



Burford School & Nursery

'Enjoy, Achieve, Succeed Together'

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We really enjoyed meeting our new classes recently! We are looking forward to welcoming the children into Year 6 in September where they will build on their learning from Year 5 and prepare for Year 7. Year 6 is a really important and pivotal year in your child's school journey as it marks their final year with us at Burford School. During the year, we will have the 11+ secondary transfer tests and the Key Stage 2 SATs tests. The SATs tests comprise of a reading paper, 3 maths papers and a grammar and spelling paper. Writing is teacher assessed. Over the course of the year, we will also start preparing the children for leaving Burford and beginning their secondary journey, where they will need to continue to become responsible, respectful and self-motivated learners. The end of the year will culminate in our Year 6 Productions and a Leavers' Assembly.

Pencil Cases

One exciting change for our academic year 2025-2026 is that the school will now be providing children with essential equipment for use in class. Every child will be provided with a personal pencil case which will include a pencil, writing pen, short ruler, whiteboard pen, glue stick and eraser. Classes will have pencil sharpeners which will be kept in the classrooms, as will class scissor sets.

This means that children will not be required to take pencil cases into school. This change takes place to encourage children to take responsibility for their belongings in school, supports the children's wellbeing in reducing the amount of property that the children are required to bring into school and should help keep the school tidy.

Items to bring into school

Bags brought in only need to contain the following items:

- reading book
- water bottle
- waterproof coat (if appropriate for the season)
- healthy snack
- year 6 planner
- homework books (preferably in a plastic wallet to protect them)

In Year 6, the lockers are located within the classrooms. Rucksacks, coats and PE bags need to fit inside the lockers and therefore should not be too large. In preparation for secondary school, children should only bring in the necessary items above.

The children's lunch should be in a separate bag to place on the lunch trolley. PE kits should be kept in a separate named PE bag. Fidget tools should only be brought in by the children who have been approved to use in class to meet need. Children should not bring in toys, teddy bears or other items like personal diaries or felt pen kits or similar.

Planners

In September, each child will be given a Year 6 School Planner. This is a diary which they should use to help organise themselves and their homework, important dates, clubs, etc. Logins can also be recorded in the planner for online resources such as Google Classroom, Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rock Stars. The School Planners will help prepare your child for secondary school – as they closely replicate Year 7 Planners - and should be taken care of as there are no spares should they be misplaced.

Phones

If children need to bring a phone into school, they will need to hand it in so as it can be stored in the lockable phone storage box (as per Year 5). When entering and leaving school, phones must remain in bags and are not to be on view whilst on school premises.

Homework

It is important that your child completes their homework independently and on time. Maths, grammar, and reading homework books need to be brought back on the required days and handed in. This is also good practice ready for Year 7 in secondary school. A separate letter regarding homework will be issued by the school.

Uniform

It is a requirement that all children wear the expected school uniform (unless otherwise agreed by the school SENDCO), including ties and school shoes. Our uniform guidance can be found on our website:

<https://www.burfordschool.co.uk/uniform-information/>

PE

We will let you know which days your child will have PE as soon as our timetables are confirmed. On those days, children will need their PE kit, which they should bring into school to change into.

Roles and responsibilities

As the Year 6 children are the oldest pupils in Burford, there are lots of opportunities to volunteer for roles of responsibility around the school. Some roles have already been started in Year 5 to prepare for Year 6. Roles include: house captain, school councillor, peer mentors, playground leaders, choir leaders and digital leaders. Over the summer, your child may like to think about roles they would be interested in applying for and the qualities that make them suitable for the role. House captains have already been voted into office.

School trips

In Year 6, your child will be offered trips to Oxford Castle (linked to our history learning about crime and punishment) and PGL Liddington. Any assistance from parent volunteers for the trip to Oxford Castle would be greatly appreciated!

Curriculum Objectives Meeting

Our curriculum objectives meeting will be held in September. We will send details when we return from the summer holidays. It would be wonderful to see as many parents and carers there as possible. At this meeting, we will talk about your child's curriculum learning and give information about the end of Key Stage Two SATs and PGL Liddington. For those parents and carers who cannot attend, the information slides from the objectives meeting will be available on Google Classroom.

Summer learning

If you would like to support your child during the summer holidays, please consider the following:

Reading: Read widely and often. Reading underpins all our learning in school – even maths. Reading lots of different types and styles of books – magazines, online, non-fiction books, fiction books, film texts, recipe books, comedies, adventures, fantasy stories, mysteries, poetry – helps to build knowledge of different story

languages, and this helps children to become great writers and great thinkers. Many audio books are now available on Spotify and being a member of a local library provides hundreds of free books. Children could complete a book review about their favourite book that they have read in the holidays.

Writing: Keep a diary/ scrapbook / send a postcard to Year 6 telling us about places that they have visited. Children could start to write their own book to bring in and share with the class.

Maths: Practise and ensure that your child is fluent with the calculations for all of the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division – including work with fractions and decimals.

Continue to practise quick recall of the times tables using Times Tables Rockstars and apply this knowledge to larger numbers. This really is crucial. Without knowing times tables – and their associated division facts - with instant recall, children may find the pace of maths lessons more challenging in Year 6. Times tables facts are also needed for work with fractions, decimals and percentages.

Spelling: Continue to practise spelling using the games on Spelling Shed or <https://ictgames.com/littleBirdSpelling/>

Practise your French if you are holidaying in France!

If you are visiting family or looking for days out this year, the following places link to our learning in Year 6:

Imperial War Museum – London

Cabinet War Rooms – London

D Day Story – Portsmouth

HMS Belfast - London

RAF Museum – Hendon

Military Museums – Winchester

Royal Armouries – Leeds

Submarine Museum – Gosport

National Trust properties such as Chartwell

Imperial War Museum – Duxford

Eden Camp – Malton, Yorks

Dover Castle – Dover

Chatham Dockyards – Chatham

Western Approaches – Liverpool

David Hockney – Salts Mill, Yorkshire <https://www.saltsmill.org.uk/>

We hope that you all have a lovely summer break and we look forward to seeing you and your children next term! In the meantime, should you have any questions or queries about Year 6 then please send us an email.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bull, Ms Cornelius & Mrs Puddephatt