

Burbage Junior School

www.burbage-jun.leics.sch.uk

January 2018

Newsletter

Dear Parents,

2018 is now well underway and we hope the year has started well for you.

We may soon experience some winter weather problems which can lead to difficult decisions. Whenever possible we will endeavour to keep the school open. Closure messages will be sent via ParentMail. (Please ensure you have updated your ParentMail account with any new mobile /email details.)

Stay tuned to BBC Radio Leicester (104.9 FM) for information should we need to close.

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of the Spring Term, and also my first newsletter to you. It's been a very busy few weeks in my new role as Interim Headteacher over both the Junior and the Infant Schools, but I would like to say a huge thank you for the lovely welcome I have received from everyone, and the brilliant level of support. It's also been a real privilege to get a chance to work with your fantastic children again. The current Year 6s started school in Reception at the same time that I took up my post as Headteacher at the Infant School. It has been a real pleasure to have the opportunity to work with them at the beginning and the end of their Primary School lives. Thank you to everyone for giving me this opportunity. I am regularly on the gate at the beginning and end of the school day, either here, or at the Infants. Please do not hesitate to come over to have a chat, if there is anything you wish to ask or let me know. Many small worries or questions can be dealt with in this way, before they become more serious. Alternatively, call the school to speak to myself or the class-teacher. If we cannot speak at that time, we will always call back, or make an appointment at a mutually agreeable time. Thank you for your support with this.

Braiswick
Photographic Co Ltd

Braiswick Photographic Co Ltd will be in school on **Tuesday 20th February** for class photographs.

Reminder regarding illness

If your child is away ill, it is important that you notify us as early as possible, on each day of absence. This can be reported through ParentMail or call **the school office on 01455 630970.**



Winter PE

As the weather has turned so much colder, please ensure that your child wears the appropriate clothing for outdoor PE sessions.

Children should have a short-sleeved T-shirt, shorts and pumps. A warm tracksuit or top/jogging bottoms and trainers are essential during the colder weather- PE sessions are taken outside as much as possible.



Attention All Parents!

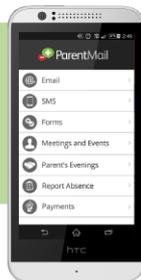


Have you downloaded the new **FREE** parent App?

Receive and respond to school messages from your smartphone instantly!

You can:

- ✓ Find messages in a clear, uncluttered feed (separate from your busy email inbox)
- ✓ Receive ALL school & club messages on one App
- ✓ Have instant access - no need to login
- ✓ Receive in-App notifications making sure you're alerted each time you're sent a message
- ✓ Read school messages even when there's no internet connection
- ✓ Preserve your data allowance



To download your FREE parent App, simply visit the Apple or Android store and search for ParentMail



A reminder that our Year 6 children are due to go to London to see Annie
Thursday 1st February.

ParentMail

We hope that you are finding PMX ParentMail useful. It is vital that you check your emails regularly to keep up to date with information we are sending out.

Should you change your mobile or email address please remember to 'edit' your ParentMail account.

Please could we encourage **all parents** to sign up to PMX ParentMail and install the app onto your phone.

If you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact the school office.

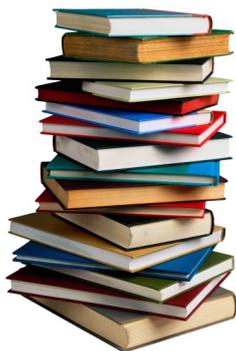
Beaumanor

A reminder that our Year 6 children will be going on their Beaumanor residential soon.
Monday 11th - Wed 13th June 6RB,
Wednesday 13th - 15th June 6P,
Monday 18th - 20th June 6B.

You will be asked to start making payment instalments via your ParentMail account shortly.



Data collection forms will be coming out soon. Please ensure you notify us of any changes and return to the school office as soon as possible.



Read for Fun in February

The PTA are helping us to organise a readathon next month ("Read for Fun in February").

Children will be bringing home a sponsor form so please could you encourage your child to read widely and to collect sponsorship money for all the books they have read. There will be prizes for the most enthusiastic readers, and all money raised will be used to purchase books for both schools. Thank you for your support with this.

Table Tennis Championships

A huge well done to all of our pupils who participated in the Under 11 Leicestershire Schools' Individual Table Tennis Championships, held at Knighton Park on Saturday 9th December. Congratulations to Freya Wynne (Year 5) who won the Girls' Competition. As County Champion, Freya will now go on to compete in the National Finals later this year. Good luck Freya!



SATs Tests

Our Year 6 children will be taking the national tests between **Monday 14th and Friday 18th May 2018**. It is **crucial** that children are in school during that week.

Arts and Craft Contribution

Before Christmas we wrote to you to explain that, rather than making a charge for the use of the swimming pool, we would be making an annual charge of £10 for arts and crafts materials. This will enable children to bring home items they have made using these resources. We will be sending a letter about this over the next week on Parentmail. Children eligible for Pupil Premium will not be charged, and the cost will be taken out of the grant.

Stars Of The Term



Well done to all our brilliant children who were either "Stars Of The Week", or "Stars Of The Term" last term.

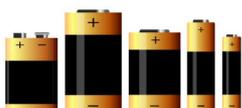
Our "Stars of the Term" last term were:

Toula Phelan (3A), Abigail Hardman (3GS); Bella Rowbottom (3G), Jack Johnson (4D), Phoebe Towers (4M), Amelia Naunton (4A), Mattilda Rock (5S), Poppy Quinlan (5H), Saryna Rowe (5P), Will Le Grice (6B) Ben Collins (6P) and Freddie Oxenham (6RB).

Each week every class teacher nominates one person from each class for a "Star Of The Week", for doing something brilliant that week. A "Star Of The Term" is nominated every term for one person in each class who has been consistently brilliant all term. The photographs of these children are displayed on our website (www.burbage-jun.leics.sch.uk) in The Gallery.

