



Burbage Junior School Newsletter October 2024

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Executive headteacher's message



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the October half-term break, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful term we've had so far at Burbage Junior School. Our vision and values continue to shape our school's ethos, emphasising:



We recently celebrated a wonderful Harvest service with the Methodist Church, where the children reflected on the meaning of Harvest Festival—giving thanks for the food we receive and thinking of those in need. A huge thank you for your generous food donations to Hinckley Foodbank, which will make a real difference to families in our community.

The PTFA Movie Night was another highlight of the term, with the children having a fantastic time. Thank you to everyone involved in organizing this fun event.

We also had an impressive turnout from Year 6 parents for the SATs briefing. It's great to see so much support for your children's learning as they prepare for this important stage in their school journey.

It has been a pleasure to welcome parents into our classrooms for our "Sharing Our Learning" sessions. Don't forget that Parents' Meetings will take place during the week

beginning 28th October- we look forward to discussing your child's progress with you. We would appreciate your feedback, so if you could complete this short survey it would be much appreciated:



Scan me!

This term, we have introduced the Mastering Number Programme in Year 4 and Year 5, helping our children further develop their multiplication skills and deepen their understanding of mathematics.

I hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved October half-term break, and we look forward to seeing you all when school resumes on Monday, 28th October.

With best wishes,

Mrs Zoe Driver

Executive Headteacher, Burbage Junior School

[Governor Voice](#)

Dear Parents and Carers,

The new academic year is well underway, and summer is fast becoming a distant memory.

I have been into school several times over the past few weeks, and it is clear the children have quickly and confidently settled back into the routines of school.

I would like to welcome parents and carers of children who have joined the school this term. Governors remain confident that all children will really thrive during their time in our schools, enjoying both classroom learning and the wider range of opportunities on offer.

We are into the second year of our strategic plan and we are beginning to see in school some of these priorities come into effect.

Over the summer, the Year 1 classrooms were refurnished using Early Excellence, which have created a beautiful and effective learning environment which reduces cognitive overload.

The computer suites in both schools have been upgraded, ensuring the curriculum can be delivered successfully, and the Junior school have purchased a new set of iPads for everyone to use.

We are continuing to develop the collaborative work between both schools and governing boards, to ensure the children's journey through Burbage Infants and Juniors is streamlined with a continuity of learning, making use of sharing staff expertise and knowledge, enhancing the overall learning experience for all.

I look forward to sharing with you further progress over the coming year.

On behalf of all the governors, I wish you and your children an enjoyable and successful year.

Best wishes,

Rebecca Jones

Chair of Governors



Sports update

A big well done to all children who have represented the school in the last half term.

Both the boys and girls football teams have competed in tournaments this half term. The boys narrowly missing out in their tournament, held at school. They did well though, to win in the Rice Bowl game, winning away at Cosby 4-1. They will now move onto the second round in November away in Wigston.

The girls won their tournament winning every game, which now means they will go on to represent Hinckley in the county final in November.

Cross country started at Brookvale Groby and we had a significant number of runners representing the school. Well done to all who entered and I look forward to the second race in January.

A group of children from Year 3 represented the school at an Inspire event at Green Towers. They had an amazing time trying out wheelchair basketball and lots of target games such as archery and boccia.

Lots of children tried out for the table tennis team and I had a very difficult decision to make when selecting the teams. The event is on Thursday so I will update in the next newsletter.

Next half term we have entered basketball, tag rugby, lets get moving festival, boccia and dodgeball. We will also be looking to start the netball club on a Monday after school. Mr Probert has done several sessions in PE and those invites will go out after half term.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Little

Year Groups- Curriculum Update



Year 3 News

What a great first half term for Year 3! The children have all settled in so well, getting used to the daily routines. It has been lovely for the staff to put faces to names and get to know the children.

We started the term with some fun team building activities to emphasise this skill as our character muscle for the term. As part of this we planned and built castles.

We also did some Stone Age art to link in with our History topic. The children learnt how art was painted and drawn on the walls of caves through our English text of 'Stone Age boy'. They tried to recreate similar images. The children looked at evidence found from Stone Age times and as historians, thought about its limitations. They also focused on continuity and change over Pre-history period.

In Science, we found out how our skeleton works so the children made model hands to work out how muscles move bones. They were interested in learning about nutrition and its effect on our bodies.

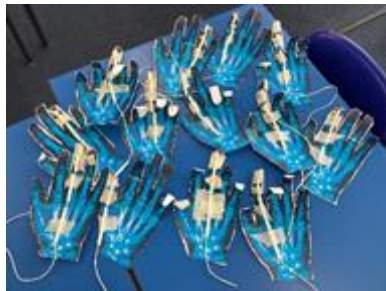
The children have enjoyed starting French lessons too which included some food tasting. They even had a teacher from Hastings teach them for a lesson about many kinds of modern foreign languages.

In DT we have been busy designing and sewing cushions, using cross stitch and running stitch. The children all developed their sewing skills tremendously showing perseverance to get to the end product they were proud of.

Finally, 3W were the first class to start Forest school with Mrs Wren. They had thoroughly enjoyed their sessions which helped them develop further teamwork skills and even knowledge of Stone Age times! 3G have just started their sessions too and 3CG have all this fun to come next term!

We are already excited about what the next half term will bring! Well done Year 3's for a super start following 'The Burbage way'- striving to be the best version of themselves!





Year 4 News

What a great start to the year!

The children have settled in well and have been strengthening their Teamwork character muscles. We have begun whole class Thrive sessions which have focused on identifying how emotions impact our bodies and the tools we can use to help us regulate.

Our daily Mastering Number sessions have been a great way to start the day.

Baking biscuits in DT has been a highlight for many of the children and after the holidays, we will be adapting them to suit the needs of our chosen target audience.

