

Friday 5th
March 2021



BURTON AGNES CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday News

A note from Mrs. Jameson

The return to school is now only a few days away and there is an overwhelming feeling of excitement as we have spoken with children this week about the return to school. We know that some children may be feeling anxious about this and I want to reassure you that we will do everything we can to make the return to school run smoothly. All of the arrangements which we put in place last year to make our school as safe and secure as possible will continue as usual. There will be the same drop off and collection times and procedures as explained in the letter we sent out last week. The children will remain in their class bubbles with their own staggered break times and lunchtimes. I hope that this will enable the children to settle back into a good routine quickly and in a way which feels comfortable for them.

Since the beginning of January, our school community has worked together in an incredibly supportive and positive way. The challenges of the last two months have been huge but through hard work, dedication and tenacity, everyone has kept going and done their very best. Thank you parents and carers for your engagement and support. Whether your child has been at home or at school, you have assisted us hugely in our aim to provide continued education and care for all of our children at this time. You have all been AMAZING!

Throughout this period, I have felt incredibly proud of our children. Their lives have been disrupted massively and they have had to adapt to huge changes in their lives and routines, often with very little notice, as well as coping with separation from their friends, teachers and other family members. Some children may have felt sad, confused, anxious and frustrated and this is completely understandable. I hope that they will enjoy the increased social contact they have with their classmates and school staff over the next few weeks and feel the benefit of being back in school, learning and playing alongside their friends. I am filled with hope and optimism as I think of what the months ahead could offer our children.

Of course, it remains **critical** that we continue to follow all of the safety procedures in place to protect everyone within our community. **We strongly urge all parents to take part in the Lateral flow testing service that is now available to you.** We were hoping that the DFE would have sent out the further advice and guidance that was hinted at in the email I sent out earlier in the week but they haven't as yet. Hopefully the letter you received yesterday has helped you a little further. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other. **If you are going to test please try and do one before you return on Monday as this will help us having to close bubbles should anyone test positive.** Many thanks to parents who have been in touch to say they have collected kits from Bridlington and are fully on board.

All of our risk assessment for the re-opening of school can be found on the parents page of our website under the covid 19 tab. You can also find the letter about the return to school on there should you need it.

Don't forget to decorate your flower of hope for the return to school on Monday. If you don't have a printer please just draw a flower of your own. The Garden of Hope story can be found on the Special Mentions and Worship Team

Burton Agnes CE Primary School's

EXTREME READING CHALLENGE!

WORLD BOOK DAY 2021



What better
time to curl
up with a
great read?



Think about different, exciting, fun and SAFE places you can enjoy a book. Ask someone to take a photograph of you reading your book in your 'extreme' place.

Bring your photograph to Mrs Claxton when we all return to school and you could win a book voucher!



CLOSING DATE: Friday 12th March
First Prize £20 Second Prize £10 Third Prize £5

World Book Day

Reading is something that is always high on the agenda at Burton Agnes. We want every child to be a reader and to have a love of reading as being able to read unlocks the world around them. We have enjoyed promoting World book day this week and children have taken part in a range of activities to support reading. I have particularly enjoyed this week 'the masked reader' activity in class 1 where staff and children have read stories wearing a mask and we have all had to guess who the reader was. Great fun!

Thank you for taking the time to dress up at school and at home and supporting this fabulous skill. Don't forget there is still time to take part in Mrs Claxtons 'Extreme Reading Challenge'.



Top Tips for the Return to School

Is your child worried about the return to school? Be reassured, a lot of this behaviour will be 'normal' reactions, particularly at times of change of transition and especially given what our children and young people have been through during the pandemic. The good news is most children are resilient and will bounce back as anxiety levels decrease as everyone gets used to the home and school routines again.

In preparation for the return to school, here are some simple tips which may help a smoother transition back into school:

- Talk to your child about the information you have received from the school, reminding them of the one-way system, playing with their class in their area of the playground etc. Just re-establish the rhythm of the day. They may need to hear or see this information several times to help feel prepared. It may be helpful to highlight everything that you know will be the same or similar to when they were in school in the autumn term, even if it seems obvious. For example, "You will have the same teacher/teaching assistant, you will be in the same classroom, you will have the same children in your class, I will wait in the same place in the playground when I pick you up." For any differences or changes to routine, talk these through and explain they will soon get used to them.
- 'Normalise' any worries they may have and explain that lots of other children are feeling the same way and that it is to be expected and that teachers will understand this too and it will soon get easier. Use phrases such as "I can really understand why you feel like that at the moment and think a lot of other people your age will be feeling like that too".
- Create an opportunity to share any positive thoughts and any worries through open question or discussion. It may help for children to talk, write or draw about: - What they have enjoyed about being at home - What they have not enjoyed - What they are looking forward to when they go back to school - What they are worried about when they go back to school - Anything they would like the teachers to know about when they go back to school ☑
- Particularly for their first few days, create a predictable routine for the morning of school and for when they return home and talk about and decide what this will be in advance. Something as simple as deciding what to have for tea after their first day will create predictability and be reassuring for them. Many children may miss some of the additional time they have got used to at home, and need to know that there will still be an opportunity for them to do what they enjoy doing at home either after school or on weekends and this routine can be re-established. ☑ I
- If there are any significant events or bereavements that have occurred over lockdown or your child has any particularly worries, try and speak to school staff in advance to ensure they are aware and can offer additional support.
- Be calm and encouraging even if you're feeling apprehensive as your child will take the lead from you.
- Some children, especially younger children, may experience some anxiety about separating from parents after all this time at home. Reassure them that you will miss them too, will think about them during the day and will look forward to picking them up. You could always draw a little heart or smiley face on each of your wrists and refer to it as a hug/hi button that when they press you would be pressing it too.
- If your child is upset, please say your goodbyes and go. We know this is really hard to do but they are usually absolutely fine once they get in to school and see their friends.



School times reminder

Please ensure that you stick to your time so that socially distancing can be maintained both inside and outside the school gates. If you are early please wait in your car until it is your time as we don't want congestion and too many people around the school gates. Thank you

Group	Drop off	Collection
Group A	8.45 am	3.15pm
Class 4 and siblings		
Group B	8.50 am	3.20 pm
Class 3 and siblings		
Group C	8.55 am	3.10 pm
Class 1,2 and nursery		

Have a lovely weekend.

Please stay safe and observe the lockdown rules.

3 more sleeps!