



# NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Mrs Maria Whitehead

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022



Dear Parents

We are at the end of our first half term and time has flown by. Our grounds are particularly beautiful at the moment with the leaves changing colour and conkers and acorns peppering the grass and paths. The juniors walked to church yesterday in glorious sunshine and their behaviour was impeccable. Myself and the staff felt very proud of them.

Your generosity has again been tremendous - our Harvest collection for Burnley Community Grocery Foodbank was amazing. The School Council visited the foodbank on Wednesday with Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Maudsley to see for themselves the good work they do. I do hope we can continue to support this very worthwhile charity with an ongoing collection.

I have received a draft of the Inspection Report which should be finalised over the holidays and I will share it with you as soon as it is published.

Family Friendly Friday was very well-attended last Friday and we raised £155 for PTA funds. We are planning another Saturday Special for 3 December so put that in your diary - this is when teachers look after your children for the day so you can go shopping or go for lunch or just have a break. The cost for the day is £30 and £25 for siblings.

I wish you all a happy, healthy and safe half-term holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Mrs Whitehead

## Current Year 6 only - application for secondary school places

Just a gentle reminder that applications must be made online to the local authority by 31<sup>st</sup> October if you wish your child to take up a secondary school place in September 2023 in a state school. This includes the local grammar schools. It does not apply to other independent schools.

## Pupil Progress Meetings

The staff will be in touch in the first week after the holidays to ask you to book a slot for pupil progress evening which will take place on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November between 2.45 and 8pm.

## New Faces

We have a new teacher called Miss Boardman working Friday mornings in Miss Grillo's class. She brings with her a wealth of experience and we are thrilled to have her on board. Some of you may know her already as she also teaches some of our juniors to play brass instruments on Thursdays.

We also have a new student teacher, Miss Ashraf, who is completing a 3 month placement from university in Y2 with Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Barker.

I am sure that you will welcome them to our community.

## School Books

Can we ask parents and pupils to check at home over the holidays for any school reading books or novels that they may have forgotten to return. We are missing quite a lot of books from class libraries and the school library.

### Fridays Assemblies

We welcome all family and friends to our Friday assemblies and the children work very hard to impress you when it is their turn in the limelight. However, we are having more and more interruptions by people arriving late. This is noisy and distracting for all who are involved in that assembly. From now on, we ask that you arrive before 2.45pm if you wish to enter assembly, otherwise Mrs Kendall may ask late comers to wait in the foyer until there is an opportune moment to slip into the hall without interrupting.

Another polite request is that ALL mobile phones are switched off and kept out of sight throughout assembly. It is school policy that adults must not use a mobile phone inside the school building for safeguarding reasons. Parents have been seen sitting scrolling through their phones during assembly which is not appropriate at all. If your child is speaking in assembly and you wish to take a photo for personal use, then that is acceptable. However, these may not be uploaded onto any social media site if they include other children. Can we ask that you put your phone away after taking the photo.

Thank you for your co-operation.

### Polite Reminders

Please can all children with shoulder length hair tie up their hair for school. Earrings must be removed for PE days or earrings covered with plasters.

No Smart watches are allowed in school and they are very distracting for the children. We are finding that Fitbits are also distracting children from their work and we would prefer children to have an analogue watch which will help them learn to tell the time.

### Police Visit

The local police visited school this week to talk to the children about staying safe now the nights are getting darker and as bonfire night approaches.



## **Sports News**

### Tag Rugby Festival

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October Year 3 and 4 went to a Tag Rugby Competition at Burnley Rugby Club. They did some rugby skills which included tagging, passing, kicking, throwing, scoring and tackling. Then they played a mini tag rugby match which they really enjoyed. They had a great time and learnt lots of new tag rugby skills.



### Multi-Skills

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 6 children from year 1 went to the Spirit of Sport to take part in a Multi skills competition against other schools. They had to compete in different activities using their Fundamental Movement Skills. Each activity was timed and they had to see how many points they could get. The activities were: football, sprinting, catching, skipping, basketball, obstacle course, target throw and hopping. They came an excellent 2<sup>nd</sup> place! Well done to all the children and a special mention to Ayra who was spotted for a School Games badge for trying her hardest. Thank you to all the parents and Miss Grillo for your help with transport.

