The Burford Bulletin

16 OCTOBER 2026



A letter from Mrs Partridge

Dear Parents and Carers

We had a fire alarm practice this week. The children were really sensible and we got everyone, including Pre-school staff and children, out quickly and safely. We practise these once a term. We explained to the children what was happening and how to vacate the building safely. It is so important the children know what to do.

Today the children have come to school in their own clothes with a donation for the Autumn Bingo prizes and hampers. Thank you to everyone who donated a prize.

Tonight we have the first of our FOBSA fund-raising events - The Autumn Bingo! Doors open at 5.30pm with Eyes Down at 6.00pm! Do come along tonight to join in the fun and raise valuable funds for our school!

Next week is Parents Evening – don't forget to book a time if you have not done so already. Please use the link from the letter that was sent out on Dojo.

Have a great weekend

Emma Partridge

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 need in order 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.

Exploring Wisdom

In Worship this week we looked at AI and asked, 'Do we need AI wherever we go?' We thought about what we use AI for and how.

We discussed 'Wisdom'. We thought about what wisdom is – the Bible teaches us that wisdom is about making choices and being responsible.

We looked at the story about Solomon who chose wisdom rather than riches and gold. The story reminds Christians that knowledge and power is not enough; people also need wisdom to use them responsibly.

'So give me the wisdom I need to rule your people with justice and to know the difference between good and evil.

Otherwise, how would I ever be able to rule this great people of yours?'

KINGS 3:9





Harvest Festival

We will be holding our annual Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church, Tenbury on Thursday 22nd October at 2.45pm.

We are inviting all parents and carers to come and celebrate Harvest with us. Each class will be performing, and the choir will also be singing.

We ask that the children bring an item for our Harvest Display which will be donated to Tenbury's Food Bank to support families within our community.

If you are unable to join us for the Harvest Festival, please collect your children at 3.30pm from the Tenbury church. There will be **no clubs** after school that day. Any child booked into Oak Tree Club will be taken back to school.



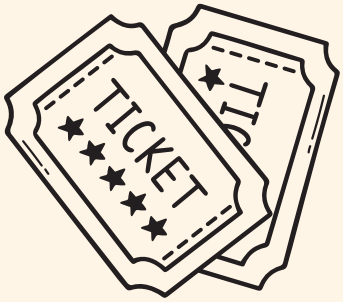
Rock Steady Concert

The children who have been learning a band instrument on Tuesdays with Rock Steady will be performing an end of term concert for their parents and the school.

Tickets will be limited to 2 per child. This will be held in the school hall on Tuesday 1st December at 9.30am.

More details will follow.

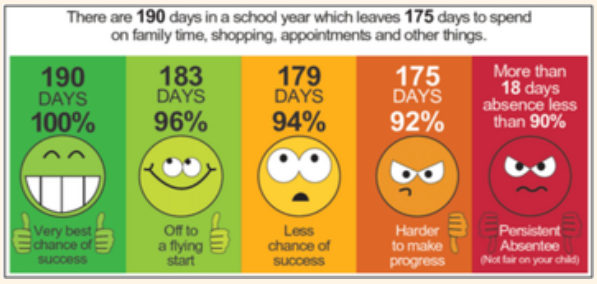
ROCK STEADY



Attendance









Attendance is very important and this year the government are focusing on this in schools even 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 the Shropshire Education Welfare Officer (EWO) who monitors 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	95.27%
Class 1	98%
Class 2	91.74%
Class 3	92%
Class 4	96.99%
Class 5	96.90%
Class 6	100%

Merits

Violet for being our Queen of Jigsaw Puzzles and working so hard at home too!

Aria for fantastic phonics all week!

Isla for your beautiful handwriting.

Louie for working so hard on your home learning. Keep it up!

Bonnie for always being ready to help others.

Aidan for working hard in Maths this week.

Kylun for asking thoughtful questions about our learning.