We hope that the rest of the academic year continues in such a positive manner - well done, Year 4!

Year 5 News







We are pleased with how all three classes have settled into the year group and are ready for an exciting year with them.

In English this half term, we have studied 'The Explorer' and written a description, non-chronological report and a letter based on the story. We have created story maps, completed freeze-frames in groups and worked collaboratively to understand the story. Our English has linked into our Geography topic of the Amazon Basin. Here we have looked at the importance of the Amazon along with the physical and human features of it. We have also completed a local study where we have understood the difference between importing and exporting, assessed what facilities we have in Burbage and designed a shop for what we believe is missing.

In Design and Technology, we have learned about the nutritional value of different ingredients and enjoyed making Spaghetti Bolognese. We have also used a variety of mechanical systems to create a story book based on 'Jack and Jill'.

In Science we have been studying forces and completed a range of experiments. We have used shapes to test water resistance, made windmills to understand pulley systems and parachutes to observe air resistance and gravity.

We have started a new multiplication program called 'Mastering Number' that we will continue to work on throughout the year. Please encourage your children to play on TTRS as we are all fighting it out for the year group trophy.

Next half term, we will continue with swimming for 5 weeks and then return to indoor PE. We hope that you have a lovely half term break, ready for parents' evening the first week back.

Year 6 News

We have been so impressed with how the children have started Year 6; it's such an important year and they have really shown us how hard they are prepared to work, both in school and with their homework.

So far in Maths, we've covered place value and the four operations. Thanks for your support in reminding your child to complete their weekly MathsWatch homework.

We have just finished our unit on biographies and autobiographies in writing. Next, the children will be planning, drafting, editing, revising and presenting a finished version of their own story, based around the water cycle. At the end of this block, the children will have their very own bound story to be proud of.

In science, we have been studying the classification of living things. Our next topic is light.

In DT, we have just finished making an electronic tool, designed for adventurers. The children impressed with their ability to code, design and improve.

Message from the PTFA



We've had a great start to the new academic year with the children enjoying the movie nights, and lots of planning taking place behind the scenes to bring you an exciting list of Christmas events for you and the children to enjoy!

As a committee we have decided for all future events that once the booking deadline has past we will be unable to take any additional bookings. The deadlines are set to ensure that we have time to source items required for the events, but more importantly that we have enough volunteers to safely run the events, and that we have a definitive record of pupils attending the events. We appreciate your support with this decision, and will ensure that reminders are sent out about events so that the children don't miss out.

Finally, I would like to welcome our new Treasurer, Sundeep (Sunny) Singh who was voted in at the AGM on Monday evening, and to thank Vikki for all of her work as Treasurer over the last year. Myself and Danielle were re-elected into our existing roles and as a committee we look forward to bringing you lots of exciting events during the coming academic year.

Have a great half term!

Nicky Thorington

PTFA Chair

PTFA Christmas Events – please visit our secure booking portal to book your tickets:

www.pta-events.co.uk/groveroadschoolsptfa

	Event	Booking Deadline
	<p>Tuesday 19th November Christmas rag wreath making evening 7.30pm-9.00pm This new event gives you the opportunity to create a unique wreath that you can use year after year. Plus you can bring your own alcohol (hot and cold drinks will be available to buy), so book on with your friends for a fun, festive evening!</p>	11th November
	<p>Wednesday 27th November Christmas craft sessions Infants – 3.15pm – 4.30pm Juniors – 5.00pm-6.00pm The children will work on three christmas themed crafts to bring home</p>	18th November
	<p>Monday 2nd December – Friday 6th December For those familiar with Secret Room, Elfridges replaces this but works in the same way. For those who are new to the school this is an exciting event that the children love! They get to visit our fabulously festive shop during school hours to select up to two presents for loved ones that they bring home in a bag they have decorated themselves. **Maximum of TWO gifts can be purchased per child**</p>	25th November
	<p>Wednesday 4th December National Cookie Day Christmas biscuit decorating kits to take home and enjoy decorating (and eating!)</p>	28th November
	<p>Christmas Discos Thursday 12th December – Juniors Years 3 & 4: 5.45pm – 6.45pm Years 5 & 6 : 7pm -8pm Friday 13th December – Infants (Years 1 & 2 only) Year 1: 4.30pm-5.30pm Year 2:5.45pm-6.45pm</p>	9th December

Upcoming dates



Tuesday 29th October Parents' Evening in school 3.30pm-5.30pm- booking details to follow

Wednesday 30th October Parents' Evening in school 3.30 to 8.00 pm- booking details to follow

Thursday 31st October Whole School Photos by Braiswick

Friday 8th November Remembrance service in Pughe's Paddock

Monday 11th November- Friday 15th November Anti-bullying week. **Monday**- Children can come to school in odd socks- celebrating difference.

Friday 15th November Children in Need- children can come to school in non-uniform- suggested donation £1

Wednesday 20th November SEND review meetings- booking details to follow

Saturday 23rd November St Catherine's Christmas Fayre

Monday 25th November Year 6 trip to New Walk Museum – 6P

Tuesday 26th November Year 6 trip to New Walk Museum – 6W

Thursday 28th November Year 6 trip to New Walk Museum – 6AR

Wednesday 4th December PTFA Elfridges

Thursday 5th December PTFA Elfridges

Friday 6th December PTFA Elfridges

Monday 9th December PTFA raisin challenge end

Thursday 12th December PTFA disco

Monday 16th December Year 3 Christmas Service 2pm at St Catherine's Church

Tuesday 17th December Year 4 Christmas Service 2pm at St Catherine's Church

Wednesday 18th December Pantomime

Thursday 19th December Year 5 and 6 Christmas Service 10am at St Catherine's Church