



Burton Bradstock CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Adam Gough

Dear Families,

I cannot believe that we have reached the end of another academic year at Burton. The summer term has been a busy one – the number of pictures on our social media and in the Burton Bulletin are testament to this. Recently, we have had a change around in school with Robins and Wagtails swapping rooms. This gives our EYFS class extra space and enables them to make the most of the back playground and trim trail more frequently. Robins are making the most of their new classroom and we are looking forward to having the internal doors open between the rooms to enable an easier transition from EYFS to KS1. We have also invested in some new furniture for our library which means that we can now seat a year group in there comfortably. Over the summer, we are having some work done to improve the IT provision at school and our new mosaic, which all the children had a hand in making, should be up before we return.

This letter includes some important information about next year, a summary of our school improvement plan, a celebration of school attendance at Burton and some highlights from the survey that was sent out to families recently. Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

School day

From September, we will be closing our gates 5 minutes earlier at the beginning of the day. This means that our registers will open at 8:50 rather than 8:55 to ensure that we are offering the recommended school week of 32.5 hours. Thank you in advance for ensuring that your child/ren are in school on time each morning.

If you arrive once the gates are closed, please ring the buzzer and walk your child into school through the main entrance as you may need to sign them in on the iPad.

Uniform

Thank you for your support in ensuring that children are wearing the correct uniform to school. There are no changes to uniform for next year but please do make sure you are familiar with the rules around jewellery including earrings and make-up as we have noticed a number of children wearing both this term. For safety reasons, only stud earrings are allowed and they should be removed for PE if possible or taped up. If your child's earrings need to be taped, please provide suitable tape in their school bag for them to apply themselves. If you have any queries, please see our school website:

www.burtonbradstock.dorset.sch.uk/uniform

Dates for 2024/25

Please keep an eye on the bulletin for dates in the autumn term and make a note of our term dates and INSET days for next year which can be found [HERE](#).

Some key dates for early September:

- Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th September – INSET days – school closed to pupils
- Thursday 5th September – School starts for all pupils
- Tuesday 10th September – opportunity to visit your child's new classroom after school





School Improvement Plan (SIP)

1. Our focus on reading has continued this term with our 'Reading Challenge' - thank you to Mr Proudfoot for organising it – it has been a great success! Children in Y1 sat their phonics screening in June and we were all really pleased with how well they performed. Our Y6 children took their SATs and also did extremely well – a huge well done to them!
2. In our INSET day in July, both Mrs Geraghty and Mrs Rorstad presented items linked to their areas of expertise. Mrs Geraghty, who is currently completing a National Professional Qualification in Leading Behaviour and Culture, discussed the Relational Practice approach which we follow at school and as a staff we looked at how we can improve what we already do. Mrs Rorstad talked us through a new programme for writing Provision Maps for children on the SEN register which we will start to roll out in the new academic year.
3. The importance of Cultural Capital has been highlighted on our SIP this year and it has been great to see not only children getting out and about in our local area but also other activities happening such as our careers events, visiting historians and artists and many other things besides. Thank you as always for your support in this.
4. Our governors have continued to visit classes and collective worships this term. As Headteacher, I am extremely grateful for their support and challenge as this ensures the best for the children in our school.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a focus for schools across the country with national attendance rates still not recovering to pre-pandemic levels. Attendance at Burton this term is currently **96%** which is above the national average. Thanks to your ongoing support, we received an attendance award for the Spring term which puts us in the top 10% of primary schools in the country!



You can find out more about attendance on the trust's website: <https://attendance.initiolearning.org/>



Initio Parent Survey

Thank you to all the families who responded to the parent survey earlier this month. We had 49 responses which is a great cross section of our school community. The survey highlighted lots of positives but there were also some areas that we can work on. Some of the key points are outlined below:

- Parents/carers feel that we make them aware of their child's attendance
- Parents/carers are satisfied with our efforts to engage them
- Parents/carers feel that there is mutual respect and trust between them and staff
- Parents/carers would like to be better informed about how their child is doing socially
- Parents/carers are not always aware of the role of the trust within the school
- Some parents made comments about receiving more information on their child's progress throughout the year

Thank you for taking time to write comments for some of the questions. There were many positive things as well as some suggestions on how we can make things better:

What do you value most in the way your child's school currently works with you?

- *Very clear communication e.g. weekly bulletins. I feel comfortable asking the office and staff question/queries. Very welcoming staff - I feel that having someone greeting the children in the morning is a great way for the children to start the day and allows parents to feel the presence of staff at the school.*
- *Welcoming & friendly - have made my daughter feel very settled at the school*
- *Communication is excellent and this makes a big difference. Sometimes notice periods are not long enough for working parents.*
- *I really like how Mr Gough is at the school gates every morning so it is really easy to chat informally about any issues. The reception stay and play is also excellent for this.*

In which areas would school support and advice be most valuable to you?

- *[I would like] support with how to support RWI and Maths at home*
- *[I would like to] have an understanding of what is expected over the course of a half term for all areas, with updates on progress ongoing via an app or similar.*
- *[I would like support in] Managing emotions and relationships*

Messages for the school staff:

- *The staff are all great and you can tell they really do care for the pupils*
- *I know how hard you all work, and it is recognised - thank you so much!*
- *Thank you for making my boy happy and safe.*
- *It can't be easy everyday, but somehow you all manage such warm smiles and greetings, and I really appreciate that lovely sense of community. I think you are all amazing! Thank you*
- *Thank you for all your efforts and hard work, Burton is a lovely school and we are very grateful*

These are just a selection of the comments we received. The results of the survey are anonymous so if you wrote something specific that you would like to discuss further, please make an appointment to see me in the new school year.



Goodbye and good luck!

Tomorrow, we say a sad goodbye to our Year 6 pupils who are moving on to the next stage in their education. I know you will join me in wishing them well and I am sure that we will, as we do with many previous pupils, see them back at Burton to let us know how they're getting on. Goodbye and good luck to them and their families.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you on Thursday 5th September.

Best wishes,

Adam Gough

Headteacher