

# School NEWS

'Enjoy, Achieve, Succeed Together'



ISSUE

7

16<sup>th</sup> January 2026



Headteacher message – Mrs Marshall  
Message from Chair of Governors  
Reading  
Peer Mentors  
Year 3 – Chiltern Open Air Museum  
Parking  
Reception Stay and Play  
Parents' Evening  
Year 3 Swimming  
Key Dates



## Headteacher Awards

Well done to everyone who received a Headteacher's Award last week!

Sycamore - Benjamin

Holly – Maia and Ivy

Pine – Willow

Elm – Isla

Beech – Daisy and George

Cedar – Harry N and Harlow

Juniper – Buddy and

Willow – Freddie

Sequoia – Monty

Cherry – Noah

Hawthorn – Luna and Milo

Ash – Lexi

## Millionaire Reader

Alina

Cameron B

Rupert

Henry H

## 2 million words

Felicity C

Henry C

Dear Burford families,

Welcome back to the 'spring' term, albeit, it feels like winter. Thank you to all the families who emailed us last week in support of the early closure on the first day back. I appreciate that when we made the decision it was snowing and soon afterwards, it began to thaw. Last Tuesday was not an ideal start to the new term due to the weather, two burst pipes in school and our three external blocks being without heating! I am pleased to say, the school is now running as usual and long may that continue. School closures are rare and only instigated as a last resort. In the event that Burford needed to close, we would inform all parents by 7:30am on the day and report the school closure on Bucks website found [here](#).

Thank you to the parents who have been parking considerably whilst the Playing Fields carpark has been out of action. I have confirmed with the Marlow Bottom Playing Field Committee that they too will be back to normal from Tuesday next week and the side gate to the school will be open then.

Despite the cold, Year 3 have begun their swimming lessons at Handy Cross. I am pleased that the getting changed situation isn't taking as long as the lesson itself. If you have a parking permit, please note that Wednesday afternoons, space will be needed for the returning coach around 3:10pm.

Stay and play in Reception this week was a great success. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience of having their family members in school learning alongside them. Thank you for coming and thank you to the Reception Team for facilitating this event.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs Marshall

'Enjoy, Achieve, Succeed  
Together'

Burford School & Nursery, Marlow Bottom

## Message from Chair of Governors

On behalf of the Governing Body, a very warm welcome back to all our Burford families and staff. I hope that everyone had a lovely break, and managed to achieve the perfect balance of relaxation and festive chaos!

A massive thank you to our fantastic staff for their hard work throughout the Autumn term. From creating magical Christmas celebrations to delivering inspiring learning opportunities and supporting the wellbeing of our children every single day, your dedication is deeply appreciated.

We're thrilled to welcome three new governors this academic year: Tom Venables, Claire Holdway and Emily Tarrega. They bring valuable skills, fresh perspectives and a real enthusiasm for supporting the school. We're very fortunate to have so many Burford parents and members of the wider community who generously give their time to support the school's strategic direction.

This term, a key focus for the governors will be Burford's upcoming transition into the Marlow Education Trust. We're excited about working more closely with the other schools in the Trust, including Spinfield and Marlow CofE Infants (Sandygate), who are also in the process of joining. We hope that this move will open up new opportunities for collaboration, growth and shared learning as we continue working towards our vision: to be a happy school with a love of learning at its heart, where all children and staff are nurtured within a safe environment to reach their full potential.

As always, thank you to all our parents and carers for your invaluable partnership. Your involvement makes all the difference.

Wishing everyone a fantastic start to the new term.

Sally Hillyer

Chair of Governors

## National Year of Reading

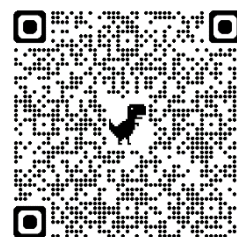
This year is the National Year of Reading! This is a year of focusing on reading for pleasure and sharing stories and texts both children and adults can enjoy. At Burford School we will continue to explore a range of texts and enjoy reading from different authors in our lessons, celebrate World Book Day in March and take part in different activities throughout the year. We also have an author visit booked for KS2 – Piers Torday will be visiting Years 3-6!

Throughout the year, I will aim to share some newsletters with you which celebrate reading, including suggested reading from Early Years to Year 6 and any news about recently published books.

Please scan the QR code to access the first reading newsletter of the year.

Happy reading!

Miss Edwards (Year 5 teacher and Reading Lead)



## Peer Mentors

The Year 6 Peer Mentors have successfully completed their training with a specialist Mental Health Educator from *Mind*. She was extremely impressed with the children and reported that their responses were thoughtful and empathetic. She left feeling confident that they will be reliable and responsible in their new roles!

