



Burscough Priory Academy  
www.burscoughprioryacademy.org  
Headteacher Mrs L MacLaren

Ref: 3488 LMA

28 March 2024

Dear Parent,

### End of Spring Term Letter

As we come to the end of this term, we would like to give you an update about the end of term arrangements, our achievements and consider the start of the summer term.

#### **Reflecting on the Spring Term**

Over and above the hundreds of hours of learning, school continues to be a hub of activity: STEM, sport, music, chess, peer reading and countless other enrichment opportunities. Our students have participated in the full range of activities and been acknowledged on ClassCharts and with the award of their badges. We are really proud of our students (and staff) in the way they nurture our students, fostering and galvanising their talents and love for a subject or wider interest.

In preparation for autumn, we will be working hard in school and with our partners across the Trust on our Personal Development and enrichment offer, with a sensible and well considered plan for increasing the number of trips and visits. We know that this is something that has been missed since the pandemic and we are keen to increase the enrichment opportunities our students have both inside and outside of the classroom and school. We will let you know about this at the start of the 2024-2025 academic year.

Over the course of this term there have been 39 students nominated and presented with the E Pluribus Unum Award for living the school's values. They have demonstrated Kindness, Respect or Ambition in many different ways and nothing makes us prouder than hearing the stories that accompany the nominations. Well done!

Year 11 have nearly completed their coursework in school. As we leave this term, their final full one in school, we would like to wish them all the very best of luck as they move towards the GCSE examinations starting in early May, with the speaking exams in Spanish and Art exams in the weeks leading up to May. Year 10 begin their Practice Examinations as we return after Easter, followed not long after by Work Experience. Of course, we urge all of them to work hard and revise in preparation for the exams, but we also look forward, with Year 11 to a range of traditional valedictory activities at the end of the examination series.

We were delighted to receive the names of the Year 6 students who selected BPA for their high school for September 2024 – the Class of 2029. For the third year in a row, we have hit our admission number of 154 and have a wait and appeals list. Testament to the school's improvement, we are both humbled and proud by the choices made by families in our community. The transition of information between primary and secondary school is well underway and genuinely, we cannot wait to meet the newest members of the school.



An Endeavour Learning Trust School  
Registered in England  
Company Registration Number 7848372  
VAT Registration Number 125718416

01704 893 259

enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org  
Trevor Road, Burscough, Lancashire, L40 7RZ



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### **Celebration & Awards**

Since Christmas, 82,484 ClassCharts points have been awarded – congratulations everyone! This week, the end of term nominations have been completed by staff to recognise the engagement and learning of students across the year groups and range of subjects. This morning, the prize nominees (of which there are an unbelievable 330), received their certificates in House assemblies and the parents of our award winners were notified on ClassCharts. We are very proud of the first-class levels of engagement and the excellence that is consistently on display in school that will be recognised.

### **Staff Update**

In the last two weeks Mr Hurst, our Site Supervisor of 15 years and Mrs Cliffe, Lunchtime Supervisor of 31 years have left us to start their well-deserved retirement - both members of staff have been much loved members of the team. Whilst numbers are a little uncertain, it is likely that Mrs Cliffe has seen around 3,100 students start and leave the school in her time, most of whom she will meet in the village! We wish them both a very long, happy and healthy retirement.

This week we have welcomed Mr Sawyer to the role of Head of Year and this completes the revised structure in the Student Service Team. In September we will have one leader for each of the year group and we are delighted that this will allow us to support our students with increased resource and time in their respective Key Stage rooms. The Heads of Year are responsible for all aspects of your child's education and are led by the Director of Key Stage 3, Miss Holcroft (Year 7, 8 & 9) and Mr Collins, Director of Key Stage 4 (Year 10 & 11):

**Year 6 into 7** – Mr Sawyer

**Year 7** – Mrs Graham

**Year 8** – Miss Daly

**Year 9** – Mrs Statter

**Year 10 & 11** – Miss Pardoe Matthews

As Headteacher and as planned, I will finish in role as interim Executive Headteacher at BPA and Tarleton Academy and return as to the substantive role of Headteacher at BPA. Mr Lyons will continue in role as the Designated Safeguarding Lead ably supported by Mrs Hamill, Mrs Oliver and Miss Pardoe-Matthews in their Deputy roles.

It has been a genuine privilege to work across two of the Trust's schools with fantastic students, staff and parents. A personal thank you for all of your support and a note of appreciation to all of the staff in school who have revised their responsibilities and duties to give time and capacity where and when it was needed.

Time and time again, we have seen the E Pluribus Unum spirit lived out and it is that which makes us proud to belong to BPA and our Trust.



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We have live adverts to recruit a Head of Design Technology, teacher of Food & Nutrition and temporary teacher of Mathematics – all on the TES, School and Trust websites. Should you know of a suitable candidate or someone who might be interested, please direct them to <https://endeavourlearning.org/about/current-vacancies> where all of the Trust's vacancies can be found.

### **HAF Programme**

The HAF programme, led by the West Lancashire Sports Partnership, is running over the Easter period. This is for families who qualify and entitles their child to access a range of high-quality activities and an accompanying food offer for the family. If you are eligible, you will have been sent an email to invite your family and child to participate. This is a great opportunity and offer – please have a look [here](#) if you qualify. Follow the link to 'West Lancs HAF.'

### **Support and Signposting – Personal Support and Mental Health**

As we move into the break, we would like to reiterate that there is a range of support available when we are and even when we are not in school. On the school website, following [this](#) link there are further help and signposts to reliable information and support. Click on the burgundy writing at the top of this page to search other sources of support.

### **Important Dates**

Looking ahead to next half term, here are some of the key events, taken from the calendar that may be relevant to your family:

- **WC 15<sup>th</sup> April - Y10 Mock Exams commence (2 weeks)**
- **25<sup>th</sup> April – Y8 Parents' Evening**
- **30<sup>th</sup> April – Y8 HPV Vaccinations**
- **30<sup>th</sup> April – GCSE PE Moderation**
- **WC 29<sup>th</sup> April – Y10 Work Experience Week**
- **7<sup>th</sup> May – Whole School Photograph**
- **16<sup>th</sup> May – Y7 Parents' Evening**

### **End of Term**

This week is the end of the spring term and to finish, students will be in normal lessons, have a tutor session and then House Assembly. As published on the website, school closes for students at 12.30pm and the buses are booked. Lunches have been made available for students eligible for a free school meal during the late morning break and vouchers have been distributed to cover the Easter holiday period.



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School reopens on Monday 15 April at 8.45am for all students. Students should be prepared in their full school uniform, with all of their equipment.

On behalf of all of the staff, we would to say thank you for your support and partnership work. We wish you all a safe, well rested and enjoyable spring break. E Pluribus Unum.

Yours faithfully,

*L MacLaren*

Mrs MacLaren

**Headteacher**



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