

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very, very busy, but very, very enjoyable week!

On Saturday our choir sang at Burford Village Hall's Christmas Market. Mr Bryant runs our choir and took the children along. This is from an email he received afterwards – *'The children sang so beautifully and they performed with such confidence and joy. It was lovely to watch and made the market feel very festive.'* Thank you, Mr Bryant for organising this for our choir.

On Monday we were very excited to see a crane arrive in our carpark and our new bike shelter being placed on our playground. This 'Green' Bike shelter has a living roof which mean plants will grow on the roof, it is made from recycled materials including wood and plastic. It has space to plant some plants at the sides too as well as being a safe and secure space for us to park our bicycles and scooters. This is all part of us taking part in the Severn Rivers Trust's projects this year.

On Tuesday year 5, Mr Martin, Mrs Nugent and myself travelled to Hereford Cathedral to the Diocese of Hereford Multi Academy Trust's (DHMAT) Advent Carol Service. We took part alongside almost 500 other children from all the 20 different schools within the DHMAT. This year for the first time, parents were able to come too. It was lovely hearing our children sing with others in such beautiful surroundings. It was quite magical.

On Wednesday Year 2 and Year 3 performed their production of 'Jesus' Christmas Party' twice to their parents, grandparents and families. In the morning the whole school had the premiere performance and what a performance it was! I do think we have some future actors amongst the children!

On Friday Years R and Year 1 performed their production of 'The Magic Christmas Tree' to the school in the morning and then all their parents, grandparents and families in the afternoon. For some of those children it was their first time in front of an audience, but you would not know it! They were fabulous!

Thank you to all the adults who, behind the scenes, have organised, practised, created and stressed about put on the Christmas productions – the children have been amazing! Thank you!

Have a good weekend

Emma Partridge.

Headteacher

Values

As a Church of England School we have a church value for each half term, as well as our own schools value. We also look at our flourishes. These are what our children, parents and staff decided our children needed to 'flourish'. They form the basis of our curriculum. All children are part of 11 different 'Flourishing Families'. As they go through the school they will eventually become the leaders of the family.

This week we look at Community. We thought about who and what is in our Community. We thought about community as our friendships, our Flourishing Family, our class, our family, our home, our street, our town and our clubs. We thought how do we show love?

In our Flourishing Families we then created a poem or a prayer to love to our community. We put these in a heart with our Flourishing Family name on to hang on Burford CofE Primary School's Christmas Tree that will be on display in the church as part of the Christmas Tree Festival at Burford Church.

At Burford, we are:

**Rooted in Love,
Becoming me and
Flourishing together**

ATTENDANCE AWARD

Class 1 94.83

Class 2 93.00

Class 3 91.94

Class 4 98.44

Class 5 91.67

Class 4 have won best attendance!

Whole school 94.31

Santa Fun Run!

Its our FOBSA Santa Fun Run on Monday 15th December. Children can come to school dressed up as Santa or any other festive outfit they can run in. There is a prize for the best dressed and most money collected for each class.

Christmas Church Service @ at Mary's Church, Tenbury.

We will hold our Christmas Church Service on Wednesday 17th December at 2.45pm.

Please do come and join us to celebrate at this special time of year!

All parents/carers to pick their children up from Tenbury Church at 3.30pm. No clubs will be running apart from Oaktree Club. We will bring Oaktree Club children back with us to school, after the service.

Remembrance Poppy Appeal

We have now been told the amount we raised with all the donations for Poppies this year. We have raised £173.58! Thank you so much to everyone who donated.

Dojo

Dojo is an amazing communication between school and home. We love how we are able to send messages to everyone on it and receive messages back.

During the day while staff are teaching, they are not always able to see the messages. For safeguarding reasons if you are changing who is collecting your child after school then please inform the office and not dojo, as the teacher as they may not have read the message.

Please can we remind everyone that quiet time when staff are not expected to reply to any messages is from 5pm-8am the following day. During weekends and holidays staff are not expected to look at Dojo or reply to messages from 5pm on Friday (or last day of term) until 8am on Monday (or first day of term). Thank you.

Uniform – jewellery

Please can we remind parents that children should not be wearing any form of jewellery to school other than small stud earrings. This includes necklaces and bracelets. Thank you.

Oak Tree Club

If you would like to book for either Breakfast Club or Oak Tree Club please use the online payment system. You can book daily or in blocks or as and when you need it. If you have any problems with it just contact the office. Tax-free Childcare vouchers are available if you are working and can be used to pay for our wraparound care as we are registered. If you are receipt of Universal Credit you can claim 85% of the costs back.

Every School Day Counts



Every Minute Counts

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING
(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 Minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 Minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 Minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 Minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 Minutes late each day	19 days lost!

Be at the classroom on time and ready to learn!

There are **190** days in a school year which leaves **175** days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things.



DID YOU KNOW?



10 minutes late every day

=

32 hours lost learning each year.



Attendance

Attendance is very important and this year the government are focussing on this in schools more. It is vital your children are at school. Learning in schools builds upon the previous day, so children who miss days are missing out on stages of their learning. Arriving late also affects children's learning. The school day starts at 9.00am. It really is important that children arrive by this time. We start lessons at 9.00am. Children who arrive late miss out on the beginning of their lessons and find it tricky. We open the gates at 8.50am and close them again at 9.00am.

