



# Burradon Community Primary School



## Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you and your family had an enjoyable summer break and are ready for the year ahead! We are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school tomorrow after the summer holidays, including those children who are starting with us this term. If your child is having any problems settling into the school after summer, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher in the first instance.

### **What's been going on over the summer holidays...**

Over the summer holidays, we have had some major repairs completed in our pump tank which is located at the back of the school. We have also had some snagging completed in our main hall and small hall following the new flooring that was completed last summer.

In addition, Mr Slinn has worked very hard over the summer holidays to ensure the school has been thoroughly cleaned, inside and out, ready for the new school year. Thanks also to Mrs Peet who supported during the first week of the holidays.

Mr Slinn has also been very busy in our yards, our woodland area and within the main school dealing with maintenance, repairs and visitors / contractors.

### **Not what we were expecting!**

Unfortunately, towards the end of the summer holidays the community wing hot water boiler, which is located in the school's upstairs plant room, failed overnight. This caused a major flood through the kitchen below and into both halls with a significant amount of water as you can imagine.

We had a loss adjustor out to school the same week and I am currently working with our insurance company and the loss adjuster to put plans in place to repair the damage. I will keep you informed with any future plans or updates when I have further information.

### **Looking ahead to 2025-2026 academic year...**

#### **A few reminders for parents / carers and children to help the new school year start smoothly.**

##### **1) Names**

Uniform and PE kits cost a lot of money, and we always have lost items within the first week. These are difficult to link with children as one blue 5–6-year-old Burradon jumper looks very similar to another blue 5-6 year old Burradon jumper!

Please can I ask that all of your child's clothing is clearly named? This can be with either name labels or your child's name written in permanent ink on either the label



or somewhere on the item of clothing such as the waistband or collar. This makes it far easier for clothing to be found if it goes missing – with P.E sessions and other activities there are a lot of opportunities for clothing to be misplaced!

## 2) School Uniform

You will recall that we sent several letters out before the end of the summer term with a reminder about our agreed school uniform, including **black shoes** and PE kit. **Our agreed school uniform, including black shoes, must be worn by all of our children.**

### Our agreed school uniform

| <u>School Uniform</u>  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White or yellow polo shirt</li><li>• Royal blue sweatshirt</li><li>• <b>Grey or black trousers</b></li><li>• <b>Grey or black skirt</b></li><li>• Blue or yellow checked dress (in summer)</li><li>• Grey or black shorts (in summer)</li><li>• <b>Black shoes</b></li></ul> |

**Please can I ask for your full support with our agreed school uniform? Phone calls home will be made where children are not in the right uniform. Many thanks.**

## 3) PE Uniform

All children, from FS2 to Y6, will need to bring their correct PE kit into school and leave on their peg each week to get changed into. **The correct school PE kit must be worn.** We will make phone calls home to arrange for the kit to be brought in or will provide a spare kit for your child to wear if they do not have the correct kit. **Children are to wear their school jumper if it is cold on top of their PE uniform.**

### Our agreed PE uniform

| <u>PE uniform</u>  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White t-shirt</li><li>• Dark shorts (navy blue or black)</li><li>• Dark tracksuit bottoms (navy blue or black for the colder weather)</li><li>• Suitable footwear, e.g sandals or trainers</li><li>• School jumper (if cold)</li></ul> |

We have our Year 5/6 class going swimming across the Autumn term with the letter being sent out before the holidays via School Comms. Your child's new class teacher will let you know the dates for individual class PE lessons in their class newsletter for this half term.

#### 4) **Jewellery**

Jewellery can be a serious risk to the children's safety during P.E sessions, playtimes and lunchtime sport activities. **It is school policy that no jewellery, including earrings, should be worn in school and I ask for full parental support with this aspect of Health and Safety.** There are lots of opportunities for children to get jewellery caught which can cause nasty injuries.

The only exception is a watch which needs to be removed for PE and Sport sessions. A reminder that we **do not** allow SMART watches in school as they have the facility to take pictures and send messages which is against our safeguarding policies and procedures.

#### 5) **Attendance and illness**

If your child is going to be absent from school, please could you contact the school office by email through School Comms or the school office or by telephone before 9:30am on the first day of absence. Where possible, absence messages can be emailed into School Comms or the school inbox or left on the dedicated sickness telephone line. This ensures that we know the reason for the absence and can mark your child on our register.

Where we don't have a reason for absence or we need more detail, my office team will try to contact parents / carers or someone on the contact list to establish the reason for absence. This may mean we are making several attempts across the morning and afternoon to try and get a reason for the absence. If we can't get a reason, we must mark the absence as unauthorised absence.

May I remind parents that the Governors of Burradon Community Primary School are unable to authorise holidays during term time. Poor attendance and punctuality in school and/or any holidays will mean the Education Welfare Service may issue you with a fine. Burradon Community Primary School does not receive any money from fines issued.

#### 6) **Snacks at breaktimes**

A polite reminder that children can bring in a snack to have at morning break time, but this must only be fruit or vegetables.

#### 7) **Water bottles in school**

It is really important that all children have a water bottle in school so they can re-hydrate on a regular basis in school. Staff will continue to encourage the children to drink regularly including if they have milk in school.

A polite reminder that there should only be **water** in children's water bottles which they access in the classroom. We have seen an increase in juice being brought into school. Juice should only be in a child's packed lunch bottle for drinking at lunchtime and not in their water bottle for the school day. We are a water only school in line with food in school government documentation. Your full support with this would be very much appreciated.

