February Newsletter

www.burghschool.org.uk

WE HAVE REACHED THE HALF-WAY POINT OF THE YEAR!

www

Remarkably three of the six terms are now over. However, there has certainly been no sign of a post-Christmas lull here in school as this term has once again seen a wide range of fantastic learning opportunities take place inside and outside the classroom. One wonderful example of this is the Year 5 'Ancient Greek' day earlier this week.

Sporting events for children throughout the school have also regularly taken place, with children participating in the Swimming Gala, a 'Speed, Agility and Quickness' Festival, a 'Multi-Skills' Festival and a Netball Talent Day!

Learning opportunities have also been enhanced through increased support in the classroom. Last week we welcomed back two former pupils who are now well into their GCSE studies as part of their Secondary School's Work Experience programme and Miss Danby from Bishop Grossteste University is working alongside Miss Holmes in Year 1 until mid-March.

Our school now once again boasts a complete leadership team as the Governing Body this week appointed Mrs. Walton as Acting Deputy Headteacher. She joins myself (Acting Headteacher) and Miss Leetham (SENDCo) on the Senior Leadership Team.

Regardless of position however, we really are just one fantastic staff team and the wonderful response to the Ofsted 'ParentView' survey is a result of this. The support shown was quite humbling and whilst we naturally endeavour to 'get it right', it is reassuring to know that we do the majority of the time. If we don't, just let us know and we'll try to resolve any issues as quickly as possible!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Dates may change and be added to! Look out for text messages and letters. Please visit our website too.

> Monday 19th February Start of Term 4

Wednesday 28th February – Friday 2nd March Y6 PGL Residential

> Thursday 1st March World Book Day

Tuesday 13th March – Wednesday 14th March PDSA PetCheck

> Friday 23rd March Sport Relief Day (more details to follow)

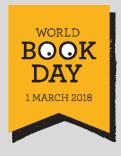
Wednesday 28th March End of Term 4 for children

Thursday 29th March INSET day for staff

Monday 16th April Start of Term 5

Please see our website for more term dates.

WORLD BOOK DAY – 1st MARCH



As already noted via TXTRound, Thursday 1st March is World Book Day. We'd love all the children to come dressed as one of their favourite book characters. Y6 will be on PGL, already dressed as Bear Grylls!

Once again, all our Y6 class are heading off on their PGL residential at the end of February We're already provisionally booked for next year too!



ATTENDANCE, ABSENCE & PUNCTUALITY

Mr. Hurdman

Acting Headteacher

Our current attendance figure is 96% - not bad, but it could be better. However, our unauthorised absence (i.e. absence for reasons other than illness and exceptional circumstances) accounts for almost one in five absences. We are now looking to work with our Education Welfare Consultant to ensure that all of our children are in school (unless they are obviously unwell!). In addition to this, we want to ensure that all our children are in school on time. The gates open at 8:35am (please remember that even the amazing Mr. Allsop can only open 1 gate at a time!). <u>Children should be in their classrooms</u> <u>ready to learn by 8:45am.</u>

REMEMBER: WE BREAK UP AT 3:15pm on FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY & RETURN ON MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY!

9th February 2018

"Striving for excellence together in a caring Christian community." RESPECT COMPASSION COURAGE

PARKING & DROPPING OFF – A REMINDER

Please can we remind parents and carers not to drive into the car park to drop off children. The only exceptions are those who have been given permission by Mrs. Barry or Mr. Hurdman. One or two children are being regularly dropped off in the car park by the gate when they should not be.

Also, we do appreciate that parking continues to be very difficult around school at both ends of the day. This is not surprising when two-thirds of our children currently arrive by car. Thank you to everyone who makes sure that they are not restricting access to residents' driveways.

IT EQUIPMENT – MONITOR RECYCLING

Upgrading your computer system at home or at work? If you find yourself throwing out an old (working) <u>flat screen</u> monitor, then you could donate it to school! Any size, any age, any connectivity welcome!



PDSA PETCHECK

As you will already be aware, our school supports the PDSA charity. Mrs. Gould runs the PDSA Pet Club in school (currently for Y6) and we have even featured in their magazine! On 13th and 14th March we are planning to host the PDSA PetCheck for the local community. PetCheck is PDSA's mobile animal wellbeing service, touring the UK each year with an experienced vet nurse on board, offering free wellbeing checks to dogs and advice on the care of other popular pets.

When you visit PetCheck, the vet nurse will 'MOT' your dog and talk you through everything you need to do to keep your dog happy and healthy. On board, the service can provide free of charge microchipping, nail clipping and ear cleaning. Apparently you'll also be able to purchase some fantastic items for you and your handsome hound including PDSA merchandise and a selection of products from their Vet Care range.

The Vet Care range is specially chosen by experienced vets, and the nurse can help recommend products to suit your pet's health and wellbeing needs. Shampoo, skin and joint supplements, and nutritionally balanced treats are all available at PetCheck. You can view the full range in their online shop.

For more information visit www.pdsa.org.uk/taking-care-of-your-pet/petcheck

OFSTED INSPECTION – WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY

As you know, on Wednesday Mr. Peter Stonier, HMI carried out a Section 8 (one-day) Ofsted Inspection of our school. This was because it has been almost 5 years since our last Section 5 (two-day) inspection back in May 2013. The Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body are not permitted to discuss the outcome of this inspection with anyone (even our own staff!) until the official publication of the outcome letter. This will hopefully be early March. We will, of course, distribute it as soon as we receive it. See also https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/findinspection-report/provider/ELS/120566



PE KIT COMES INTO SCHOOL ON MONDAY © GOES HOME ON FRIDAY © Y2 SAT TESTS: May 2018 Y6 SAT TESTS: Mon 14th – Thurs 17th May 2018 Y1 PHONICS SCREENING: w/b Mon 11th June 2018

SCHOOL UNIFORM IS AVAILABLE ONLINE! Find it at www.nationwideschooluniforms.co.uk