



Building confidence; inspiring achievement

BURBAGE NEWS

Headteacher's Letter No. 1

September 2019

Welcome to a new school year.

I hope you all enjoyed the lovely summer and feel ready for the challenges and excitements of the new school term. It was lovely to return to school this week and to see so many happy faces and hear stories of summer adventures.

A headteacher's newsletter will be shared with parents and carers once a month with an aim to keep you all informed about school-related issues. Newsletters will also be shared via teams on a regular basis. Please read all information shared carefully but feel free to seek clarification if you are ever unsure or have any questions.

Special Welcomes!

A special welcome to our new starters, including children starting school for the very first time in Reception (EYFS). All children look very smart in their school uniforms and have made an impressive start to the new term. We also welcome children into other year groups who have joined us from other schools. We will aim to share all of the essential information with our new members in a manageable way but please ask if you require any further information at any time.

Staffing update

We officially welcome Mrs. Catherine Leighton in her new role as deputy headteacher. Mrs. Leighton will teach in Year 5 for some of the week, alongside her leadership role and will take charge of safeguarding. We also welcome Miss. Alice Martin to our teaching team in Year 2; Mr. Paul Shirt as our new caretaker and Mrs. Elizabeth Shirt as a new member of our office team (Fridays only). We welcome back Mr. Posnett to the Year 3/4 team and Mrs. Hall, who will be teaching alongside Mrs. Shaw in Year 1 to cover a staff absence. Mrs. Julie Woods will continue the role of Family Support Worker on the majority of Mondays. For information, teaching staff are detailed below:

EYFS	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3/4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
MRS PETERS	MRS S BAILEY	MRS N BAILEY	MRS THOMPSON	MRS LEIGHTON	MR NEWTON
MISS GOULD	MRS SHAW	MISS MARTIN	MRS WALKER	MISS BROSNAN	MISS SELVEY
MRS FISHER	MRS BLACKMORE (MRS HALL)	MRS LOMAS	MR POSNETT MRS EVANS	MISS ADAMS	

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The Daily Mile

The Daily Mile will resume on Monday. Children (and parents/carers) are invited to join in on the school field at 8:30am each day (weather permitting). Mr Hill will be on hand to supervise and encourage participants. Each child taking part will be awarded a House Point for their efforts.

Clubs

A variety of clubs and activities will be on offer this term. Please look out for specific information which will be circulated to relevant year groups in the near future.

Start of term reminders:

- In the event of an **unplanned absence** from school (i.e. an illness), please inform the school office as soon as you are able and on each day of absence.
- Please note, the '**bottom gate**' will be locked shortly after home-time each day to safeguard the children at the Playdays after school club.
- Please remember to sign children into school via the office in the event of being **late** and missing morning registration.
- Collection time at the end of the school day is 3:15pm for Infants and 3:20pm for Juniors. Parents may collect from the playground (all pupils) or the school gates (Junior children only).
- Please ensure you are aware of **PE days** and the need for other equipment in school. This information will be provided by each year group team.
- Children are not allowed to wear **earrings** for school.

Stationery sale

A PTFA stationery sale will take place on Friday 6th September—please see the separate letter for details.

Volunteers

If you would like to volunteer in school, please speak to a member of the team. All volunteers will be subject to the required safeguarding checks.

EYFS request

Please send any unwanted, clean, 'barbie' style toys into EYFS for use in school. Thank you.

Assemblies

We are continuing to host 'class assemblies' this year, with families invited into school to watch their children perform. These will be held on **Wednesdays**. Children are asked to bring in items to share (i.e. certificates, trophies) to **Key Stage assemblies** (Tuesdays for Infants; Thursdays for Juniors). Specific dates of this year's class assemblies will be shared in due course.

Parent Hub

The majority of written communication will be shared with parents via Parent Hub. Please ensure you have downloaded the free App if you are able and contact the school office if you have any problems. Please check the App on a regular basis for communications.

SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

[Our email address is: enquiries@burbage.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@burbage.derbyshire.sch.uk) Telephone: 01298 22278

[Facebook](#) /BurbagePrimary [Twitter](#) @BurbagePrimary

INDEPENDENCE

One of the key qualities we aim to develop amongst our children is independence.

