



# Burscough Village Primary School

Colburne Close, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancashire L40 4LB

Tel: 01704 895 403 Fax: 01704 895 946

Headteacher: Miss Anna Smith

30<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our final half term for 2023. The time seems to fly by. We are looking forward to another exciting build up to Christmas.

## **Staffing**

We are starting the new half term with a full staffing team. In fact, we have two additional support staff, due to the needs of the pupils in the school. The staffing and class arrangements are below:

Nursery: Miss Morgan, Mrs Rawsthorne, Mrs Ashcroft and Miss Gower

Reception: Mrs Beevers, Mrs Seddon and Mrs Smith

Year 1: Mrs Riley, Mrs Prytherch, Mrs Huxtable, Mrs O'Toole, Mrs Smith

Year 2: Mrs Berkely, Mrs Settle and Mrs Whittaker

Year 3: Mrs Rowlands, Mrs Prytherch and Mrs Hughes

Year 4: Mrs Porter and Ms Blunt

Year 5: Mrs Logie, Mrs Rice and Mr Prescott

Year 6: Mrs Swift, Mrs Rice and Mr Prescott

Miss Weston will teach most classes as she covers the teachers when they have PPA or leadership time.

## **Year 1**

For this half term, we will be splitting year 1 into two smaller classes on Tuesday to Thursday. This is to offer a higher level of adult support and ensure that all children are having their needs met. Mrs Pytherch will be teaching one group based in the library which has been enhanced to reflect an Early years setting. The children are in mixed ability groups and will be covering the same learning objectives. Mrs Riley will remain the class teacher and will teach all the children on Monday and Fridays. Mrs Barrow, trainee Play therapist, will be starting to work with some children on a Monday as well.

## **Equality Awards**

We were pleased to be presented with our awards for Disability, and Religion and Belief. Well done to the whole school community for developing such an inclusive setting. We were delighted with the assessor's comments.

*I felt that the evident inclusive culture in the school was exemplary. I was able to speak to the Headteacher, governor, pupils, and school leadership team and passion for equalities and pride in the approach to equalities in school ran throughout all conversations. I was impressed with how everyone has been involved with Disability and Religion and Belief Equality in your*

*school, and how the interest and enthusiasm of all has had such a positive impact. It is evident that Equality is and continues to be a key focus for School and the School Community.*

We will continue to develop our work on Equality through looking at Gender and Socio-economic badges this year. If you would like to be involved in our Equality work, please speak to Mrs Swift.

### **House Competition**

The children enjoyed a productive morning in their houses. It was great to see the older and younger children work together to design artwork, dances and poems. Each house has created a beautiful house flag which can be seen in our new corridors. Last half term, the Earth house won, and they are able to come to school in non-uniform on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The scores are back to zero to start this half term, let's see which house will win this half term.

### **Parents' Evening**

Parents' Evening will take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. A letter will be sent home with a link where parents can book an appointment. It is really important that we are able to discuss your child's attitude to learning, current attainment and targets for this year so please make sure you book an appointment. If you are unable to attend, please speak to the class teacher to see if they can arrange an alternative date.

### **Special Educational Needs**

We are pleased to share that Mrs Beevers will be available on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 4.15pm-7pm for parents to book appointments to have SEND discussions. Please use the Parents' Evening booking system to make an appointment. Due to the increased number of children with additional needs, it is difficult for Mrs Beevers to speak to parents during the school day. She is also completing her Masters, which is compulsory for SENCO's and she does have a full time teaching role. If you have a SEND concern, please speak to the class teacher first, if an appointment is needed with Mrs Beevers, we will arrange this. Thank you for your patience.

### **Residential Trips**

Following our consultation with parents' last year, we are pleased to be offering two residential trips next year. Our Year 6 trip will move to Towerwood, based in the Lake District, increasing the duration to a weeklong adventure. We are also introducing an overnight stay for our Year 4 children next March 2024. Both letters will be sent to parents and carers this week. Our current Year 6 children are off on their travels next week. Mrs Swift, Mrs Logie and Mrs Rowlands will be taking the children from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Miss Weston and Mrs Prytherch will be covering Year 3 and Mrs Berkley will be teaching Year 5. Thank you to all staff for giving freely their time and we wish you all an exciting trip!

### **Christmas Events**

This year, we will be back in the church for our Infant Nativity. (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.) This will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Our Year 3 children will be singing Christmas carols when we arrive at the church for their Christmas activity this year. The other junior classes will be singing carols around the village at different locations. We will confirm the dates and times nearer the time, but it will be in the last week of the term, Week Beginning: 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Nursery – We will be holding our breakfast with Santa on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am. All of our nursery children and families are invited to attend a singing around the Christmas tree with Santa.

The PTFA will be holding our usual autumn disco on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, it will have a winter theme this year. We do need as many parents and carers, as possible, to help with these events to ensure they take place. They will also be organising a Parent Quiz, details to follow.

The scripts have been given out for our staff and parent Panto. If you would like to be involved, please come and speak to me. We have a provisional date of Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

This year, we will be having Christmas Party Day on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. The children are invited to come in their own party clothes on this day. Our awards assembly will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 9.00am and the children can bring a suitable toy in on this day. School will be close at 2:30pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

### **Congratulations**

We are pleased to inform you that Miss Rothwell will be getting married on 25<sup>th</sup> November. We wish her best of luck and we hope she has a fabulous day as she becomes Mrs Gilbert.

We will see you tomorrow morning, bright and early. Please remember to park carefully and considerately to ensure all our children stay safe. As it is getting colder, all children will need suitable footwear and coats. If they are bringing hats, scarfs and gloves, make sure you put their names in.

***Each day learn something new, and just as important, relearn something old.***

Robert Breault

Yours sincerely,



Miss Smith

Headteacher