



The St. Peter & St. Paul CE Primary School, Burgh-Le-Marsh

May Newsletter

www.burghschool.org.uk

@BurghSchool via the ParentHub app

Issue 6 (2018/2019)

A TESTING TERM!

Term 5 was just about as short as a school term can be – 23 school days to be precise. Despite this, there have been plenty of events taking place in and out of school, just some of which are described here. For our 57 Year 6 children however, a principle focus of Term 5 has inevitably been the statutory SAT tests.

As usual at this time of year, there have been reports in the media and on certain parent websites detailing how Y6 children are hysterical, in tears, not sleeping etc. because of the SATs and the relentless pressure applied by their schools. Talks of boycotts also surface whenever testing Primary school children is mentioned. However, as is always the case at our school, our children simply turned up, did their very best and moved on to the next activity. Thank you to Miss Millman, Mrs. Walton and the Y6 team for their role in this. We are very proud of how our Y6 children applied themselves.

I believe that SAT tests ARE important, but NOT because they are one factor (amongst many) that a school's performance is judged against. They are a way of ensuring that schools teach the Maths and English curriculum, as set out in the National Curriculum. Did you know, for example, that approximately half of the questions in the Y6 Maths SATs are based upon the Y3, Y4 and Y5 curriculum content? Furthermore, as a statutory test that forms part of a child's educational record, it is important that our children are equipped to do their very best and realise the importance of doing their best in such situations. After all, tests and assessments will be commonplace in their lives during and beyond education. The Y6 SATs do not have a pass/fail grading, but indicate whether or not a child is working at the level expected for their age in Maths, English and, via Teacher Assessment, in Science. Rightly or wrongly, SAT results are also used by Secondary schools in generating target GCSE grades (sometimes known as a 'flightpath') and sometimes affect the initial groups in which children are placed in Y7. That said, most of our Secondary schools carry out their own assessments either in September or even as part of the Y6/Y7 transition visits in Term 6.

Ultimately, for as long as we have to administer SATs tests to our children in Y6 (as well as the Phonics Screening Check in Y1, SATs in Y2 and, from Summer 2020, the Multiplication Check in Y4, which will be no problem thanks to Times Table Rock Stars!), we will continue to ensure that our children are equipped to do their very best through the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum from Reception right through to Year 6, whilst continuing to strive for excellence in a caring Christian community!

Mr. Hurdman

Headteacher

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Dates may change and be added to!
Also see ParentHub notifications & letters.

- Monday 3rd June
Start of Term 6 for children and staff
Y4 Anglo-Saxon History Day
- w/b Monday 10th June
Y1 Phonics Check Week
- Tuesday 11th June
Y5 Boston United Sport, Health and Fitness trip
- Friday 14th June
Class & Team photos
- Tuesday 18th June
Y4/5 trip to see the BBC Concert Orchestra at the Embassy Theatre in Skegness
- Wednesday 19th June
F1 Maths in Motion World Final
- Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th June
Y6M Evening Shows
- Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th June
Y6W Evening Shows
- Friday 28th June
Ss Peter & Paul Service @ Church (2pm)
- Friday 12th July
Y6 Leavers Evening @ Bottoms in Skegness
Reports due to go out
- Thursday 18th July
Leavers Service @ Church (2pm)
- Friday 19th July
Leavers Assembly for parents (2pm)
End of Term 6 2018/2019

SPORTS DAY

The weather couldn't have been better for our first ever 'double' Sports Day in recent memory. First up was our Key Stage Two or 'Junior' Sports Day, which saw Green team emerge victorious and hold aloft the Mr. J. Pickett trophy. Following a picnic lunch, it was the turn of our 'Infants' (Foundation Stage and Key Stage One), with Yellow team winning the Mrs. Spence trophy. Both competitions were incredibly close, with only a handful of points separating the teams in both events. Well done to all our children for taking part in a truly competitive event, showing determination whilst demonstrating sporting values. Thank you to our children in Y2 and to our Y6 Team Captains who were a tremendous help in the setting up and running of the day and to Miss Leetham and all our school adults and volunteers for ensuring the day ran so smoothly. Finally, thank you to all our families and friends for ensuring children had correct kit and, of course, for supporting all the children throughout the day, cheering on not only the podium finishers, but also everyone who tried their very best!

"Striving for excellence together in a caring Christian community."

