

Burford Primary School Newsletter



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Issue 56

24th September 2015

Head Teacher's Messages

Academy conversion

I am excited to announce that on Thursday next week (1st October) we convert to an Academy School with the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST). To celebrate, I would like to invite our families to join us for a special assembly that day at 9 a.m., when Anne Davey, ODST Chief Executive, will present our school with a plaque. Although Warwick Class will be going to Filkins that morning, we will be sharing the plaque with them later in the day.

After School Club

Please may I remind all parents of the need to **pre-book child(ren) attending our After School Club**, either at the end of each week or termly, completing booking forms to guarantee a place. Booking forms can be printed off the school's website or available from the school office. It is becoming increasingly popular and therefore, so that we can plan for appropriate staff:child ratios, we need to know numbers in advance. We do appreciate that sometimes emergencies arise and you may have to call the school at short notice. On these rare occasions we will, of course, be accommodating.

Also, if your child(ren) is booked in for the first hour, please collect them by 4.15 p.m. at the latest, i.e. before snacks are served. Club closes at **5.30 p.m. prompt** as our staff are contracted to work until 5.30 p.m. and have family commitments to get home to. If you collect your child(ren) after 5.30 p.m. we will be obliged to pay our staff overtime and in turn, parents will need to be charged extra to cover this expenditure.

Nut Allergies

Due to children with severe nut allergies, please remember we are a totally 'nut free' school – this includes the chocolate spread Nutella.

PE Kits in School

Please can parents ensure that all children have an appropriate PE kit in school. This needs to be named and brought in every Monday morning, left in school all week and taken home on a Friday afternoon to be washed.

Forest School Handbook

A new parents' handbook regarding Forest School has just been completed and will be on the school's website shortly.

Head Teacher's Messages cont/d...

Data Collection Sheets / Service Children / Free School Meals

Thank you to all those parents who have returned their data collection sheets, it is so important that we have the correct up-to-date information on our school system. Please return these forms by Tuesday next week (29th Sept) at the latest. Please also see Mrs Hunt know, in confidence, if you are a service family or have a low income as additional funding can be obtained by the school to enhance your child's learning.

Inset Day

As you are all aware, we have an Inset Day tomorrow (25th September) for teacher training.

Harvest Festival

We look forward to seeing you at our Harvest Festival service on Tuesday 6th October at 2.30 p.m. at Burford Church.

Jenny Dyer

Warwick Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Teresa Lock

Warwick children have been busy exploring all the activities and resources on offer in our classroom and gardens. Last week we had an outdoor learning morning which included making soil soup and mud pies in the muddy kitchen, oral storytelling on the paddock and experimenting with capacity in the sand. As I write we are looking forward to our first Forest School session at Johns Wood in Filkins.

In our maths sessions we have been singing number songs and rhymes, playing number games and exploring size and weight. We had a visit from the School nurse who reminded us about the importance of looking after our teeth, so a very busy couple of weeks. Next week we will start thinking about Autumn and the forthcoming Harvest Festival. We will also be discussing the changes happening in the environment and learning a song for the Church service - another new experience for the children to look forward to!

Well done Warwick Class.

Mrs Lock

Windrush Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Zoë Duff

We are busy as usual with our packed schedule and the children continue to be well settled with the odd teething problem! In Literacy we continue to look at character description and the use of powerful adjectives. In Maths we are looking at counting on and back in 1's, 2's, 3's, 5's & 10's to 100 and beyond. The children are learning to be more independent in their learning investigations and choosing equipment to help them such as the numicon, number lines and 100 squares.

The children are loving their swimming sessions. Everyone is happy to get into the water and work at their own level. We are very lucky to have been allocated some of the best swimming teachers in West Oxfordshire; super experienced, friendly and positive. Getting changed is quite a challenge at this time of year especially for the Y1 children. Please allow your children to practise getting themselves changed independently at home if they don't do so already.

Windrush Class are gelling together nicely - Mrs Bennett and I feel we may, once again, have 'The Best Class in the Universe' on our hands! Mrs Duff

Tolsey Class

Class Teacher – Ms Nikki Latton

In Tolsey Class the children have finished their work on 'Rapunzel A Groovy Fairytale' and produced some fantastic writing based on the story. Now we are looking at a similar tale, which is a short animation called 'The Clocktower'. The children really enjoyed watching the story and are going to create another piece of long writing, based on this animation.

In Maths, we have focused on place value, mental strategies for addition and subtraction and use of the number line for both calculations. Some of the children looked at counting on and counting back on a number line and then discussed which methods they preferred.