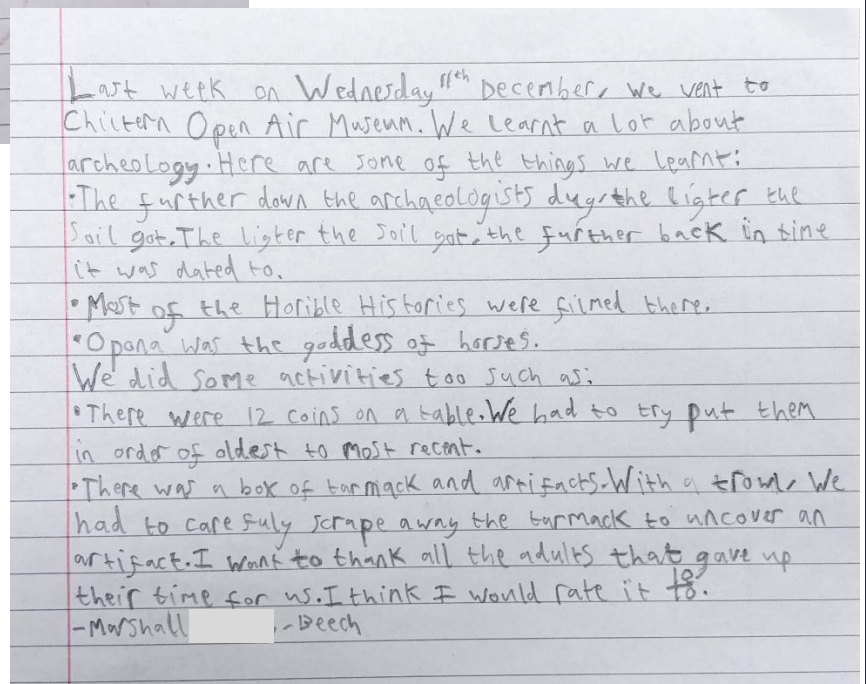
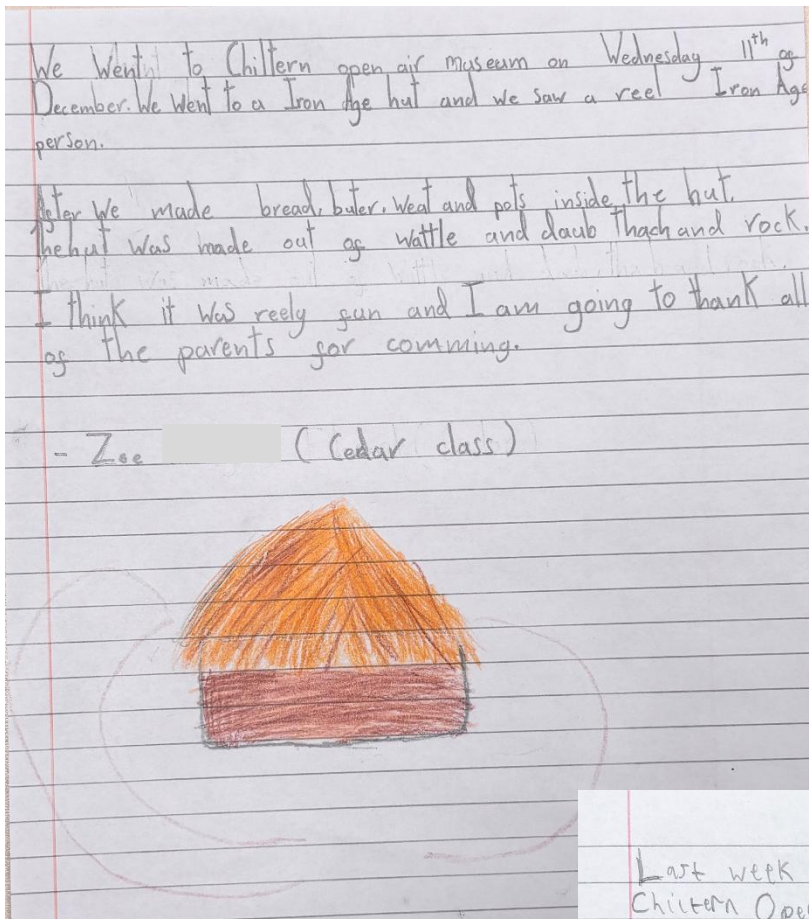
The Peer Mentors are very excited and have already started helping others during lunchtime. They support pupils by listening to their concerns, offering help with problems, and being a friendly face for anyone who may feel a little lonely at playtime. The Peer Mentors would like to remind everyone that they are available every lunchtime from 12:15pm to 12:30pm in the Hexagon. All pupils are welcome to visit them.



