



## Burton Bradstock CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Adam Gough

14<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Families,

As the Christmas holidays are almost upon us, I thought I would write to update you on what has been happening at school this term. Alongside all the exciting Christmas activities, we have also been working hard on our School Improvement Plan, held open mornings and taken part in Trust-wide activities and training. Please see this week's Burton Bulletin for pictures of Christmas at Burton!

### **School Improvement Plan (SIP)**

1. This half term, all children in school have been assessed on their reading. These assessments have helped teaching staff to tailor their teaching and ensure that the children are receiving the right level of challenge. Mr Proudfoot has attended Trust level meetings on the Initio reading strategy which is being implemented in all schools.
2. We are continuing to work on Walkthrus and have attended training as a whole staff. This is to be continued in the INSET day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January. On this INSET we will also be looking at behaviour principles across the trust.
3. Mr Rorstad has met with all teachers this half term to discuss children who are on the SEN register. Staff have written and updated support plans as appropriate and are always striving to support and meet the needs of all children.
4. As always, we are aiming to get the children out and about as much as possible. We are really lucky that the Friends of School are supporting with the funding of many of our trips this year. Look out for more details after the Christmas break.

### **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 **95.6%** which is above the national average but slightly below the expectation of 96%. Thank you for your ongoing support regarding this matter. You can find out more about attendance on our website: <https://attendance.initiolearning.org/>

### **Governors and Friends of Burton School**

There have been changes to the governing body since the school became part of the Initio Learning Trust. The group is now known as Burton Bradstock School Local Committee and its composition has changed to eight members: three parent members, two co-opted, one staff and two foundation members with the Headteacher in an ex-officio position. We were very sorry to lose two long standing governors in October, Vicky Thomas (foundation) and Sian German (co-opted) but are delighted in welcoming Bob Ponchaud as a replacement co-opted member. Vicky and Sian served as governors for many years and were committed to providing the children with the best educational experiences possible. As well as governance they both volunteered in reading support, Friends' activities and additional support when transporting pupils to the Leisure Centre and extra-curricular activities. Vicky also leads Open the Book worship and is Chair of the Chaplaincy Group which she will continue.





The role of the Local School Committee has changed slightly, but I doubt whether you will notice any change as it still includes:

- Ethos and distinctiveness of the school
- Monitoring Safeguarding
- SEND, Inclusion and Equality
- Educational Standards and Performance
- Stakeholder Communication
- *Pat Lewis Budget – Chair of the LSC*

### **Safeguarding**

If you have any concerns about a child, please speak with me or Mrs Varndell-Paulley as the Designated Safeguarding Leads at school.

### **Staffing**

We sadly say goodbye to Mrs Sage at the end of this term. As you will have seen in my previous letter, she is moving back into teaching and we wish her the very best in her new role. We have interviewed for the new TA in Owl class and I look forward to sharing the outcome in the new year.

From all at Burton Bradstock School, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all **back in school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.**

Best wishes,

Adam Gough  
Headteacher