In Science we have started our topic work on Sound and enjoyed a carousel of sound activities. We also made our own string telephones and enjoyed a game of bats and moths where we tested our sense of hearing. During Dance and based on our 'Once Upon a Time' topic the children had a great time showing creativity in story telling through dance. Year 4 retold the story Sleeping Beauty through dance and Year 3 showed super storytelling with 'The Gingerbread Man'. We would like to thank Mrs Stackhouse for working with us in dance and wish her all the best in the future.

Priory Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Jessica Beaney

In Priory Class, hints of excitement are being shown about our fast approaching week away, and that's just from Mrs Rigby and myself, with only three weeks to go! If you have any concerns or worries about our residential do please come and see me and we can talk them over.

In Literacy we have been re-writing the tale of why skunk smells and focusing on the use of sentence openers, how to punctuate speech and relative clauses.

In Maths, the children have been carrying out different investigations in order to develop their reasoning skills and abilities, to prove their findings mathematically. So far, we have discovered that we could pay for all items, if the government decided they only wanted three and five pence pieces and that there is such a thing as perfect numbers.

Burford Stars

Stars last week were **Camille Duff** and **Brandon Whalley** & this week are **Sophie Wilson & David Pittaway**.

Mission 300 Complete

Awarded Friday 2nd October 2015 9 a.m.

Well done to **Poppy Harris** on completing her whole mission.

Gold Book Certificates

Awarded Friday 2nd October 2015 9 a.m.

Erin Bowman, for being so kind and helpful to the children and adults in our class you are a Star!

Tea Mackie for completing the Mission 300 Keywords, Wow, Tea what an achievement you have worked really hard. Keep up the great work.

Henry Moore - For outstanding behaviour in class and for keeping up a very high standard of work. Henry concentrates well, asks great questions and is the perfect role model for others - you are amazing Henry!

Olivia Lampard - Olivia strives to do her best with all that she is faced. She is wonderfully polite, thoughtful and fun. Her attitude in class is excellent and she produces a very high standard of work across all subjects. So impressive Olivia, well done!

Keelan Mackie for outstanding behaviour and an excellent attitude towards his learning in all areas of the curriculum. Keelan is an excellent role model to other children in the class.

Emily Selita for outstanding behaviour and an excellent attitude towards her learning. Emily shows great maturity and is confident answering questions and volunteering ideas. Well done Emily!

Gold Book Certificates cont/d...

Luke Johnson for working hard during literacy lessons to apply skills learnt with Mrs Rigby. He has been reading back through his work to check that it makes good sense and contains similes, to add description and interest.

Oliver Traynor for discovering that 6 and 28 are perfect numbers. He worked quietly and efficiently to work out why 6 and 28 were special.

Golden Post Box

Awarded Friday 2nd October 2015 9 am

Congratulations to **Camille Duff** - Camille competed at her first open meet of the season (swimming) last weekend in Bletchley. She won two bronze medals and two silver medals. Camille achieved some very impressive personal best times gaining her county qualification in her age group for two events so far. Camille is now competing in the Witney & District Club Championships over the next month where she hopes to gain more county times!

Well done **Isabelle Lampard** for having completed the Summer Reading Challenge, no fewer than twice over the holiday period. You are a real bookworm!

Congratulations also to **Olivia Lampard** for passing her Primary Ballet exam with merit and for completing her first Summer Reading Challenge.

Congratulations to **Olivia Bazeley** who has passed her swimming stage 9 silver challenge. Well done Olivia.

School Term Dates & Holidays on next page.

Burford Primary School terms and holidays 2015-2016

Autumn Term 2015

Thursday 3rd September – Friday 23rd October (3.10 p.m.) Term 1
(Warwick Class opens on Friday 4th Sept to allow for home visits)
Friday 25th September **Inset Day**
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October **Holiday**

Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December (1.10 p.m.) Term 2
Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January **Holiday**
Monday 4th January – inset day **Inset**

Spring Term 2016

Tuesday 5th January – Friday 12th February (3.10 p.m.) Term 3
Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February **Holiday**

Monday 22nd February – Thursday 24th March (1.10 p.m.) Term 4
Friday 25th March – Friday 8th April **Holiday**

Summer Term 2016

Monday 11th April – Friday 27th May (3.10 p.m.) Term 5
Monday 2nd May **Bank Holiday**
Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June **Holiday**
Monday 6th June – inset day **Inset**

Tuesday 7th June – Wednesday 20th July (1.10 p.m.) Term 6

Teacher available for work days – Inset Days

Tuesday 1st September; Wednesday 2nd September, Friday 25th September, Monday 4th January, Monday 6th June,

Bank Holidays

25th & 28th December Christmas Holidays; 1st January – New Year Bank Holiday; 25th March – Good Friday; 28th March Easter Monday; 2nd May – May Day; 30th May – Spring Bank Holiday.