Junior aged children (Y3+) should be able to say goodbye to parents or carers from the playground and enter classrooms/buildings independently. They should be able to organise their own equipment and take responsibility for their own possessions.

Please encourage this by not congregating at the start or end of the day on the top playground or 'bringing the children' into classrooms. Parents and carers of junior aged children are welcome to wait just outside the school gates, or on the main playground at home-time.

Walking to School

We encourage all children and their families to walk at least some of the way to and from school each day. Parents and carers are requested to avoid parking cars on Cavendish Avenue and Arbor Grove in order to ease congestion and reduce risk. Parking for collection and drop off is permitted at the nearby Poole's Cavern car park. On no account must cars be parked on the zig zag lines outside school or on the double yellow lines of the roundabout.

PTFA

Our PTFA organise many events and activities for children and adults throughout the year, providing much welcomed funding for school projects. The PTFA Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 17th - all are welcome.

If you would like to support the PTFA as a volunteer, you will be made very welcome. Sarah Brown is the current chair of the PTFA.

Celebration

Children are welcome to bring in items of achievement to Key Stage assemblies this year. The Infant children (Rec, Y1 & Y2) have an assembly most Tuesdays and the Junior children (Y3-6) on a Thursday. Children bring in certificates, medals and trophies from events or achievements outside school.

If your child has a special achievement or success you would like to share via our newsletter, please email the school office at enquiries@burbage.derbyshire.sch.uk

Whole school celebration assemblies are used to share special success stories, award 'stars of the week' (one per class), other certificates and share house point totals.

Your contact details

Please ensure we are kept up to date with contact details, including mobile phone numbers and email addresses. Please let the office know as soon as possible of any changes.

Parent Pay

Parents and carers are asked to pay for trips, lunches and breakfast club using *Parent Pay* - please see previous information for details or contact the office if you require further support or the information sending again.

Dates for diaries (Autumn term 2019)

Wednesday 4th September	Y3/4 'meet and greet' for parents and carers (5pm)
Tuesday 10th September	Y3/4 Wider Opportunities Music commences
Tuesday 10th September	Y5/6 'meet and greet' for parents and carers (5:30pm)
Wednesday 11th September	Y1 'meet and greet' for parents and carers (3:30pm)
Wednesday 11th September	EYFS (Reception) New parents and carers information session 5-6pm
Tuesday 17th September	PTFA AGM
Wednesday 18th September	Y2 'meet and greet' for parents and carers (3:30pm)
Wednesday 25th September	Full Governing Body meeting
Tuesday 1st October	EYFS Open Morning (new starters for September 2020)
Thursday 3rd October	EYFS Open Afternoon (new starters for September 2020)
Tuesday 8th October	Parents' Evening 1
Thursday 10th October	Parents' Evening 2
Friday 11th October	Governors' School Improvement Committee meeting
Wednesday 23rd October	Governors' Resource Management Committee meeting
Friday 25th October	Last day of term
Monday 4th November	INSET day - school closed to pupils
Tuesday 5th November	First day of Autumn term 2
w/b Monday 9th December	Year 6 - White hall residential visit
Friday 20th December	Last day of Autumn term 2
Monday 6th January 2020	INSET day—school closed to pupils
Tuesday 7th January 2020	First day of Spring term 1

Questions and queries.

We aim to make our school a positive, happy and welcoming place to work and learn. We also aim to share the right amount of information with parents and carers in a timely manner.

From time to time, parents or carers may have **questions** or **queries** for school staff. If you are ever unsure, or would like to speak to a member of staff about a concern, please do so as soon as you are able. In most instances, the most appropriate person to speak to will be your child's **class teacher**, or you may wish to speak to a team leader. Staff are often available for a brief chat at the start or end of the school day. I am usually on the playground or at the school gate at these times if you would like to speak to me, or you may contact the school office to make a more formal appointment. The vast majority of queries can be resolved quickly with effective communication. The sooner these are shared, the easier they are to resolve.

Many thanks for your continued support of our wonderful school.

Mr A.J. Tierney