RESPECT COMPASSION COURAGE

SCHOOL GAMES EVENTS & SPORTS

As well as Sports Day, it's been a busy term for other sporting events, with some of our children in Y3 and Y4 attending Cricket and Golf events in Skegness. Y1 and Y2 children have also received expert Cricket coaching in school recently. Congratulations to Zak in Y5 for winning the inaugural Chess Club trophy this year too! Additionally, we have continued to regularly celebrate achievements out of school in Dancing, Hockey, Football, Martial Arts, Swimming, Horse Riding and Cheerleading (to name but a few!). This usually happens during Thursday Collective Worship.

RECEPTION OUTSIDE AREA

The transformation of our Reception Outside Learning Area is just about complete. The extended canopy allows outdoor learning whatever the weather, whilst the vast array of new resources, including Writing and Mathematics 'sheds' is already having an impact on the progress our children are making. Thank you once again to everyone for respecting the '*gates are shut so please go round*' system, which ensures that anything which may have been set up isn't disturbed.

Y6 WALKING HOME

Y6 children with written permission to walk home are reminded to go straight to their planned destination after school. We also regularly remind them that they can come back to school if there is a problem and also encourage them to have the school phone number if they have a phone on them.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Thank you to the children who, when reminded, found shoes for school. Trainers are not acceptable school uniform (and at Secondary result in detentions, isolations and exclusions). It is likely that we will establish a stock of black slip-on plimsolls which children who attend in trainers will be required to wear at all times in school (other than break times and PE). Please can we also ask parents, particularly of girls in Y5 and Y6, to ensure that skirt lengths are appropriate for school. A summary of basic uniform expectations is on our website.

Y6 CHURCH SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

On Thursday 23rd May, Y6 had a great day out at Lincoln Cathedral, taking part in the annual Church Schools' Festival. All the Y6 children, accompanied by all the Y6 adults, Mr. Hurdman, Father Terry and Governor Mrs. Ellis took part in the day. In the morning everyone took part in Choral Worship practice, discovered how an organ works and took in a guided tour of the Cathedral before splitting into groups for a workshop. There were three different activities – 'Art', 'God saw it and it was good' and 'the impact of pollution on the Cathedral'. Each group took part in one of these and had a great time doing so. In the afternoon everyone took part in a service alongside hundreds of other Y6 children from across the Diocese, led by Bishop David of Grimsby. As usual, Y6 were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

BURGH BAPTIST CHURCH PRESENT 'BACK PACKERS' HOLIDAY CLUB

23rd – 26th July, 10am -12 noon

£1.50 day or £6 for the week

Children of Primary school age (including pre-schoolers)

To pre-register and guarantee a place ring Colin on 01754 811260 or email Colin at depasta@talktalk.net

CLASS STRUCTURE 2019/2020

Next year we revert to our traditional 7 single year group classes as we bid a teary farewell to our double Y6 cohort. However, contrary to random rumours doing the rounds, the loss of the two Y6 classes does NOT mean that we have to lose a teacher next year! Thanks to careful financial management by the Governors, there is no necessity to reduce staffing levels next year. Who is teaching which year group will be announced in due course. Please respect this and refrain from asking any of our staff or Governors before this happens – they are trained to resist interrogation anyway! ☺ Also, unfortunately the Local Authority ultimately decide what happens to the 'Mobile' classroom, not our school.

Y6 MOBILE PHONES - A REMINDER

Can we remind parents and carers that only Y6 children are permitted to bring mobile phones to school ***if absolutely necessary***. They must be switched off at all times on school premises and also handed in to an adult. Children ignoring this rule can expect to have this privilege removed.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SCHOOL ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE (PHYSICAL OR DATA-RELATED) TO ANY DEVICE BROUGHT ONTO SCHOOL PREMISES.

If you do not agree to this, then please do not allow your child in Y6 to bring their phone to school.

ATTENDANCE PANELS & FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

If your child's attendance is low (officially classed as less than 96%) then you will shortly receive a standard letter regarding this. However, it may also be the case that you are also invited to attend an attendance panel meeting to discuss your child's attendance and explore ways in which it could be improved. This applies to both authorised and unauthorised absence, **with persistent lates and unauthorised absence/holidays increasingly likely to result in a Fixed Penalty Notice from the Local Authority**. Please note that the Local Authority issue these and that our school receives no money whatsoever resulting from such action. Odd days off and holidays all add up – some children in our school have already missed well over a term of their Primary education during their schooling, with extreme cases missing almost half a year since starting school. For more information, have a look at our Attendance Policy (available on our School website www.burghschool.org.uk).

PGL XIV – COMING SOON!

Our current Y6 children have not long returned from their PGL residential trip, but if you're in Y5 then look out for information coming your way after the mid-term break regarding next year's Y6 trip in Spring 2020!