



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

Ref: 3529 LMA

18 October 2024

Dear Parent,

School Update – Half Term 1

Attendance

At the end of this term, attendance in school is 93.63% and the rate of persistent absenteeism has halved. This is much improved on 2023-2024 but not at the heights of 2019-2020 (95%) After the holiday, the focus on attendance will resume - we ask for your very best support to make sure that all students are in school and benefit from the support of staff and their subject specialist teachers. Children (and adults) get unwell, but gauging the limitations of this in conjunction with performance in school is really important. Thank you and well done to everyone for their focus and effort and the impact that this will have.

Just a reminder that all correspondence with school and reporting absence should be via ClassCharts or by a phone call to school's absence line.

Information System Upgrade

Over the holidays we will be starting an upgrade to our information systems in school as part of a long-term project – we will give you more information soon.

In the meantime, our IT support team in school and across our Trust have to disconnect and reconnect some of our systems during the half term break. You should see little impact but in anticipation of this:

1. Make sure lunch monies are topped up (and debt covered).
2. The School Shop has to be reset. When we set it up again, we have to start from the beginning so you may see two shops, one empty and one with products. Use the one with products.
3. ClassCharts may be unavailable during some of half term depending on how quickly the external IT support can set up the link.

Uniform

Overall, we continue to be very proud of our students, their uniform and appearance. The uniform of some students does not meet the [policy](#), the key points for address are outlined here:

- Skirt length – unrolled and to the knee at the start of the year
- Top button – fastened
- Tie – visible school badge
- Hair accessories – plain navy, black or school purple



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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As we come to the winter months, please try to make sure your child brings a coat to school! We changed the rules last year about the colour and all are permissible (for both economic and safety reasons). Hoodies or other items of over clothing are not permitted in school.

Staffing Update

You may have noticed that we have advertised for an Assistant to the SENCo - Mrs Wilkie has secured a role outside of school but in education. We wish her well as she moves onto pastures new after the holiday.

Free School Meal Vouchers

Vouchers for students who are eligible for free school meals have been distributed for the holiday period and sent directly to parents. If you have not received them or have any questions, please contact us at school on the enquiries email.

Year 7

Thank you to all of the parents that visited us last night for the Transition Parents' Evening. The turnout was excellent, as was the support for the hybrid approach. The strength of our partnership work cannot be underestimated – it is appreciated.

Year 7 have settled in well and it is as if they have always been with us, on our behalf, please say thank you and well done – even though we did in assembly yesterday.

And Finally ...

Attached to the email with this letter, there is a copy of the Weekly Update which celebrates all that is great about our school. At the end of today school will close for the half term holiday for everyone, right now, staff are hard at work training. 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. We look forward to seeing all students return to school on **Monday 28 October at 8.45am**.

E Pluribus Unum.

Yours faithfully,

L MacLaren

Mrs MacLaren
Headteacher



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