

The Burford Bulletin

18 SEPTEMBER 2026



A letter from Mrs Partridge

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we had our Reception Church Service where we welcomed our new children and parents to our school, church, and community. It was lovely to meet and see all the new parents. The children explored the church, found conkers, and we all sang together. All the children received a gift of a label with a blessing on it and a Bible with beautiful illustrations and stories. Each Bible has the child's name as a permanent reminder of when they joined our school. The service was conducted by Reverend Lawrence and the organ was played by his wife, Ruth.

This week most of our children had their annual Flu virus vaccine. This is a quick squirt up their nose. It was organised a bit different this year and was all done online with forms being sent from the NHS and returned to them. If for whatever reason your child did not have the vaccine and you would like them to, please follow this link for more information www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk

On Friday 25th September we are holding a Macmillian Coffee Afternoon. Please see below for more information.

We now have a FLM- 'Family Learning Mentor' who will work with us, Tenbury Primary, and Bitterley Primary School. Her new role will be supporting families with many different aspects of family life including attendance and wellbeing. Her name is Karen Palmer and over the next few weeks she will be around school and chatting with families. If you would like to meet with her, please let me know and we can arrange a time.

Have a great weekend

Emma Partridge



Rooted in love, becoming me and flourishing together

Values

As a Church of England School, we have church values as well as our own school values. 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.

How we care for others

In Worship this week, we considered how we can care for others. We talked about how when we help others, we are also showing love to God. This then encourages us to notice when someone is struggling and to be kind, caring, and compassionate.



'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in.'

Matthew 25:35-40



Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

On Friday 25th September, we are holding our first Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. As you know, we lost a very special member of our team last term. MacMillan Nurses supported Mrs Flynn and her family hugely. This is our way of giving back and supporting others.



We invite you to come to school at 2.45pm on the Friday when we will open the classes up for you to come and have some refreshments with your children.

We will ask for a donation for the drinks and cakes on offer. There will be a donation box for cash donations and a QR code for online donations as well as a Gift Aid form. All donations will go to MacMillan Cancer Support.

We plan to have tea, coffee, and squash available as well as a delicious range of cakes and biscuits. In order for us to have a wide choice for everyone to enjoy, we ask if the children could please bring in some cakes or biscuits. If anything is made at home, please provide a label listing any possible allergens within the ingredients.

Please do come and join us and help us support a wonderful charity that does so much for others.

Reminders

Mobile Phones

A reminder about mobile phones and smart watches.

Please can we remind all parents that children are not allowed to bring a mobile phone to school unless they are Y5 or Y6 **and** walk home.

A child's mobile phone should be turned off before they enter the school grounds and not turned on again until they have left.

If we find a child with a mobile phone that is turned on or they should not have one in school, we will take the phone off them and will expect their parent to pick the phone up from the office at the end of the day.

If any child has a smart watch, it must be on aeroplane mode at all times once they enter school grounds. Again, if we find a watch has been taken off aeroplane mode, we will keep the watch in the office and expect a parent to collect it at the end of the day. The child will not be allowed to wear the watch again in school.

Thank you for your understanding.

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. Earrings should be taped up for PE. Thank you.

Parking

Please can we remind everyone to be mindful of where they are parking and to be polite and courteous towards our local residents. Please do not park across local residents' driveways even if it is only for a minute or two. We are very lucky to be able to use the Village Hall Car Park so please use this if you can.

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 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.



Reminders continued

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 the payment system, 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 a registered provider. If you are receipt of Universal Credit you can claim 85% of the costs back.



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

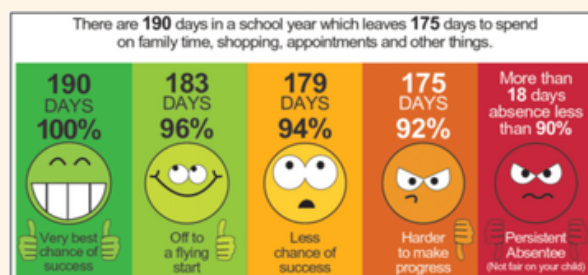
This means your child will qualify for a Pupil Premium Grant (PPG). If your child is in receipt of FSM all your school lunches ordered through school are free and with the PPG the money is used to fund educational visits, including residentials, music lessons and much more.

