

Burford Primary School Newsletter



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Issue 46

5th February 2015

Head Teacher's Messages

Breakfast Club Play Co-ordinator Vacancy

Unfortunately Mrs Godfrey has decided to resign from her post as Breakfast Club Co-Ordinator with effect from the end of March. If you are interested in the position and require further details, please see either Mrs Hunt in the office or myself.

School closure due to snow

We have been very lucky so far to not have experienced much snow in our region. However, should we have a heavy snowfall and the roads to our school become unsafe for travelling, the school will be closed. This decision is made very early in the morning and a notification will be on put up on the front page of our website, and will also be on the Oxfordshire County Council website and listed on the Heart radio station webpage. In addition, announcements will be made by BBC Radio Oxford, Heart FM and Jack FM.

Consultation to join ODST Academy

Thank you for all those parents who came to our Parent Consultation evening on Tuesday this week. For those parents/carers who were unable to attend, information will shortly be posted on our school's website. Parents still have the opportunity to put in writing to Governors any additional questions they may have. To enable all questions to be addressed by the end of Term 4, please could we ask that these are received by Friday 6th March.

Achievement for All update

At the end of this newsletter, please read an update provided by Mrs Duff on the Achievement for All programme. Any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Additional Uniform supplier

In addition to our school uniform being available on the Mapac website, a second supplier has been sourced to allow parents to purchase from an alternative source. This supplier is Tesco – again it is an on line service – log onto www.tesco.com/ues and search for our school name.

Term 3 Class Achievement Awards

The winners of Term 3 will be announced via letters next week and the special Achievement Award assembly will take place on Thursday 26th February at 2.45 p.m.

Term ends

Term ends next Friday (13th February) at the normal school finishing time of 3.10 p.m. and the afterschool club is also open until 5.30 p.m. I hope you all have a good week off and return refreshed on Monday 23rd February.

Jenny Dyer

Warwick Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Teresa Lock

On our journey around the world, we have visited the Arctic Circle finding out about some of the animals that live in cold places such as Arctic Foxes and Polar Bears and thinking about how we can travel on snow. We then travelled to Russia by submarine and have now started to fly from the Space station across Russia checking out 'space' on the way. Next week we land in China, just in time to celebrate Chinese New Year. This year will be the year of the Ram (sheep). As I write we are looking forward to our trip to the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon.

In Maths we have been counting actions and counting down, taking one away each time. Last week we completed a traffic survey on Burford High Street using a tally chart and then recorded our findings as a group to find the most common vehicle during that period.

Mrs Lock

Windrush Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Zoë Duff

Windrush class have been enjoying their vehicle research in History and discovered some amazing facts. Ask your child what the first six modes of transport were!

During spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions (SPAG), we have been learning about exclamation marks, commands, questions and verbs. Our writing sessions this week have been taken up with our trip recount writing and planning.

Windrush Class cont/d...

In maths we have had a number bond review week with some of us learning about inverse calculations. All children should be practising their recall of the two numbers that bond together to make 10 and 20, making a game of this at home will help with their mental calculations.

We have enjoyed some more UK map work this week and combined that with some weather reporting and work on direction.

Swimming Update

The children are progressing well in their groups and I am seeing a huge increase in confidence in the water. Our swimming teachers Julie and Martin are very impressed with how well our children listen and respond and have commented on how keen everyone is to have a go at something new!

Can I ask you to encourage your children to get themselves dressed and undressed at home. Some of the younger children still struggle to organise their belongings and dress themselves. I have spoken to the whole class about this and have challenged them all to be more organised and independent thus reducing our time in the changing rooms.

Mission Complete!

Congratulations to **Sammy Staveley** who has completed Mission 300. He has worked hard to learn all of the first 300 high frequency words and can spell them correctly within his writing. Well done for your hard work and perseverance Sammy. You will receive your Mission Complete certificate in our next Gold Book assembly.

