



BURSCOUGH PRIORY ACADEMY

Burscough Priory Academy,
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Executive Headteacher: Mrs L. A. Gwinnett

Ref: 3216 LMA

16 December 2022

Dear Parent,

As we approach the end of the Autumn Term, we would like to give you an update on school life, information about the end of this term and in preparation for the new term.

Reflecting on the Term

For a student with 100% attendance, they will have taken part in just over 400 lessons in their subjects or tutor periods – this is our core business and we take great pride in what we do. In addition, we have had:

- Several visits to primary schools with the Year 7 ambassadors
- A fantastic Open Evening supported by 121 student ambassadors
- The restart of the full extra-curricular activities programme: Eco Committee, Debate Club, LGBTQ+ group, Games Club, Music activities and Chess Club amongst others
- Successful participation in a range of sport and physical activities across the West Lancashire District; including winning the Year 7 boys and girls World Cup
- Hosting (with our student leaders), the West Lancashire School Sports Partnership primary football and netball festivals
- A first class PSHE day including information on staying safe online, acceptable language versus discriminatory language and a brilliant Careers Fayre
- The Student Leadership Team led successful Macmillan, Cancer Research, Children in Need, Odd Socks Day and Save the Children events in school, raising hundreds of pounds
- Our first performance for the whole community in three years – Aladdin
- Participation in the community commemorations for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Remembrance and Armistice
- Parents' Evenings for Year 7, 8 and 11 and GCSE Presentation Evening for Year 12
- Christmas dinner for 350 people kindly prepared by the Catering Team
- Christmas Accessories and Jumper Day with donations to Save the Children
- Secured the Rainbow Flag Skilled Teacher and Student Voice Awards
- Rewards for the term to be shared with our students, recognising their engagement, achievement points and subject contributions – over 70,000 points have been awarded this term. Wow!



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Year 11

We have reached the end of the Practice Examination series for this year group. As a school we would like to recognise their excellent conduct, coupled with their resilience and preparation for the exams. In the new year, we will communicate these results with students and families through the 'Brown Envelope' process, which rehearses the exams results session in the summer. This is in late January.

In addition, the Student Leadership Team have driven the collection and preparation of food for the Food Bank at Burscough Methodist Church. A newly formed food bank, this is for the benefit of the people in our (wider) community who may need this support. We are delighted with the response of the whole school community and how the Year 11 team have galvanised the school. Thank you for your contributions - this was a true community effort. These will be collected today and we will publish some photographs online.

Edenred Vouchers & Wider Support

For those students who are eligible for free school meals, parents should have received their voucher to cover the Christmas period.

We are very aware that for many families this is a very difficult time, with rising costs of living, heating and food bills and the pressure of Christmas. If you are worrying about this, please let us know so that we can consider any support we can give to you. Your call or email will be treated sensitively and in confidence.

Uniform and Appearance

As we return after the Christmas break, we would like to remind everyone of our expectations related to uniform, the policy link can be found on [this page](#). A key feature of our policy is what we wear (uniform) and how we wear it (appearance) and in the new year we will have a stringent focus on some aspects of the policy. In summary, some key points of note are:

- **Knee length skirts**
- **Knee length socks** (charcoal grey) or black tights (no bows or patterns). Short socks are not permitted
- **One stud earring in the lobe of the ear** (no other jewellery)
- **Dark coloured school coats**



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On Wednesday 4 January between 2.00 and 4.00pm, we will open our 'Uniform Swop Shop.' We have a range of clean, preloved uniform which we will be happy to give to parents if their child has grown out of their own. We have a range of items, uniform and PE kit in a several sizes but we cannot guarantee we will have everything a family may need. You are most welcome to come to or contact school if you need some uniform. Equally, if you do have any donations, these will be gratefully accepted.

Finally ...

School is closed over the Christmas break and this extends to all of our colleagues who work for the Endeavour Learning Trust in the Central Team. If you do contact school over the break, you will receive an automated response and these messages will be reviewed on Tuesday 3 January and directed for Wednesday 5 January.

The Spring Term starts with calendared INSET days on Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 January for staff, students are not expected in school. **School reopens for students on Thursday 5 January at 8.45am.** In line with the message from the Department for Education, attendance is compulsory for all students and will be a big focus again in the new year.

We would like to thank you once again for your support and kindness; stronger together, our partnership is pivotal to make sure that the students thrive. Our students are first class and we are privileged to work in and serve this proud community.

On behalf of all of the staff here at Burscough Priory Academy and right across our Trust, we would like to wish you a safe and well rested break. Happy Christmas and best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2023.

E Pluribus Unum.

Yours faithfully,

L MacLaren

Mrs MacLaren
Headteacher