FOB who spent a lot of time helping and did a fabulous job! The building work looks very good and will make the school much more accessible for disabled members of the school community. The floor coverings and carpets will be completed in another week or so, when the concrete has dried sufficiently!

FOB

Well done to FOB and the playing fields committee who organized a fantastic fireworks evening last Saturday! The event was packed and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

FOB would like to say.....

So far, we have collected just over £300 from the sponsored walk. Well done to all who took part, but particularly to Jacob Wratten who managed to get a massive £75 worth of sponsors!! Well done.

Thank you to all who came to the Fireworks Extravaganza. We hope you had a fantastic time. Special thanks must go to all the volunteers but specifically Jason Batten, Angela Batten, Richard Moss and also Joe Baguley (from Star Fireworks). We were overwhelmed by the number of people who came! On the door on the night alone, we sold about 400 tickets! Due to the large numbers, there were more queues than we anticipated but we promise next year, with your help, we will order more beer and have more people on the gates and on the stalls!! Please please please consider volunteering for future FOB events as we really do rely on volunteers giving up their time. I spoke to a couple who helped out for 30 minutes on Saturday night (their first time volunteering for FOB) and they said how much they enjoyed helping! As for how much we raised, we are still counting (!) but we will let you know ASAP. Funds are going towards a mini bus for Burford School and towards the upkeep and equipment on the playing field.

Message from the School Travel Planning Committee

Out of the 214 hi-vis vests we purchased, we only have a few left! We sold them at such a small mark-up but I am pleased to announce that we still made about £160 profit. With the surplus, we are planning to purchase equipment/notice-board to promote safer journeys. Also, I know that other local schools are looking into selling them too as they liked our idea so much.

Road Safety Week is the week commencing the 23rd November. If your child owns a hi-vis vest/wrist band etc, please encourage them to wear them every day that week. The local paper is coming in to cover Burford School's commitment to safer journeys and, at present, we are not 100% sure which day the photographer will be able to come in, although their plan is to come on Thursday. So, if your child wears them every day, we have all days covered! Also, hopefully it will encourage the children to wear them everyday, especially now it is getting dark so early! By the way, we have 3 of each size left for purchase if your child would like one.

The assembly on Thursday that week will focus on road safety. We will be awarding the prizes for the mug competition, viewing the entries and watching a couple of the brilliant road safety films that the older KS2 children produced over half term. We would like to thank the road safety charity Brake for supplying us with posters and ideas for the assembly.

Next week, you will receive our Annual Travel Survey questionnaire - we need this to be completed

by all families by the 27th November. We will then use the information to complete our Annual Review, which is usually a 40+ page document telling County all the things the Travel Team have been up to. Without completing this review, we wouldn't maintain our level 3 status which in turn means we wouldn't receive the funding/grants for items such as cycle training and the bike/scooter shelter. PLEASE complete the survey and get it back to us ASAP - all returned surveys will be entered into a draw to receive £20 of Saddle Safari vouchers. Thank you to Mary Nash who has agreed to analyse the results again this year!

The Travel Team needs you!! We'd really like more helpers, especially with stamping in the morning. It is only a once a fortnight commitment for 30 minutes. Your children will love stamping their friends cards etc. Please leave your name at the reception if you could help. We lost a few helpers at the end of last year as their children had moved on to secondary school so we'd really like a few more hands to help!

Swine Flu

As you are probably aware, a number of staff and children are ill with swine flu. Bucks CC guidelines advise that there are no extra procedures to be put in place but children should be kept off school until they are clear of all symptoms. They also advise us not to encourage the children to use hand gel as it is not as effective as soap and water. However, we do have a number of hand gel containers around the school for adult use. Please do not send your children to school if they are feeling unwell as they could be contagious. Thank you.

Achievements

An amendment to the last newsletter - Luke Johnston was in the team of four with Evan Cameron and George who won the county orienteering . Also, Calvin Moller has achieved a National Swim Award Level 3.

Visits

Today Year 2 enjoyed an interactive role play experience based on Florence Nightingale's life. They were able to dress up in costumes, some of them dating back to the 19th Century. They took part in a variety of activities relating to the Victorian era, including the past times of a typical lady, how and what a school child would have learned and ways in which the nurses in the Crimean War helped to improve the lives of the soldiers. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and valuable day.

Year 3 Gym Festival



Since the beginning of term a Gym Coach has been coming in to work with Year 3. During this time they have learned new skills and developed a gymnastic routine. On Friday 23rd October the children went to Great Marlow School to take part in a Gym Festival with children from three other primary schools. It was the first time that Year 3 have taken part in such a festival and although initially a bit nervous about the venue and all the other people there, they performed magnificently! Well done to Ben Ferguson and Harley Stevens who were selected as "Best Burford Gymnasts".

Y3 Roman Day



On Tuesday 10th November, Legion XIII came to visit Year 3 to teach the children about Roman life. They brought a range of Roman artefacts for the children to look at and use. During the morning, the children were taught about the Emperors and their families. They witnessed the wedding of Nero and Octavia and experienced a wedding feast with entertainment. They played with knucklebones, spinning tops and dice. The children were shown how to dress as a Roman citizen and two of the girls were chosen to have Roman style makeup applied. They also practised setting out a Roman road. In the afternoon, everyone joined the army and learned how to follow Roman commands,

which was a bit tricky! Those who brought in swords and shields were able to practise using them for battle and some were able to try out a gladiator's helmet and armour. We would like to thank all the parents for the wonderful costumes which helped to make the day, and to all those who joined us in the afternoon.