#### 8) **Nut Free School**

**A vital reminder that we are a nut free school.** We have a few pupils attending school and a member of staff who have a severe peanut allergy. The pupils' and member of staff's anaphylaxis (allergic reaction) can occur because of digestion, inhalation or any other contact with nut-based products.



**To ensure their safety and well-being in school, all nut-based products have been banned from the school premises.**

Please do not send your child into school with any nut-based product for a snack or packed lunch or when going on a school trip. This includes products that may contain traces of nuts. Potential allergens could include the following:

- Spreads, e.g. chocolate spread including Nutella
- Cereal bars
- Some types of biscuit containing nuts
- Condiments, e.g. satay sauce
- Cakes containing nuts
- Some snack pots containing nuts
- Ferrero Roche and Kinder Bueno

It is important that you check the labelling of food products before sending your child into school with them – it is not always apparent that products contain nuts or traces of nuts. We also ask that, if your child consumes any nut-based product before school, they wash their hands thoroughly and rinse their mouth before entering the school grounds. Please can I ask for parental support with this?

We understand that these measures may seem extreme; however, we want to ensure the health and safety of all our pupils and staff when on the school site. By putting these measures in place, we are reducing the possibility of their being any contact with nuts which could cause a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction.

The school does not serve dinners that contain nut-based products – this includes products that are labelled as ‘may contain traces of nuts’.

If any pupil is found with a nut-based product, staff will be making a phone call home to parents / carers to remind of our nut free school rule. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Your support is much appreciated.

## **9) Breakfast Club**

A reminder that we offer a breakfast club before school for pupils in FS1 (Nursery) to Year 6

### **Before school childcare session**

- **7:30am prompt** – childcare session before breakfast club starts at 8am
- **£1.50 charge**

### **FREE breakfast club:**

- 8:00am – **FREE** breakfast club
- Children **must** be in breakfast club by 8:05am

**For both sessions above, parents / carers of all children must book breakfast club places via the School Comms APP.**

Unfortunately, last year we continued to see a number of 8am ‘free’ breakfast club sessions being booked and children not turning up. As a school, we work on the number of pupils booked into breakfast club daily and these are the numbers that we use for staffing and also enter into the system for Greggs.



Therefore, to reduce non-attendance, a £2 charge per session will apply to parents/ carers where they have signed up for sessions and their child misses more than two sessions in a half term. We do understand that children become ill, and that traffic or transport problems can affect arriving on time but where possible we ask parents / carers to ring as early as you can to advise of any issues.

### **10) Burradon Fun Club**

Our Burradon Fun Club (OOSC) runs from the small hall between 3:15pm and 5:30pm during term time. This is for children who are in FS1 (Nursery – 30 hours) to Year 6.

**Sessions need to be booked and paid for, in advance, each half term via the School Comms App.**

### **11) Working Together**

It is essential that home and school work together to ensure that all children are happy in school and that they are achieving well in all areas. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with the class teacher in the first instance. If your concerns or questions are not resolved, please make an appointment with a member of the leadership team or myself.

The Leadership Team in our school are:

- Miss Hunter
  - (Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs Liddle
  - (Deputy Head, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and Behaviour Lead)
- Mrs Baty
  - (EYFS Lead)
- Mrs Kane
  - (SENDCo and Additional Designated Safeguarding Lead)

### **12) Dates**

At the end of this newsletter, I have started to compile a list of significant dates and events in our Autumn Term calendar.

#### **A few little reminders.**

- **School Comms** – School Comms is our primary way of contacting all parents with updates, important letters and booking for breakfast club and OOSC. Please continue to use the message facility within School Comms to update on any absence or appointments. We cannot guarantee that staff our office staff will immediately pick up School Comms messages as it is a busy, functioning office.
- **School phone number** – our office number is 0191 6434680.
- **School email** – our school email address is [info@burradoncommunityprimary.org.uk](mailto:info@burradoncommunityprimary.org.uk)
- **Seesaw** – we will be continuing to use your child's seesaw account to support with homework and class information. Please can I ask parents / carers to ensure you are still able to access your child's seesaw account.

**A rather long newsletter packed full of information to get us off to a good start! My team and I look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the coming academic year.**



Yours Sincerely

*A.L.Hunter*

Miss A.L. Hunter  
Headteacher

### **Upcoming events at Burradon Community Primary School**

Letters for events and activities below, where appropriate, will follow.

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> September  | Children return to school after the summer holidays                 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> September  | Vison and Values house team event                                   |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> September | NE Schools County Lines Session with Year 5 and Year 6              |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> September | Parent / Carer Teacher Night (appointment booking will follow)      |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> October    | Parent / Carer Teacher Night (appointment booking will follow)      |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> October   | <b><u>Teacher Training Day 2 (school closed to all pupils)</u></b>  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> October   | <b><u>October half term holidays</u></b>                            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> November   | <b><u>School re-opens after half term holiday</u></b>               |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> November   | Individual and immediate family photographs being taken in school   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> November  | Odd socks for Anti-Bullying week                                    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> November  | Anti-Bullying week 'Power for Good' theme                           |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> November  | Northumbria Police 'Internet and Us' sessions for Year 5 and Year 6 |

[www.burradoncommunityprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.burradoncommunityprimaryschool.co.uk)

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