

Burford Primary School Newsletter



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Head Teacher's Messages

123ICT E-Safety Screensaver - Competition winners

Congratulations to George Khan and Camille Duff for winning 123 ICT's *Create an E-Safety Screensaver Competition* – at a recent assembly they were each presented with a book voucher and won our school a year's subscription for the fantastic Zu3D animation software. Very well done and thank you George & Camille.



Safety at the start and end of the school day

Whilst we continue to have the support of West Oxfordshire District Council Traffic Enforcement Officers, Thames Valley Police Community Support Officer and Burford Town Council, this remains a problem, as some parents are continuing to drop off and pick up children outside the school gates. I would urge all parents to park beyond Priory Lane before delivering and collecting your child to and from school.

Children outside school at start of school day

We have a number of children who are outside in Priory Lane without adult supervision for a long time before school starts each morning. For your child's safety, please ensure your child is not dropped off before 8.30 a.m. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Rachael Barton

It is with regret I have to inform you that Rachael Barton has decided to resign from her two posts - Breakfast Club Play Worker & Lunchtime Assistant. We would like to thank Rachael for all her hard work and dedication she has given to our school and to the children over the years. We will be organising a leaving card and collecting money to buy her a gift. If you would like to sign the card and contribute, please see Mrs Hunt or Mrs Ralphs in the office. Thank you.

Holidays/absence in term time

Since September 2013, Head Teachers have not been able to grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any holidays taken during term time have to be recorded as 'unauthorised absence' and a penalty fee may be enforced by the local authority. We would encourage you to book your holidays during the school holidays – we have 190 teaching days in a full calendar year, leaving 175 days none school days. Thank you for your understanding.

Old, long sleeved shirts for art required

Please can we ask for all children to bring in a long sleeved old shirt, named, for use in art lessons? This can be left on your child's peg each term.

Named clothing, lunchboxes & water bottles

We are collecting a pile of belongings which are not named. Please ensure all clothing items, lunch boxes and water bottles have the children's names on please so they can be safely returned if lost.

Questionnaires

Thank you to all those parents who have returned their completed questionnaire. If you have not already done so, but would like to complete one, please pop it into the post box outside the office by tomorrow afternoon (Friday) please.

Paddock update

Boundary wall – School is awaiting legal advice regarding ownership of the boundary wall, hence the delay in moving forward with the rebuild. In the meantime, the length of wall is cordoned-off, so the children have been able to use the Paddock safely.

Adventure Play Unit ('Captain Mannering') – Following our annual inspection of play equipment, we were advised that adjustments were required on some of the 'uprights', which do not comply with new British Safety Standards. So that our guarantee remains valid, the company providing the unit are addressing this issue, and their earliest available date to visit is the first week of next term, when we hope the matter will be resolved, so the children can have full use of the equipment again.

Jenny Dyer
Head Teacher

A term in the life of a Governor: Zoey Khan, Chair of Governors



I have been a Governor for the school since 2011 and was elected as the Chair of Governors in 2012. I live in Burford with my family and my son attends Burford Primary School.

I have a BA in Criminology and a Master's Degree in Criminal Law and work full time for Thames Valley Police.

As the Chair of Governors my main responsibilities are:

- To work with the Head Teacher to promote and maintain high standards of educational achievement
- To ensure that the Governing Body sets a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction for the school
- With the Governing Body, hold the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and for the performance management of staff
- To ensure oversight of the financial performance of the school and effective use of the school's resources

Zoey Khan, Chair of Governors cont/d...

I currently sit on the Finance and Resource Committee and Learning and Teaching Committee. Linking in with the School Development Plan, I am the Early Years' Foundation Stage (EYFS) Link Governor.

Last term (term 4) was another busy term for me; Mrs Dyer and I meet each week (usually on a Friday evening) to discuss different areas of the school development plan and to monitor progress of each specific project.

25 February - visit to monitor behaviour during playtime. This visit was very interesting as I was able to observe what our play provisions are for children during break times. I was given some very useful feedback from the children and this has been passed to the School Council for development.

29 February - attended a training session on the new assessment system, which is called 'Target Tracker'. This system monitors the progress and outcomes of your child's educational development in a wide range of subjects, including English and Maths. It monitors progress and identifies those requiring further intervention.

02 March - additional link visit to monitor behaviour during playtime. This additional visit was to observe whether or not the actions outlined in my previous visit had been completed. I was really pleased to see that the School Council had made some progress into improving the play provision for all children.