Maisie for having a super attitude to learning and showing she is ready and respectful.

Eva for being a Maths superstar and showing great persistence.

Emily for putting her hand up to answer lots of questions in Maths.

Octavia for her fantastic column subtraction on the board.

Louie for reading his warning tale to the whole class, with stage presence and expression.

Charlie for producing a wonderful explanation text. Well done!

Georgia for demonstrating a wonderful attitude to learning and trying her hardest. Well done!

William for super cutting to make a fruit salad.

Adela for super cutting to make a fruit salad.

Dates for the Diary

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

TUE OCT 20 — **Parents Evening 2.30-4.30pm**
Letters have been sent home.

WED OCT 21 — **Parents Evening 4-7pm**
Letters have been sent home.

WED OCT 21 — **Inclusion Basketball**
Details have been sent home.

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

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October HALF TERM

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.

THU NOV 12 — **Diwali Dance Workshop**
More details to follow.

TUE DEC 01 — **Rock Steady Concert**
9.30am. 2 tickets per Rock Steady performer. More details to follow.

TUE DEC 08 — **DHMAT Christmas Church Service**
Hereford Cathedral. More details to follow.

WED DEC 09 — **Classes 1 & 6 - Christmas Performance**
Afternoon. More details to follow.

THU DEC 10 — **Christmas Jumper Day**
More details to follow.

TUE DEC 15 — **Classes 2 & 3 - Christmas Performance**
Afternoon and Evening. More details to follow.

WED DEC 16 — **Classes 4 & 5 - Carols Around the Christmas Tree**
Afternoon. More details to follow.

FRI DEC 18 — **Christmas Church Service**
Tenbury Church. 2.30pm Please pick up from Church.

Monday 21st Dec - Monday 30th January WINTER BREAK

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

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

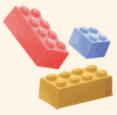
Clubs



MONDAY	Chill Out Club	3.30 - 4.15pm
TUESDAY	Art Club	3.30 - 4.15pm
WEDNESDAY	Lego Club	3.30 - 4.15pm
THURSDAY	Sign Language Club	3.30 - 4.15pm
THURSDAY	Choir Club	3.30 - 4.30pm
FRIDAY	Football Club	3.30 - 4.30pm











Reminders

Parking

We are very lucky to be able to use the Burford Village Hall Car Park as we do. Please can we remind parents, carers, and children that the area outside the village hall is a shared space. Please could waiting families keep the hall main entrance clear and be considerate of hall users who need to access the building, particularly in the morning when hirers may need to bring in equipment.

Please could we also remind everyone that the village hall toilet facilities are to be used only by hall hirers and their visitors. They are not open to the public or to those waiting for the school to open. Thank you for your support with this.

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.

Reminders

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.

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.

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

Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

A reminder that the Government are introducing substantial changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility. Under the new national criteria, all families in receipt of Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals, meaning that more students will become eligible.

Therefore, from September 2026, there will be two categories of benefit-related FSM.

1. Targeted Free School Meals:
This category continues to be based on the existing income threshold. Students will be eligible if their household.

Is in receipt of Universal Credit, and
Has an annual household income of £7,400 or less.

Only students eligible for Targeted FSM will qualify for Pupil Premium funding. This means you child will qualify for a Pupil Premium Grant (PPG). If your child is in receipt of Targeted 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.

2. New, Expanded Free School Meals:
This category applies to school meals only and covers pupils who:



Live in households receiving Universal Credit, and
Do not meet the income threshold for Targeted FSM (i.e. the annual household income is above £7,400).

Pupils eligible for Expanded FSM will be eligible to free school meals only.
The deadline for local authorities to complete eligibility checks is fast approaching.

If you have previously thought you were not eligible, please check by following instructions in the link below.



Please do not miss out on support that you may be entitled to for your child.

Please seek further guidance at https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals.

This is all 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.

More Information and Links for Our Community

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 plain white 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 with 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'.