Y3 Staff

Y5 Victorian Day



Y5 had a lovely day which involved Poetry (Charge of the Light Brigade), Arithmetic (pennies, shillings and pounds), Bible objects and finished off with a Drill session in the afternoon. They covered a variety of activities which included:

- writing with chalk
- hygiene check – hands and hair (for lice)
- handwriting
- chanting and reciting
- times tables practice
- dunce hat
- visit from the school inspector

A lot of the children were quite scared and very jumpy! A fun day had by all!

Visiting Poet



As you are aware, James Carter will be visiting the school on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th November as part of our writing week. Over the course of the two days, he will speak to all the children about the work he does and give performances to KS1 and KS2. He will also work with Years 1 through to 6 in writing workshops. At the end of the second day there will be a finale where James will play some guitar music and the children will share their work with the rest of the school. There will also be an opportunity to purchase some of his books at the end of the day on Wednesday which he will be happy to sign. This promises to be a very exciting and worthwhile two days for the children and in order to help the school fund the £840 it will cost, we

have requested over the past two weeks that a donation of £2 is made by each child. Unfortunately, we have only collected a total of £78 so far. It would be a great shame if we had to cancel his visit to the school as there is simply not enough money in the school budget to fund such projects that enhance the children's learning. We would like to thank all the parents who have already sent in their donations and would like to encourage others to ensure they visit our display in the school reception to place their donations on our book!



New or amended dates in bold

Dates for your Diary

Monday 16 th November	Writing Week
Thursday 19th November	Parent Forum 2.15 – 3.15pm
Friday 20th November	11+ Results
Monday 23 rd November	Road Safety Week
	Y4 to Ufton Court (Cherry)
	Y4 to Ufton Court (Willow)
Tuesday 24 th November	KS1 SATs meeting for parents 2.30 – 3.15pm
Thursday 26 th November	Christmas Bazaar
Friday 4 th December	KS1 Concert 1.30 – 3.00
Tuesday 8 th December	KS1 Concert 1.30 – 3.00
Wednesday 9 th December	KS1 Concert 1.30 – 3.00
Thursday 10 th December	KS1 Concert 1.30 – 3.00
Friday 11 th December	Clic Sargent concert – Royal Albert Hall
Monday 14 th December	OAP Xmas Party 1.30 – 3.00
Tuesday 15 th December	Christmas Carol Concert 7.00 – 8.30pm
Wednesday 16 th December	Reception Nativity for parents 11.00
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Parties
Friday 18 th December	End of term 1.30pm
Monday 4 th January	Training Day
Tuesday 5 th January	Term starts
Monday 25 th January	KS2 SATs meeting for parents 2.00 – 3.00pm
Friday 29 th January	Parent Forum
Friday 12 th February	'Dragons in Europe' visiting Y3 am only
	'B' Factor Final PM
Friday 12 th February	End of first Half-term
Monday 22 nd February	Term Starts
Wednesday 24 th February	Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm
Thursday 25 th February	Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm
Friday 19 th March	Parent Forum
Tuesday 23 rd March	LKS2 Concert 1.00 – 3.00pm
Wednesday 24 th March	LKS2 Concert 1.00 – 3.00pm
Thursday 25 th March	LKS2 Concert 1.00 – 3.00pm
Thursday 1 st April	End of Term 1.30pm
Monday 19 th April	Term Starts
Monday 26 th April	Y5 PGL to Osmington Bay
Monday 10 th May	KS2 SATs week
Friday 14 th May	Parent Forum
Monday 17 th May	Y6 PGL to Barton Hall
Thursday 27 th May	End of first Half-term
Friday 28 th May	Training Day
Monday 7 th June	Term starts
Monday 14 th June	KS1 Sports Day 9.30 – 1.00 (inc. picnic lunch)
Tuesday 15 th June	KS2 Sports Day 9.30 – 3.00 (inc. picnic lunch)
Monday 21 st June	Reserve KS1 Sports Day 9.30 – 1.00 (inc. picnic lunch)
Tuesday 22 nd June	Reserve KS2 Sports Day 9.30 – 3.00 (inc. picnic lunch)
Friday 25 th June	Parent Forum
Monday 28 th June	Reserve KS1 Sports Day 9.30 – 1.00 (inc. picnic lunch)
Tuesday 29 th June	Reserve KS2 Sports Day 9.30 – 3.00 (inc. picnic lunch)
Tuesday 29 th June	11+ meeting for Y5 parents 7.00 – 8.00pm
Friday 2 nd July	Reports out
Monday 5 th July	Helping Parents Tea Party
Tuesday 6 th July	Induction Day
Wednesday 7 th July	Open Evening 6.00 – 8.00pm
Thursday 8 th July	Summer music concert
Tuesday 13 th July	UKS2 Concert 7.00 – 9.00pm
Wednesday 14 th July	UKS2 Concert 1.00 – 3.00pm
Thursday 15 th July	UKS2 Concert 7.00 – 9.00pm
Wednesday 21 st July	Term Ends 1.30pm

Academic Year 2010/2011

Wednesday 1 st September	Training Day
Thursday 2 nd September	Term starts
Friday 22 nd October	First half-term ends
Monday 1 st November	Term starts
Friday 17 th December	Term ends
Tuesday 4 th January	Training Day
Wednesday 5 th January	Term starts
Friday 18 th February	End of first Half-term
Monday 28 th February	Term starts
Friday 8 th April	Term ends
Wednesday 27 th April	Term starts
Friday 27 th May	End of first half-term
Monday 6 th June	Term starts
Friday 22 nd July	Term Ends

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