07 March – meeting with the Head Teacher and Clerk of the Governing Body to set the agenda for the Full Governing Body Meeting.

16 March - meeting with the Governor responsible for coordinating training and to discuss any gaps in our skill base; attended the Learning and Teaching Committee Meeting and carried out a link Governor visit in the EYFS class (nursery and reception).

22 March - attended the Finance and Resource Committee Meeting and in the evening chaired the Full Governing Body Meeting.

I have an 'open door' policy so if you would like to get in touch, please contact the school office via email: office.2251@burford-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Next term: John White, Vice Chair of Governors

Warwick Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Teresa Lock

Warwick Class children have been busy finding out about ladybirds this week, using stories and information texts. We are enjoying related texts, including 'The Bad Tempered Ladybird' and 'What the Ladybird Heard' and practicing directional and positional language, using games and the iPads. The children have created some lovely models, artwork, maps and additional work linked to the Stories.

In PE we will be practising for the 'Race for Life' and introducing the children to sports' day activities, so please keep kits in school all week.

Outdoors, we have started pond dipping, growing seeds and plants in the garden tubs and hunting for and identifying mini-beasts.

We hope you all have a lovely restful spring break.

Windrush Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Zoë Duff

Windrush Class had their last swimming session this week and I have to report a huge improvement in both skill and confidence from everyone. The smiles beaming out of the children's faces while they had their fun swim was just wonderful to see.

We are having a productive writing week this week, transforming into poets. Inspired by our 'Winter on the Paddock' poetry back in January, we are working hard to produce some beautiful poems entitled 'Summer on the Paddock'. The ideas flowing in our classroom are just superb; that's a creative class I have!

Mrs Bennett and I hope you all have a lovely half term and enjoy the bank holiday!

Tolsey Class

Class Teacher – Ms Nikki Latton

In Tolsey Class the children have shown great enthusiasm for our topic 'Keen to be Green'. They have been working on descriptive language about a visit to the rainforest and created stories based on the 'The Great Kapok Tree'. We have been identifying different word classes in grammar lessons and trying to ensure we use different classes in our writing. As well as using adjectives and adverbs in descriptive writing, the children have been trying to use similes and personification to create effect in their stories.

During Maths' sessions we have been working on fractions of amounts and now moving on to data handling. The children are learning how to interpret data from pictograms, bar charts and line graphs, create their own surveys and put the information into charts. During topic work, we have continued to find out about plants; learning about Buddhism in RE and started project work on our 'Keen to be Green' topic.

Priory Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Jessica Beaney

Priory Class are approaching a very busy time of year. We have made a start on our summer production, with the children learning songs and being assigned roles. To ensure the production runs smoothly and rehearsals can concentrate on acting skills, please help your child to learn their lines and cues over the half term.

During Literacy lessons we have been applying all of our grammatical knowledge and talent to write stories on a subject of our choice. It has been great to see all the children so engaged and working hard to produce writing for which they can be really proud.

In Numeracy lessons, Year 6 children have been working out costs associated with their leavers' trip and created business ideas to raise additional funds needed. They have calculated the total cost of materials, how many they would need to sell to cover costs and sell to make a profit.

Year 5 have been working hard on drawing and interpreting line graphs as well as starting a unit on transformations. Quiz them to see if they can tell you what this word means!

Burford Stars

Last week's star were Madison Taylor and Sam Moore. This week's stars are Reece Townsend and David Pittaway.

Gold Book Certificates

Awarded Friday 10th June 2016 9 a.m.

Luka Shankland for his maturity and confidence in presenting our class science experiment to recent visitors from the Science museum. What a super star presenter!

Lyra Lake for her interest in solving mathematical problems using Numicon such as number bonds and 'how many more'. Keep up the great work Lyra.

Nathan Bradley for showing lots of confidence with his reading and writing. Nathan was very proud of his riddle writing and I was really impressed when I read it. Great job Nathan!

Connor Brimblecombe for his excellent standard of homework. Connor is always super keen to do a great job and has produced some amazing pieces so far. Keep up the great work!

Joshua Selita for always working to a high standard in Maths. He has also shown in improvement in creative writing. Keep up the good work Josh.

Tallulah Smith for excellent work across the curriculum. Tallulah also created an excellent poster for Race for Life. Well done Tallulah.