Mrs Duff

Tolsey Class

Class Teacher – Ms Nikki Latton

During Maths lessons, the children are producing an excellent amount of work and really challenging themselves. We are working on using number lines, expanded decomposition and decomposition for subtraction. Some of us are using all our calculation methods and mental maths strategies for problem solving.

In Literacy lessons, we have been creating non-chronological reports on different holiday destinations. The children have also enjoyed a 'Big Write' session inspired by the animation 'Dum Spiro'. They really enjoyed the animation and have worked hard to try and up-level their writing.

For topic, we have started work on The Romans and found out where they came from and when. We looked at how important the Roman Army was to the Roman Empire and created our own posters and job applications to join the army! We also had great fun taking part in a Roman Workshop whilst learning more about the Romans.

Priory Class

Class Teacher – Miss Jessica Forester

In our Literacy lessons, the children have been very busy learning how to structure plot, techniques that authors use to engage the reader and how to create interesting characters. Next week, we will put all of this hard work into practice and write a 500 word story for BBC Radio 2's competition.

Further revision, consolidation and extension have once again been the focus for our numeracy lessons. We have been revising place value, including decimals and positive and negative numbers.

Burford Stars

The stars last week were Sam Backhouse and Sam Blantz. This week they are Kirsty Locke and Phoebe Dixon.

Gold Book Certificates

Awarded Thursday 12th February at 2.45 p.m.

Lottie Salisbury - For a great attitude towards her independent writing tasks; Lottie is using her phonic knowledge to label her work. Well done Lottie.

Lily O'Brien - For being such a star in class - always offering to help the adults in the group tasks. What a good role model you are Lily.

Miley Beck for settling in really well to his new class and for making an excellent first impression. We are very glad to have you in our class Miley and look forward to getting to know you and your family. Well done, you are going to be an amazing member of Windrush Class!

Elsje Grimes for producing a consistently high standard of work in both literacy and maths; for being super polite; very funny and an all-round fantastic role model. Elsje is also very good at self-assessment and always tells me when she needs some help with something or more of a challenge. Just brilliant Elsje! Well done.

Levi Wilson for showing an excellent attitude towards his learning. Levi is showing greater enthusiasm for his learning and is a pleasure to teach.

Archie Salisbury for showing an excellent attitude towards his learning. Archie shows great focus in literacy and has shown great enthusiasm and a talent for story writing.

Sam Blantz – For working hard in literacy lessons to produce some interesting short stories. He has used a range of sentence openers and punctuation, as well as figurative language to keep the reader engaged.

Tristan Howard – for being an outstanding member of Priory Class. Tristan always listens during whole class discussions and then works hard to put this learning to practice.

Golden Post Box

Awarded Thursday 12th February at 2.45 p.m.

Congratulations to **Elsje Grimes** for moving to Stage 5 in her swimming. Keep up the good work Elsje.

Achievement for All Update

Following our parents' meeting last term, I would like to give you a brief update on our work in school that is linked with the Achievement for All programme.

Achievement for all is divided into four elements that help us to analyse and structure our own development. Read on for a brief outline of work so far within each element.

Leadership for inclusion

Since the beginning of our programme, the senior leadership team has been working to enhance how we record and review our data in order to make it more meaningful. Middle leaders are responsible for looking at the data across the school within their subjects and targeting areas within each year group that need additional work. We are improving in this area and trying to look at the data with the next steps for learning foremost in our minds.

Teaching and Learning

One of our main aims within this element is to increase the proportion of outstanding lessons observed. This term we are working on a module called 'Closing the Gap' that helps us to hone our practice for all pupils in our school. We have analysed how we cater for personalised learning within our classrooms and are due to do the same for 'Quality First Teaching' which looks at our general practice in whole class provision. I am currently working on mapping out the full scope of our provision, including whole class teaching, guided group work and individual intervention to show how we meet the needs of all.

We are lucky here at Burford to have an experienced teaching team with a variety of skill sets. This enables us to share ideas for good practice and innovation in the classroom. Our TA's are fully immersed in the programme and attended recent 'Closing the Gap' training as well as all of our AfA introduction sessions in Term 1. We see our teaching team to be wider than just the teachers and highly value the impact our Teaching Assistants have on the achievement of our pupils and development of our staff as a whole.