## Year 3 – Chiltern Open Air Museum

On Wednesday 11th December, Year 3 were lucky enough to visit the Chiltern Open Air Museum to experience a day in the life of an early human. The day linked to our history topic, where the children have been learning all about the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age.

Here are some recounts of the day written by the children.



A big thank you to the parent helpers who volunteered to help on this trip.

## Parking

Thank you for your patience and understanding over the past couple of weeks whilst the playing fields car park has been temporarily out of use as the fence is being replaced. We know this has caused some disruption to your usual routines.

As more families have been parking along nearby roads, we kindly ask everyone to continue being considerate of our neighbours, pedestrians, and other road users. A few small actions — such as not parking opposite or on the yellow zig zags, avoiding driveways, keeping pavements clear, and allowing space for passing traffic — make a big difference to the safety and comfort of our whole community.

Thank you for helping us keep drop-off and pick-up times safe for the Burford community.



## Reception – Stay and Play

Our Reception classes had a wonderful time during their Stay and Play sessions this week. The children were very excited to welcome their family members into the classroom and proudly share their favourite activities.

A big thank-you to everyone who was able to attend.

## Admissions

The application window for admissions for Reception places starting in September 2026 are now closed. Thank you to everyone who submitted their forms.

Buckinghamshire Council will send school place offers on 16th April, so please keep an eye out for your notification on that date.

We look forward to welcoming our new families soon and will share further information once allocations have been confirmed.

## Parents' Evening

On Tuesday, you should have received an invite to our next Parents' evening. Please use the link within the email to book your slot using the online booking system.

If you have any problems booking a slot, please contact the office [office@burfordschool.co.uk](mailto:office@burfordschool.co.uk)

For separated parents, please only book one appointment time. If you would like to have 2 separate appointments, please contact the school office who will be able to help you.

## Year 3 - Swimming

This week, Year 3 made a fantastic start to their swimming lessons, an important part of their curriculum. From the moment they arrived at the pool, the children showed enthusiasm, confidence, and willingness to learn new skills.

We're excited to see their progress over the coming weeks!



# Friends Of Burford



Registered Charity 1154863

## ★ Friends of Burford (FOB) – PTA Meeting ★

**You're warmly invited to our next FOB  
committee meeting**



**Monday 19th January**



**Arrive from 7:45pm | Start 8:00pm**



**The Barn Club, Marlow Bottom**

Whether you're a long-standing helper, brand new to the school, or just curious about what goes on behind the scenes — **everyone is welcome.**

We'll be chatting about upcoming events, ideas for the year ahead, and how we can continue to support **Burford School** and our children.

★ **There are new committee roles available** for anyone who'd like to get more involved

★ But just as importantly, **low-key support** is always appreciated — you don't need to commit to anything to come along

So if you'd like to meet other parents, have a glass of something, and help make Burford an even better place for our kids, we'd love to see you there.

## Parent Forum

Next terms Parent Forum meeting will be held on **12th March at 9.30am**.

If you have any feedback that you would like discussed at the meeting, please complete the Google Form below, before **2<sup>nd</sup> March**.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSex0iGcMB9FXyxQoZ7EatRFkleAovb3pM03jCCPUy1880U\\_Q/viewform?usp=publish-editor](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSex0iGcMB9FXyxQoZ7EatRFkleAovb3pM03jCCPUy1880U_Q/viewform?usp=publish-editor)

## School Applications

### Primary School Applications

We are delighted to offer prospective parents tours of our school fortnightly on a Friday. Please contact the school office to book an appointment:  
office@burfordschool.co.uk / 07598 250888.

## After School Clubs

For a full list of After School Clubs offered at Burford, please visit our website.

If your child is booked into a school club and cannot attend, please inform the school office prior to the start of the club.

As well as the sports clubs offered by Burford, we have a number of additional clubs run by external providers, including sports, outdoor activities, arts and craft. For full details of these clubs, their information leaflets and how to book can be found on our website ([www.burfordschool.co.uk](http://www.burfordschool.co.uk) / Parents / School Clubs).



## Cool Milk

Free milk is available for all children under the age of five in school, funded by the UK government.

In our school, this milk is provided by Cool Milk, the UK's leading school milk supplier.

When your child turns five, you are able to pay a subsidised rate for your child to continue to receive milk. If you wish for your child to continue receiving milk from the age of five, simply register with Cool Milk directly via their website ([www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)).

## Medication

If your child requires medication to be kept in school, please bring this to the school office on the first day of term, with a completed healthcare form (please note that a new form is required for each academic year) [Burford School \(primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com\)](http://Burford School (primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com)).

