



Burscough Village Primary School

Colburne Close, Burscough, Ormskirk, Lancashire L40 4LB

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Headteacher: Miss Anna Smith

7th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to another school year. I wish you all a very warm welcome to Burscough Village 2023. I hope you have had a lovely summer holiday and enjoyed spending time with your children. We are looking forward to another successful and action-packed year.

The children are all settling into their new year groups with the staff. Please make sure you get to know the new staff at the doors during drop off and pick up over the next few weeks. If you have any questions, I will be on the school gate most mornings and afternoons. The school office staff are very friendly, and they will be able to help you with any queries. You will be receiving a letter from the class teachers on Friday. This will give specific information for each year group.

Mrs Graham

Over the holidays, Mrs Graham has secured a new job at Burscough Priory Academy. I would like to thank her for her passion and enthusiasm in every aspect of her role. She delivered many of the sports clubs and school fixtures which does take additional time away from the school day. The children were able to engage in many different activities at lunchtime, thanks to Mrs Graham. We wish her the best of luck in her new role.

Reception staffing

We are pleased to inform you that Mrs Seddon will be completing her teacher training this year alongside Mrs Beevers in Reception. She will lead the class as well as Mrs Beevers which will allow Mrs Beevers to support the children in smaller groups and complete her Master's degree. This is a statutory requirement for Special Needs Co-ordinators.

New member of the team

We welcome Mr Prescott to the BVPS from Monday 2nd October. He is a former BVPS student, so it is lovely to see him return many years later. He is currently working to support adults with additional needs and therefore brings a wealth of experience to our school.

Staffing changes

We have made some changes to staffing arrangements. The main changes being:

- Mrs O'Toole will work alongside Mrs Huxtable and Mrs Riley to support the Year 1 children.
- Mrs Rawsthorne has returned to nursery to support the children.
- Mrs Blunt will work in Year 4 to support Mrs Porter.
- Mrs Rice will work across Year 2, 5 and 6 to provide personalised support for specific children.
- Miss Weston will work across school but also support in Year 3 until Mr Prescott joins BVPS supporting Year 3.
- Miss Rawsthorne, cleaning staff, has joined the welfare team to help as lunchtimes.
- Miss Gower will be working in Kids' club and Nursery on a Tuesday until half term.
- Mrs Settle will go maternity leave at the end of this term. I will keep you updated with her cover in due course.

New position vacancy

We have advertised for another new full time teaching assistant to join the team and we hope to have them in place for after October half term. Full details can be found on our school website and Facebook page. Please share this information with prospective candidates.

Earrings

Just a reminder about earrings. Children can wear plain, stud earrings. They are not allowed to wear earrings during PE sessions, swimming, and physical activities such as football at lunchtime. I would suggest that children do not wear earrings on these days. If children wear them, they must be able to take them out without support from an adult in school. We are no longer able to help the children or cover their ears with tape. If children wear earrings, they will be allocated a space to work in the PE lesson away from the other children due to health and safety reasons. This is in line with Sport England guidelines.

Parking/Road Safety

Please remember to park safely and considerately for our neighbours around BVPS. We also asked that you do not enter or leave the school car park during the hours that children are dropped off 8.45-9.00am and picked up 3.30-3.45pm to keep everybody safe. Where possible please use the yellow walkway through the carpark. Please share this information with grandparents if they collect your child.

Dog Mentor

Bow was back in school yesterday. She enjoyed saying hello to children and parents on the gate. Remember to encourage the children to ask if they can stroke the dog before they touch Bow. This gets the children into good habits so that if they meet a strange dog they ask before they touch the dog. All children should have permission to be able to work with Bow. If your permissions have changed, please contact the school office.

School counsellor

It was great to welcome Joanne Bleasdale, [Counselling West Lancs CIC](https://counsellingwestlancs.co.uk/), back into school yesterday. She has spent time in the junior classes playing games and chatting with the children. Joanne has explained her role in school and the children had some interesting questions! Joanne is in school every Wednesday morning. If you think your child would benefit from some counselling services, please talk to the class teacher or see/email me. You can find additional information on their website page. Services are available to support parents and carers as well.

<https://counsellingwestlancs.co.uk/>

School Play Therapist

We have a trainee Play Therapist starting with us on Friday 13th September. This will be for children who are in Reception to Year 2. Staff will be having discussions with parents who they think would benefit from this service. If you think your child would benefit from this, please speak to their class teacher or myself.

Clubs and Music lessons

All new clubs will start on the week beginning 18th September. We will be sending out a letter next week with all the information.

Panto

In true Burscough Village fashion, we are upping our game again this year. Instead of buying a panto, we thought we could perform our own for the children. We are hoping to keep this top secret! We have a script and staff have volunteered to be in the panto, so this is where you come

in! We are looking for parents, grandparents and carers to get involved in any way you can. You could be a main part in the play, a small role, back of the donkey, help with costumes, props, or anything. Please get in touch if you are up for a bit of fun and would like to be involved.

head@burscough-pri.lancs.sch.uk. (I hope we can pull it off!)

I would just like to thank the staff for their hard work over the holidays to set up their classrooms. They look fantastic. I am incredibly lucky to have such a good team and we are all looking forward to an exciting year. In partnership with parents and carers, we can provide an excellent environment for learning. If you have any worries or concerns, or you want to tell us about the things we do well, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Smith
Headteacher

