

Burford Primary School Newsletter



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Head Teacher's Messages

Miss Lisa Austin and Mrs Clare Silvester

We hope this newsletter finds you well despite the circumstances we find ourselves in. Thank you for continuing to keep in touch over the past few weeks; we all very much value hearing how you are getting on and are enjoying the feedback about what children have been learning and doing. This approach is new for all of us. We plan to send out a fortnightly newsletter to provide you with current school information and celebrate pupils' achievements. Also look out for the link to our weekly video message to pupils from the Head Teachers which will be sent by email (Warwick and Windrush) and Google Classroom (Tolsey and Priory).

Home learning

Please adapt and make home learning work for you as best it can. Your home circumstances are all unique; the amount of work you are able to support your children with will vary significantly. We have tried to keep this in mind when planning home learning but you know best how your children are coping, and how much work is reasonable to expect them to complete at the moment. We are all committed to helping and supporting you the best way we can between now and our return to something more like the way we usually work. This is a delicate balance for school staff to strike – no-one in any school in the country has done this before. Staff are happy to help with any issues and really love to see the work you complete; please use the email addresses and your child's Google Classroom to do this and to continue to keep in touch.

Mental health and wellbeing

We are very aware that there is an ongoing bombardment of resources and advice from the media and through social networking channels about all manner of things – from how to home school to the best ways to exercise and stay fit. We don't want to add to this; however, we are sending some resources which we think are worth sharing, all linked to mental health, wellbeing and coping with such a massive change to our usual daily lives. There is a pack of info attached to this newsletter.

Building project

We are delighted to be able to confirm that our planned building works are still going ahead. The school has received funding to remodel the new building (Warwick and Windrush building) creating space for an extra classroom and a better use of the space we already have. Works are due to start over the next couple of weeks and have been carefully organised so that in the event of lockdown measures being changed to include the reopening of schools, our site will be safe and ready to receive pupils. We will keep you updated and informed over the coming weeks.

Support to our families

In these challenging times we may need support, or notice others around us may be in need of support. The NSPCC have lots of online resources and can signpost you to the right support if you need it. Visit the NSPCC website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> for more information.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you are worried about a child or family, it is your duty to talk to someone and get help. In school we have 4 designated safeguarding leads- Miss Austin, Mrs Silvester, Mrs Docherty and Mrs Hunt. You can contact us securely via the office email - it is checked daily. If you would prefer to discuss concerns with someone external, you should contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0345 050 7666.

Further help and support can be found by visiting the Oxfordshire Children's safeguarding Board's website <https://www.oscb.org.uk/>.

Warwick Class

Class Teachers – Mrs Holly Docherty & Mrs Wendy Corless

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you all how much we miss your children and what a wonderful job you are doing at home during these very unusual times. We have been overwhelmed by the success of the home learning and absolutely love seeing the photos of all of the wonderful things you are doing at home and couldn't be prouder of the children and you! We are not expecting you to recreate a classroom environment for your children or run a school from home, but have been so amazed by the activities you are doing.

If you haven't yet accessed any home learning or just want to send us a message please e mail warwick@burford-pri.oxon.sch.uk to get in contact. If you want us to look at some home learning or even remind your child to brush their teeth, we can do that! Just let us know how we can help!

Most importantly look after yourselves and your families and make sure you take time out to relax and have a brew! Remember any little bits of home learning you achieve are welcomed, but the most important thing is our health and happiness and this must always come first, so please don't be too hard on yourselves.

Stay safe and keep in touch
Love Mrs D, Mrs C & the EYFS Team

Windrush Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Jessica Beaney

I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for all of your support over the last few weeks. It has been a very strange and challenging time for all of us. I have missed seeing and being with the children, which makes your pictures of them and their work extra special. It's the highlight of my day.

This week English has seen the children practising and applying important skills such as letter formation, full stop, capital letters and how to make our writing interesting through description. Maths has seen the Year 2 children learning about fractions and the Year 1 children learning about capacity, making equal groups, arrays and counting in 10's! Our 'topic' work has been a revision unit, focusing on animals.

Tolsey Class

Class Teacher – Mrs Hilary Connor

In Tolsey, most of the children have been accessing the remote learning. It is lovely to see the photos and videos of the children completing their work. There has been a lot of very impressive learning going on. The children have really responded well to the daily chapters of our book Charlotte's Web. We have had songs written, announcements with sound effects. We started a new book this week which the English will be based around. In maths in particular, it is really good to see that some of the children are responding to marking, this is where lots of learning can occur. It is really difficult to choose just a couple of children from the class as so many of them have been doing such great learning.

Priory Class

Class Teacher - Mrs Stephanie Flower

This term, we commenced work on the human circulatory system. Alongside a number of scientific investigations and heart-related tasks (taking pulse-rate measurements while exercising and building a model pump), the children are accessing this term's class text, Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman, via audio links on Google Classroom. Each day, the children listen to a chapter and answer a series of quiz (comprehension) questions.

Last week, children were given the chance to draw the heart, using online guidance. In maths, we have worked on skill consolidation, but this week we have started 'BarAprilMay' – all work needs to be represented using bar models: an ideal way to show a learner's conceptual understanding of a problem. In addition to this, we've been competing against Tolsey Class on Times Tables Rockstars and started a few challenges of our own.

Gold Book - Workers of the Week

Jen Jen Jeffries for being an awesome home learner, you have really impressed us Jen Jen!

Freya Rees for your absolutely amazing home learning, I am so proud of everything you have been doing at home Freya, well done!

Isla Crofts for her totally awesome home learning. Well done Isla.

Sophie Crossman – for writing great examples of alliteration, with my favourite being ‘My colourful caterpillar rattled round her colossal cage.’ I was really impressed that you were then spotting them in your reading! Great job.

Harry Shepherd – For being an absolute super star. You have been working hard learning to tell the time, spelling common exception words and you have been enjoying your reading. I love seeing pictures of all your hard work – keep it up!

Téa Mackie - Téa is having a go at all the learning, she is sending in pictures and videos of her learning, she is way ahead in the scoring on EdShed for her spelling and in Maths, she is interacting and responding to any marking. Keep it up Téa! Here is a picture of Téa's boat that she made, she also created wind using a hand held fan! See attached document.

Finlay Willcox - Finlay is also accessing all the learning and is replying to any comments so there is good interaction going on. Keep up the great work Finlay! I have attached a screen shot of Finlay making his announcement about Wilbur's prize at the county fair.

Poppy and Isaac Harris – Both children have engaged so well with the online materials; their Science investigations have been fabulous. I know that, as brother and sister in the same class, they have the added advantage of being able to collaborate, but I've loved the amount of effort that's gone into their work. Well done!

Community news