Any medications that come into school need to be brought to the school office by the parent. We are only able to administer medications prescribed by a doctor and they must have the prescription label on them.

If you require the school to administer antibiotics, we are only able to do this if the medication is required 4 times a day. Please bring the medication to the school office, with a completed form:

[Burford School \(primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com\)](http://Burford School (primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com))

If you have any questions regarding the medical needs of your child, please see Mrs G in the front office.

## Music lessons

Many KS2 children at Burford enjoy learning to play a musical instrument. If your child would like to start learning an instrument in September, our instrumental lessons are offered through Bucks Music Trust (BMT), who provide instrumental tuition during school hours. Children will be taught for 33 lessons during the academic year, spread over the 3 terms. Lesson times are arranged on a rota basis to minimise the effect of missing the same class English/maths lesson each week.

If you would like to apply for lessons, or would like any further information, please contact Bucks Music Trust or **complete the BMT application form online at <https://www.bucksmusic.org/book-lessons-2/>**

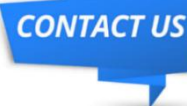
## School Contact Details

Following on from our previous communications, if you need to contact the school, please do so using either of the methods below:

**Absences:** Attendance@burfordschool.co.uk

**Email:** office@burfordschool.co.uk

**School Mobile:** 07598 250888



## Gift of Opportunity

The Gift of Opportunity Fund runs every academic year to raise income for projects of immediate need around the school.

The projects funded will enhance and broaden the educational experience of the pupils at Burford.

In order to meet the ambitions of the school to maintain an outstanding education and to build an equivalent environment for all pupils of Burford to enjoy during their time here, donations from the Burford family are essential as the state funding meets only the minimum requirements.

If you would like to donate to the gift of opportunity fund, please email office@burfordschool.co.uk

## Polite Reminders

**Do not walk up or down the school drive – it is not safe at any time of the day. Please use the pedestrian entrance and fenced off walk way.**

### School gates

Children should be dropped off at school ready for the start of the school day at 8.40am. Please ensure that you have left the school site before 8.50am after school drop off, as this is when the gates will be locked. The side gate to the playing field car park will not be unlocked during the school day, so if you are attending for a meeting, please ensure that you use the main school gate.

### Hard Copies of letters

Where possible, if we require a form to be completed, we will always endeavour to provide this as an electronic form so that parents are not required to print these at home.

On the occasions where this will not be possible, if you require a printed copy, please let the school office know and they will be happy to print a copy for you.

### Dogs

Dogs are **not** permitted on the school grounds at any time. This includes dogs walking or being carried.

## Upcoming dates

For term dates, please visit:

2025/2026 - [term-dates-2026-2027.pdf](#)

Calendar Dates:

[2025 - 2026 calendar.xlsx](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions or comments regarding any of the events.

## Lost Property

We have already have a large quantity of lost property.

Please ensure all clothing and shoes brought into school are labelled so that it can be returned to your child.

If your child has lost any unnamed items, please check the stamping shelter.

## Parking Permits

If you have reason to require a parking permit or currently have permission to park on school grounds, you will need to submit an application form, and send a copy of your disabled badge, if applicable. We will issue a new permit if the application is valid. [application-for-parking-permit.pdf](#)

To ensure the safety of the children, please note that parents should not be driving in to the school car park during the school day, including for pick up / drop offs for appointments, late arrivals, or to bring forgotten items. Without a permit, the only time that you will be permitted to drive into the school is to collect a poorly child.

## Weekly Letter Summary

### Week Commencing 5<sup>th</sup> January

#### **Whole School**

Children's Commissioner – A Guide For Parents On Managing Children's Digital Lives – [childrens-commissioner-a-guide-for-parents-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives.pdf](#)

Parents' Evening – [february-parents-evening.pdf](#)

Admin reminders - [admin-reminders.pdf](#)

#### **KS2**

Author Visit - <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/burford-school-marlow/UploadedDocument/35c9138b-599c-4c4f-ae99-987d0f9635a8/piers-torday-parent-letter.pdf>

### Week Commencing 12<sup>th</sup> January

#### **Whole School**

Attendance - When reporting a child absent, please email Attendance@burfordschool.co.uk

Parents' Evening – [february-parents-evening.pdf](#)

#### **EYFS**

Bikes and Scooters - [bikes-and-scooters-nursery-and-reception.pdf](#)

#### **KS2**

Author Visit - <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/burford-school-marlow/UploadedDocument/35c9138b-599c-4c4f-ae99-987d0f9635a8/piers-torday-parent-letter.pdf>

#### **Year 3**

Roman Day – [year-3-roman-day-letter-29th-january-2026.pdf](#)

We still require some more parent helpers for Roman day. If you are able to help, please email your class teacher.