Please make sure you send your child to school unless they are too unwell. If your child is unwell please phone the office each day they are not at school. Sometimes it can be hard to decide if your child is too ill for school. This is a useful link that may help you decide.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

We will not authorise any holiday take during term time unless it is **exceptional circumstances**. You could be fined. Please try to avoid term time for your holidays.

We work closely with Shropshire Education Welfare Officer (EWO) who monitor school attendance half termly in all schools in Shropshire. It is important that we all work together to support your children attending school. Any concerns you have please do contact the school.

There is a very helpful flyer we are sending out on dojo which explains what the % of absence equates to in days.

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium

Free school meals are available to pupils whose parents are in receipt of, **one or more** of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

This means your child will qualify for a Pupil Premium Grant (PPG). If your child is in receipt of FSM all your school lunches ordered through school are free and with the PPG the money is used to fund educational visits, including residentials, music lessons and much more.

This is different to the Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) all children in EYFS, Years 1 and 2 get. That will not qualify you for funding for educational visit, music lessons etc.

You have to apply online. We have put a link on our website. Here is a quick link to our website page with the information.

<https://www.burfordce.org.uk/Parents/Free-School-Meals-Application/?skipHAP=y>

DIARY DATES

please keep an eye on these, as we will add to them over the term

Monday 15th December – Y6 deliver Christmas Hampers

Monday 15th December – FOBSA Santa Fun Run – dress up and bring your forms back!

Tuesday 16th December - Christmas Dinner Day

Wednesday 17th December – FOBSA funded Suitcase Storyteller Production for the whole school

Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Church Service at Tenbury Church – 2.45pm – pick up children from church at 3.30pm

Thursday 18th December – Carols Around The Tree – Y4, 5 & 6 – pm – doors open at 2.30 for 2.45pm start.

Friday 19th December – Autumn Term ends

Monday 5th January 2026– PD Day – no children in school

Tuesday 6th January – Spring Term starts for all children

School Uniform

Just a reminder on school uniform.

Red polo shirt with or without the school logo
Grey or black school trousers, skirts or dresses.
Dark blue cardigan or jumper with or without school logo
Black, blue or brown shoes.

PE Uniform

T shirt in the plain white either with or without logo
Black or dark blue shorts
Dark(black, blue or grey) plain tracksuit bottoms
Dark plain (black, blue or grey) tracksuit top or hoody.
Trainers
Long hair should be tied back
Small stud earrings will need to be covered up for PE.

We do know it is colder in school than normal with windows open for ventilation so children may wear layers underneath their t shirts and tops.

Information to support our Parents, Children and Community.

Safeguarding

Keeping children safe from harm and abuse.

The Government has released guidance for parents on keeping children safe from harm and abuse. There are links and telephone numbers to help get support or seek reassurance for a range of topics to support you, your children and other families.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-from-abuse-and-harm/advice-to-parents-and-carers-on-keeping-children-safe-from-abuse-and-harm>

Davis Bequest

This is a fund that has been set up to support people in the Burford Community. It was set up a number of years ago. This means it is available to families of children from our school whom circumstances have changed for short term support. This is something that may be needed during these times. To apply for the Davis Bequest please contact myself at school on head@burford.shropshire.sch.uk.

Safeguarding - Talking to your children about Sexual Harassment

This is something that has been in the news a lot recently but can be something that is tricky to talk to your children about. The Children's Commissioner has written and suggested ways to help discuss this appropriately with your children. This is the link to the website <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/talking-to-your-child-about-online-sexual-harassment-a-guide-for-parents/>

Barnado's support for parents

Barnardo's have developed a support hub for parents where they will be able to find a range of resources, tools and videos to help support their child's journey back to school. Schools may wish to send this link out in their communication with their parents and carers - <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/support-hub/back-to-school>

Keeping children safe online.

The Government has issued guidance with links to help parents keep children safe online. This is the link to the guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

LINKS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Covid Symptoms in Children : For more information, please click on the link below:-

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>

Scarlet Fever/Streptococcus A : For more information, please click on the link below:-

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/strep-a/>

Autism West Midlands : For more information, please click on the link below:-

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/>

To Access our Parent information Sheet, please click the link below:-

[Burford Parent Information Sheet](#)

ASD Virtual Support Group for Parents

Wednesday Mornings 10am-11am and Wednesday Evenings 8pm-9pm – 1st and 3rd Weds of each month (term time)

Our online support groups meet twice a month via Zoom. This is an opportunity to talk with other parents, share ideas, and offer support. We recommend that you have attended an online advice appointment with a member of the team before joining group sessions (link above).

If you would like to join either of the support groups, please email the team here shropshire@autismwestmidlands.org.uk

Dad's Group

Monthly on a Thursday 7pm-8pm

This is an opportunity for dads to meet online, share ideas, celebrate their children's achievements and offer support to each other with a member of Autism West Midlands present. For more information and booking details please right click on the link below and scroll down to the bottom of the page to see the section 'Dad's Group'.

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/>

Advice and support

We also offer advice and support over the phone and via email. Parents/carers and professionals can contact our small team directly to arrange an appointment please call:

Shropshire office - 01952 454156

Mon, Wed, Fri - Wendy Cowton 07900784186

Weds, Thu, Fri - Emma Hegenbarth 07881109480

Tue, Wed, Thu - Dawn Lewis 07706309382

Email shropshire@autismwestmidlands.org.uk
Helpline 0121 450 7575