Parent and Carer engagement

Last term, we invited parents to attend an information evening before the beginning of our 'structured conversations' pilot scheme. We invited two coaches from the programme to talk about AfA and give a brief overview of the thought behind structured conversations. I was pleased to record the names of those who would like to be involved in structured conversations beyond the pilot and will keep you informed as and when we decide to fully adopt the scheme.

The initial conversations had very positive outcomes and we look forward to our next round in the spring.

Cont/d...

Achievement for All Update cont/d...

Wider Outcomes and Opportunities

Next term I hope to link up with the secondary school or other specialists within our partnership to look at our Gifted & Talented provision. We have a range of talents within our school and we would like to enhance access to any wider opportunities that may be available to them. Other work in this element includes streamlining our behaviour policies and practice and to develop work within social and emotional aspects of learning.

Please feel free to chat to me if you have any questions regarding the programme; I will keep you up to date on any developments as and when they happen.

Mrs Zoe Duff – Achievement for All School Champion



Sainsbury's
Active Kids
Eat well • Move well • Live well

Following the success of the past years, we are again collecting Sainsbury's vouchers.

Last year we were able to get 6 sets of catering equipment for the children to use. This included wooden spoons, bowls, graters, scales, whisks, baking trays and cake tins. We also exchanged our vouchers for a paddock kit which includes cane, string and tarpaulin. Thank you for all of your collecting.

Please collect vouchers at any Sainsbury's store and online between Wednesday 28 January and Tuesday 5 May 2015.

FOBPS Newsletter

Cook for Books

Priory Class - your Cook for Books raised £33.00
The next Cook for Books will be held after half term, on Friday 27th February, straight after school and will be the turn of Warwick Class.

The totals so far for Cook for Books are:

Warwick = **£41.00**
Windrush = **£47.00**
Tolsey = **£40.00**
Priory = **£33.00**

Red Nose Day

This year's Comic Relief will be on Friday 13th March and in line with their slogan this year, "Make your face funny for money", we think it would be a great idea for all the children and teachers to get involved by coming to school wearing a funny wig or a crazy hairstyle in exchange for a £1 donation which will go directly to Comic Relief. The crazier the hairstyle the better.

FOBPS Newsletter cont/d....

We will also be organising a cake sale after school that day with all proceeds going to Comic Relief, so please look out for cake donation plates in your child's book bag nearer the time.

FOBPS on Social Media!

FOBPS has an account on **Facebook**, so please remember to 'like' us. We keep you informed on upcoming events and give feedback on recent ones. You can find us at

www.facebook.com/BurfordPrimarySchool or use the link to our Facebook page from the **school's website** – just look under the 'News' tab and then the '**Social Media Page**' link at the bottom. The amounts raised at events and photos will be posted on to FB for you to see and share.

FOBPS Meeting

The date of the next FOBPS meeting has yet to be confirmed. Once we know the date, we will let you know, so if you want to come along, you would be very welcome. Please remember you have the option to put your children into After School Club for the duration of the meeting.

There are many different ways you can help, whether you have lots of time on your hands or would like to contribute as and when you're able to. We hold our meetings roughly every 6 weeks and are very relaxed with no obligation to attend each session. If you feel you can't commit to a large role, you may want to be involved in a smaller, but equally important way (e.g. running a stall at the summer fair, baking for a cake sale). Or you can always support FOBPS events by simply turning up - it all counts!

If you'd like to come along to future meetings, then please come and chat to either Louisa Swann, Lizanne Harris or Rachael Barton and we can tell you more about it. Or if you'd like to simply be included in the mailing list for the minutes of our meetings, then just let us know. Our meetings are very relaxed, so feel free to pop along whenever you want to!

Please do let us know if you think you can help or want to get involved with FOBPS

If you would like to contact **FOBPS by email**, feel free to email the co-chair of FOBPS directly at louisa@theswanns.com