

Burscough Village Primary School

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8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to firstly welcome you all back to another year and I would also like to say what a great start the pupils have made. At Burscough Village Primary School, we pride ourselves with being reflective and always looking to improve. With this in mind, staff have been reviewing the behaviour and rewards policy to ensure that we are providing a motivating and rewarding environment, where pupils are given opportunities to learn from mistakes and to develop as individuals. We felt that it was important for us to outline the changes we have made and provide a reminder of some of the elements that have not changed. Hopefully, this will help you in supporting us with conversations at home.

Rewards

House System

The first major development is that we are going to be introducing a house system in school. Very much like Harry Potter and probably what many of you experienced at school, pupils will be allocated a house that will include pupils from Reception up to Year 6. Via our pupil voice, the children voted, and the 4 houses will be based on the 4 elements – Air | Fire | Earth | Water. Your child's house will be shared with them via a letter this afternoon (Friday 8th September).

Starting from Monday 11th September, throughout the school day, pupils will be able to gain house points for outstanding work, behaviour, using excellent manners or demonstrating one of our school values. These house points will be collected each week and a total will be announced during assembly on a Friday. Each half-term, the winning house will be able to have a non-uniform day as a reward for their hard work. The points will then go to zero and each house will be able to compete again for the non-uniform day the next half-term. Finally, the house points will total for the year and pupils in that house will receive a prize at the of the academic year.

Alongside collecting house points for their house, pupils will also collect them on a bookmark and KS1 pupils will receive a certificate when they receive 10 and KS2 pupils when they receive 20. Each house will be allocated two house captains from Year 6 and the pupils in Year 6 are currently preparing their presentations for pupils in their house to vote on Wednesday 13th September.

On Thursday 21st September pupils will be spending some time in their houses developing a house flag, artwork, and poetry that we are going to display on our house wall in school – photographs to follow!

Weekly Certificates

Teachers will still be awarding three certificates a week in assembly on a Friday, where they will recognise pupil's individual effort and progress. One of the certificates will be given for Speaking and Listening, or writing as this is our school improvement focus.

Half-Term Awards

Teachers will also continue to nominate one person from each class to win the half-term class.

Class Rewards

We felt it was good for individual classes to have their own personalised rewards. So different classes will have some rewards given, this is dependent on the teacher and the age of the children.

Behaviour

In school we follow a tiered behaviour system, where we encourage children to reflect on mistakes and try to move forward and learn from them.

Level 1 – children will be offered a reminder about their behaviour, and they are given the opportunity to continue.

Level 2 – children will be asked to move in the classroom away and reminded about how they should be behaving. At break or lunchtime, pupils will be asked to stand with a member of staff to observe how to behave and then they will be able to rejoin. If children are persistently reaching level 2, parents will be notified of this by the teacher.

Level 3 – children will be asked to move into another classroom to complete their work there. Children will miss a breaktime where they will have to complete a behaviour reflection sheet to reflect on the incident. Parents will be notified of this at the end of the day.

Level 4 – children will go with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. They will miss a breaktime and lunchtime and be asked to complete a behaviour reflection sheet, reflecting on the incident. Parents will be notified of this at the end of the day.

* There may be some incidents where the behaviour is deemed more serious, and it will be escalated to level 4 straight away.

We feel that the above system supports the children because we appreciate that mistakes will be made, but it is important that children develop the skills to not only reflect on, but to identify what led to these behaviours so that they can ensure they don't happen again.

The children and staff are all excited to launch our new house system and we look forward to being able to reward the children for all their fantastic achievements, effort, and progress throughout the year.

Thank you again for your continued support with this.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Swift Deputy Headteacher