Luke Johnson for writing an interesting recount of the Three Little Pigs from the Wolf's point of view. He worked hard to ensure his sentences started differently and that his content was engaging for the reader. Well done Luke.

Stan Pitt for writing a descriptive and imaginative story based around the outcome of the presidential election in America. I was very impressed with the language used and the way in which the story was sequenced. Well done Stan.

Golden Post Box

Awarded Friday 10th June 9 a.m.

Congratulations to **Lewis Batty** who has been put forward for swimming trials at Witney & District Swimming Club. Lewis impressed the coaches and was offered a squad place. Lewis competed in his first competition at the weekend and gained a first set of official times! He also passed Stage 5 in his swimming lessons. Well done Lewis – keep up the good work.

Athletics Afterschool Club

The Athletics Club has grown in numbers each term and at the beginning of this term, we decided to separate the children into Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 groups. This change enabled us to focus more on each child, particularly in helping them to improve their shot put, javelin and hurdle techniques. Each session begins with a fun warm up, followed by various running, jumping and throwing games. We have thoroughly enjoyed watching each child improve and try hard at whatever task they have been given. There are some very skilled young athletes at Burford Primary School!

After the half term break, we are looking forward to welcoming back the Key Stage 2 children and, if the weather allows, we are hoping to make us of the Paddock.

See you next term.

Laura Davies & Tony Lock (Junior Coach at Witney Roadrunners).

FOBPS

Cook for Books

Well done Windrush Class, you managed to raise an amazing £35.

The next Cook for Books will be on Friday 10th June and is the turn of Tolsley Class. Please look out for the reminders in your child's book bags this Friday.

If you would like to help with the cake sale, please let Lizanne Harris or any other member of the FOBPS team know. Thank you.

Summer Fete

Our annual Summer Fete will be held on Saturday, 9th July from 1pm to 3pm.

We have decided to make a couple of changes to the Fete this year. Instead of hot dogs and burgers, there will be plates of sandwiches available, along with tea, coffee, strawberries and cream and maybe even some glasses of prosecco. There will be a toy stall, book tombola, phoenix products and hopefully some Superhero Sumo suits. Year 6 pupils will also be having their own stall to help raise funds for their leavers' trip.

Nearer the time, we will be asking for any toy and book donations. All donations must be in good working condition and Lizanne Harris will leave a donation box on the veranda after half term.

Another change this year will be to the non-uniform day. Instead of a £1 or bottle donation, we will be asking each year group to donate something different. Lizanne Harris will send out a separate letter regarding donations after the half term.

Bags 2 School

The first Bags2School collection will be on Monday 20th June, you should have already received a clothes bag in your child's book bag. Can we please ask that you bring the donated clothes in on the morning of the 20th and leave them outside on the veranda.

Second Hand Uniform

We will no longer be accepting second hand uniform without the school logo e.g. trousers, skirts, summer dresses etc. as there does not seem to be a demand for it. From now on FOBPs will only accept uniform with the school logo e.g. jumpers, polo shirts, cardigans & school ties.

To clear existing stock, we will be holding a 'uniform giveaway' on Friday 10th June straight after school. Parents are welcome to come, have a look and just take away what they require. Please note that the 'uniform giveaway' is only for uniform that does not have the school logo on it. Any remaining stock will be bagged up and included in the school Bags2School collection.

Upcoming Dates

Cooks for Books Fri 10th June 2016 Tolsey 3pm veranda
Uniform Giveaway Fri 10th June 2016 Veranda
Cooks for Books Fri 17th June 2016 Priory 3pm veranda
Bags 2 School Mon 20th June Veranda
Non Uniform Day Thurs 30th June 2016 £1 donation or a bottle
Ice Cream Friday Fri 1st July 2016 3pm veranda
Summer Fete Sat 9th Jul 2016 Paddock & whole school
Ice Cream Friday Fri 15th Jul 2016 3pm veranda

FOBPS on Social Media

Can we please gently remind parents and careers that our Facebook group is to be used as a communication tool between you and the FOBPS team. It is not a place to air any grievances that people may have with the school. We ask that if there are any issues with the school, that they are raised directly and not on our social media. Thank you for understanding.

Next FOBPS meeting

The next FOBPS meeting has not been decided, but we will inform you as soon as we have a date. The meetings are extremely informal and all are welcome. If you would like more information about the meetings or what FOBPS does, then please feel free to contact Lizanne Harris at lizanne@pingthing.co.uk.