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 visits, 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. If you would like help to fill this in, please pop into the office and we can help you with it.

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

Attendance



Attendance is very important and this year the government are focusing on this in schools more. It is vital your children are at school. Each day's 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 in all schools in Shropshire. It is important that we all work together to support your children attending school. If you have any concerns, please do contact the school.

Attendance this week	
Whole School	94.97%
Class 1	91.25%
Class 2	92.39%
Class 3	96.00%
Class 4	95.96%
Class 5	97.22%
Class 6	97.78%



Merits

Amelie for a beautiful self-portrait

Zack for a beautiful self-portrait

Gianni for a beautiful Picasso style portrait

Joey-Lee for a beautiful Picasso style portrait

Aidan for being a really helpful big brother

Isabela for being a good teacher

Arthur for always being ready to help

Raife for an excellent attitude towards learning, always being ready and actively participating in all lessons.

Eric for showing kindness to all children and staff. Eric is always going above and beyond to help around the classroom and making sure everyone is included both in and out of the classroom.

Ashanti for trying her absolute best in maths lessons when writing 6 digit numbers

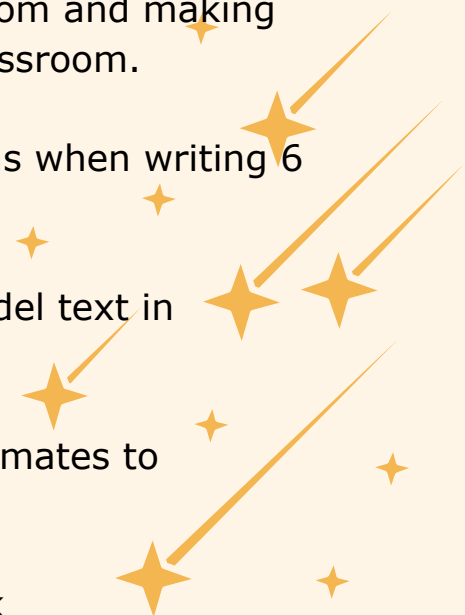
Nathan for doing brilliantly when acting out the model text in English.

Tommy for being very kind and supporting his classmates to complete the Bikeability course.

William for helping Mrs Lambert out twice this week

Year 6 for being safe, ready, respectful and 'one of the best classes' the Bikeability team had ever worked with!

Billy for completing the puzzles all by himself



Dates for the Diary

Please keep an eye on the dates in the bulletin each week as we may add to them.

WED SEP 23 **Y5/6 Football**
Church Stretton

FRI SEP 25 **Macmillan Coffee Afternoon**
2.45pm. All parents/carers welcome.

TUE SEP 29 **Y4 Cross Country**
Carding Mill Valley

WED SEP 30 **Parenting Drop In**
with Tracey Jarrett, 2.30-3.30pm in the Hall

THU OCT 22 **Harvest Festival**
Tenbury Church. 2.45pm.
Parents Invited. Pick up from Church

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October HALF TERM

Tuesday 6th January – Spring Term 1 starts- all children in school.

MON NOV 02 **Autum Term Part 2 Starts**
All pupils in school.

WED NOV 11 **Remembrance Service**
Burford Church. School only.
Please pick up from Church.

FRI DEC 18 **Christmas Church Service**
Tenbury Church.
Please pick up from Church.

FRI DEC 18 **End of Term**

TUE JAN 05 **PD Day - Staff in school**
No pupils in school.

WED JAN 06 **Spring Term Starts**
All pupils in school.

More Information and Links for Our Community

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.

Please can we also remind you that nail varnish and jewellery should not be worn at school.

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>

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.

<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.

<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>

Davis Bequest

This fund was set up to support people in the Burford Community. 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 Mrs Partridge at school on head@burford.shropshire.sch.uk.

More Information and Links for Our Community continued

Covid Symptoms in Children

For more information, please click the link:

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

Scarlet Fever/Streptococcus A

For more information, please click the link:

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

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

<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

Dad's Group

Monthly on a Thursday 7pm-8pm

This is an opportunity for dads to meet online, share ideas, celebrate their children's achievement's 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'.