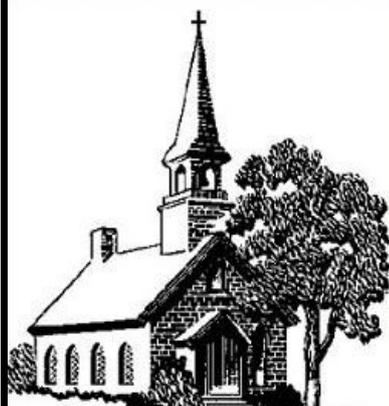
Recycling

We collect household batteries for recycling. You can help by sending your old ones to the school office.



Year 6 pupils enjoyed a fun and informative trip to The Warning Zone in Leicester last week. Pupils learnt essential life lessons about safety in the home, community and on the internet. Many thanks to the PTA for funding this valuable trip

Carol Service



On the penultimate week of the autumn term, we were joined by many parents for our carol service in St Catherine's Church. The children sang brilliantly and we all enjoyed hearing our orchestra, listening to the clear voices of the readers and watching the superb Dance Club perform their Christmas dances. A huge thank you to our music teacher, Mr Suckling, who taught the pupils all the songs, played the piano and co-ordinated the whole performance.

Lunchtime Clubs

Our lunchtime extra-curricular clubs are continuing to go from strength to strength, with many of our pupils attending. A new timetable for the Spring Term can be found below:

- Tuesday lunchtime -Years 3/4 Tag Rugby (Open invite)
- Wednesday lunchtime -Years 5/6 (Open invite)
- Thursday lunchtime -Years 5/6 Football (Open invite)

Pupils who are on 1st, 2nd and 3rd sitting for dinners and wish to attend any of the above clubs need NOT collect an 'Early Dinner Ticket'. Those pupils attending but are on 4th sitting for dinner will need to collect an Early Dinner Ticket from Mr Durose.

Keep Checking
Keep Treating



It has come to our attention that some children are having re-occurring head lice. It is essential that you regularly check and treat your child's hair whether you suspect they have head lice or not. This can help stop children re contaminating each other.

Diary Dates

January

Friday 26th Year 3 Iron Age Celt Day Beaumanor
PTA Disco Years 3&4 4.45—7pm. Years 5&6 7.15— 8.30pm

February

Thursday 1st Year 6 Theatre trip to London 'Annie'
Saturday 3rd Cross Country—Bosworth Academy, Desford. 10am start.
Week beginning 12th Half-Term Break— school closed
Tuesday 20th Class Group photographs (all classes) with Braiswick Photo
graphs

March

Thursday 1st Dressing up for World Book Day
Saturday 3rd Cross Country—Bosworth Academy, Desford. 10am start.
Week beginning 12th Parents week (Letters will be sent out at a later date)
Friday 16th PTA Bingo
Friday 23rd End of term

Finally

For safety reasons, we encourage the children to leave school at the end of the day through the small gate. Please would parents stand well clear of the gate to enable the children to get through.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Karen Allen
Interim Executive Headteacher

Our Revised Behaviour Policy

One of the many things we have been working hard on is looking at our Behaviour Policy. The policy at Burbage Juniors is based upon a very well regarded method called Assertive Discipline, which is partly based upon the principles that we make a big thing when children make the right choices, and deal with the wrong choices as calmly and quickly as possible. One of the things we have looked at is how we can enhance the positive rewards we use to reinforce good behaviour. As well as stickers, and "Stars Of The Week" in Friday Assemblies, we are using our Well Done Certificates to let children collect rewards. These will be badges awarded in Assembly. If a child collects 100 "Well Dones" they will receive a bronze badge, for 200, a silver badge, and for 300 a gold badge. Every child who receives a gold badge in the year will be entered for a prize draw to receive an Amazon Voucher. Children can get a "Well Done" from any member of staff, and can get them at break times and lunchtimes too. And don't worry if it seems they will need to get a lot. We are going to be given out plenty, whenever we see good behaviour.

In order for our school to be as happy and hardworking as it can be, we have a few very simple rules. These are:

Follow instructions

Allow others to work

Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself,

Use positive language

Look after equipment and property

The majority of the time, children follow these rules really well, and when they do, they will receive the positive reinforcement, some of which have been described above. The rules are designed to deal with the things that take away learning time. Because every last minute at school is precious for our children, it is important that we encourage children to make the right choices so none is wasted, but also when children do occasionally make the wrong choices, these are dealt with as quickly, calmly and consistently as possible. Because of this, there is a clear set of consequences.

The first time in any one day one of the rules isn't followed, the child's name is put on the board.

This is a *gentle reminder* that a rule has not been followed, and is exactly the same as in the Infant school when a child is placed on the thinking face. The majority of children quickly take this hint, and bring their behaviour back to where it should be so their learning and everyone else's can continue.

The second time a tick will be put by the child's name, and this will mean they will be the last to leave the class at the end of the lesson.

The third time they will have 10 minutes "Time Out" during afternoon break that day.

The fourth time they will go to another class for 15 minutes.

The fifth time (which is very unusual) parents will be contacted.

Obviously, this system only deals with the smaller, day to day issues, which although fairly minor, if unchecked can lead to a great deal of low level disruption for everyone. Where a child chooses to do something more serious, it would be dealt with straight away by the headteacher.

A real strength of the above system is that every day is a new day, and children always get the opportunity for a fresh start. Because of this we have decided to reestablish our afternoon breaks, so Time Out can always take place on the day, and no consequence needs to be carried over to the next day.

We discussed this approach with all staff at our teacher day, to ensure it is applied consistently, and have launched it to children this week, who have received it very positively.