



Bursley Academy Newsletter

Nurture, Inspire, Achieve



NEWSLETTER NO.1: SEPTEMBER 2020

Message from the Principal

Our first Newsletter of this academic year and what a fantastic few weeks we have had. It has been lovely to see the school full of life again and I'm so very proud of how quickly the children have settled with excitement and enthusiasm, especially given the current circumstances.

This time last year, our first newsletter was full of information about our plans to extend and improve the school. Just look at how far we have come! The children absolutely love the new building and there is yet more excitement to come when our new EYFS area opens in a months' time. Thank you for bearing with us as we enter the final stages of our transformation; it won't be long until our staff carpark is complete which will help elevate parking around the school.

The children will be pleased to hear that we are entering the final stages of our 'baseline' assessments, so that regular teaching can resume now that we have a clear understanding of the gaps in our children's learning.

Don't forget that the school has an open door policy and, whilst it isn't possible to have parents onsite at this moment in time due to the Covid restriction, we welcome feedback. Should you need to speak to myself or your child's teacher, please contact the school office to arrange a call back. After half term, if the current situation remains the same, we plan on organising a 'virtual' parents evening as I appreciate just how important it is for you to talk to your child's teacher.

Thank you

Mr Wilkinson



Pupil Care Plans

In the event that your child has a medical condition/care needs, the school requires parents to complete a Medical Care Plan. Please don't forget to update us if your child's medical needs have changed or if they have a need that we are not aware of.

A few reminders



Here are a few reminders to assist with the smooth running of our Academy

- Any late pupils should come to the front entrance at 9:10am when all other bubbles have cleared.
- The Principal cannot authorise pupil absence in term time except in exceptional circumstances (please note that Staffordshire County Council will be issuing fixed penalty notices for unauthorised absence).
- Please drive and park with care and consideration; to keep our children safe and to respect our neighbours.
- Bursley Academy is a healthy school; please send only healthy snacks into school. Wednesday is 'treat day' when pupils are able to bring in a small treat from home e.g. crisps, Kitkat.
- School office hours are 8.30am – 4:30pm Monday to Thursday & 8:30am – 4pm on Friday. An answer machine is in operation when the office staff are not able to answer.
- Pupil absence should be reported by 10am using the main reception number and leaving a voicemail message. (01782 567740).
- It's imperative that EVERYTHING is labelled with your child's name. We generate a massive amount of lost property which cannot be returned to its owner if it's not named.
- Water bottles must be brought in daily.

Paperless Communication

As we have been operating 'paperless' communications since lockdown commenced, we plan to continue sending letters, newsletters and communications via e-mail. As this is the first newsletter of the year, it is coming home in paper format to ask you to look out for this newsletter by e-mail; if you have not received it, please send a message to the school office on office@bursley.staffs.sch.uk to ensure you are not missing any communications.

It is also vitally important that you inform us of any changes to your phone number, address or emergency contacts.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS



Since September 2014, all pupils in Reception, Y1 & Y2 have been eligible for a free school meal as part of the Government's 'Universal Free School Meal' programme, but some children may be eligible for extra funding through the pupil premium known as Free School Meals.

It is well worth registering for Free School Meals because if you are eligible, Bursley Academy receives a 'pupil premium' which is an extra payment to be spent on useful services etc. Registering your child means that they would receive their school trips for free.

Please call Mrs Verdiani or Mrs Micklewright (confidentially) in the office for further details or visit <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx> to see if your child is entitled or to make an application.

Bursley Academy Terms and Holiday Dates 2020/21

Autumn Term 2020

Term Time: Thursday 3 September – Friday 23 October

Half term Holiday: Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October

Term Time: Monday 2 November - Friday 18 December

Holiday: Monday 21 December - Friday 1 January

Spring Term 2021

Term Time: Monday 4 January – Friday 12 February

Half term Holiday: Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February

Term Time: Monday 22 February - Thursday 1 April

Holiday: Friday 2 April - Friday 16 April

Good Friday: 2 April & Easter Sunday: Sunday 4 April

Summer Term 2021

Term Time: Monday 19 April – Friday 28 May

May Day: Monday 3 May

Half term Holiday: Monday 31 May – Tuesday 8 June

Term Time: Wednesday 9 June – Tuesday 20 July

Holiday: Wednesday 21 July – Wednesday 1 September

Inset Days (Pupils not in)

1. Tuesday 1 September
2. Wednesday 2 September
3. Monday 7 June
4. Tuesday 8 June
5. Wednesday 21 July

HALLOWEEN

We are inviting pupils to come to school in their own clothes on the last day of this half term (23rd October) to celebrate Halloween. It would be great if pupils could wear clothing in the colours black or orange or both.

As it is likely that trick or treating will not be recommended, we will be providing the children with a sweet treat to bring home (that has been quarantined for 3 days).

Dates for your Diary



25th September: School Photographs

23rd October: Own clothes for Halloween

26th October: 1 week half term holiday

26th November: Whole school flu vaccine

School photographs – Fri 25th Sept

For those children who have P.E next Friday, please send them to school in their P.E shorts/tracksuit bottoms and trainers on but with their shirt, tie and cardigan/jumper on their top half (their bottom half is not on the photo).



CALLING ALL PARENTS WITH CHILDREN DUE TO START HIGH SCHOOL OR RECEPTION IN SEPTEMBER 2020

A reminder that parents need to apply online for a High School place by 31st October. If your child is currently at nursery then the on-line portal to apply for a Reception place will open on 1st November. Please check the Staffordshire County Council Website for further information.