

BURTON BRADSTOCK CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: **Mrs. Claire Staple**

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Spring Term - Newsletter 1

Friday 6th January 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back! - A Happy New Year to you! We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas break with your children. The children have come back refreshed and eager to learn. We are all looking forward to a successful 2017, which is already turning into a very busy one!

Curriculum Information - Please find attached a copy of the Learning Quest 'How It Works!' which we will be covering this term. The information is to inform you of the topics your child will be covering and is a short summary of their learning and is by no means an exhaustive list! Burton Bradstock Village Library has a display of information books so please pop in and borrow a book to support your child at home.

My Maths - The school has purchased a new online Maths Homework resource. The children in Classes 3 and 4 were introduced to it at the end of last term and it is now being implemented fully across the school from Year 1 to Year 6. This means that when your child is set Maths homework (once a fortnight in Boats and Class 3 and once a week in Class 4) it may be in the form of a worksheet or game/activity as previously used but could now be the 'My Maths' instead. It is still important that the 'My Maths' homework is completed when it is set and the class teachers will be reviewing the work completed online, just as they do with the paper based homework. The 'My Maths' homework also has tutorials within the program, so if your child needs reminding of the operation/procedure they can do this first before tackling the homework. Children can also complete the homework task more than once to gain more practice or to increase their score. We hope that you will find the resource useful, but if you have any queries please speak to your child's classteacher.

Burton Bradstock has 'The Edge' - We welcomed some past pupils and Mr David from Colfox Academy into our assembly yesterday when they presented a new scheme called 'The Edge'. The students at Colfox have been using 'The Edge' programme for a number of years and we are about to introduce the 'Primary Edge' into our school. It was fantastic to hear from the four past pupils as they described how they have achieved their Edge certificates at Colfox, and the suggestions that they gave our pupils on ways they could achieve the awards at Primary level. This term the attribute we are focusing on is 'Charlie Communication'. Look out for further information shortly!



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Attendance - It was lovely to be able to give out so many attendance certificates this week with 33 children receiving certificates for 100% attendance and 18 children who had nearly perfect attendance. We also congratulated Class 3 who had the highest attendance across the school and were awarded 'Present' the attendance dog and Sails Class had the least number of lates so were awarded the punctuality trophy. Well done!

Unfortunately the school's attendance figure for the Autumn term was down to 94.34% which is below the National figure of 96% and well below the schools figure for the Autumn term the previous year (96.86%). Schools' attendance levels are monitored very closely by the Department for Education as extensive research has shown that pupils with good attendance generally achieve better grades at school. We will continue to work with families where attendance falls below 85% and will monitor attendance below 90%. It is also very important that pupils arrive at school on time in the mornings as late arrival is disruptive not only to the child but to the rest of the class. Therefore we will also be monitoring persistent lateness.

Beach Team Awards - Congratulations to Hive beach team as they retained the 'Good Learner' trophy for collecting the most beach points last half term. A special mention goes to the children for achieving the most beach team points in their classes:

Sails Class: Alfie M, Ayla, Richard, Toby and Daisy **Boats Class:** Billy, Shai and Yasmin
Class 3: Aurelia, Ayla, Delphi and Jaydon **Class 4:** Amy, Jack and William C

Handwriting Awards - Lots of children were congratulated for their effort and progress in handwriting and presentation last term and were awarded their certificates. These were:

Sails Class - Anna-Lise and Ewan **Boats Class** - Imogen, William P, George, Lily and Yasmin
Class 3 - Zoe, Taylor, Theo and Scott **Class 4** - Edward, Rio, Frankie and Fenton

After School Clubs - Information about after school clubs was sent out yesterday via the children. All replies need to be returned to the office by next Monday. If you are able to run an after school club, or know of an organisation that does, please let the school know as we are always looking for new opportunities for the children.

Tots and Prams Service - There will be a service at St Mary's Church on Friday 13th January at 2.15pm. All pre-school children, babies and bumps welcome with parents/carers.
Yours sincerely,

Mrs Claire Staple, Headteacher

