



# Burradon Community Primary School



## Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

On behalf of the Staff and Governors, may I wish you a Happy New Year and send our best wishes for 2024? I hope you all had a good and relaxing time over the Christmas holidays and are ready for the Spring Term!

### 1) Autumn Term 2023 Attendance update

Below are the individual class attendance figures for across the whole of the Autumn Term 2023. The Government's expectation is 96% and this should be the minimum that we are all aiming for this year.

Attendance for Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
FS2 (Ladybirds)	91.7%
Year 1	93.7%
Year 2	95.1%
Year 3	95.7%
Year 4	94.7%
Year 5	94.7%
Year 6	94%

The average attendance from Y1-Y6 across the Autumn Term was 94.6% which is well below the 96% national expectation. We have had a number of sickness bugs across the school as well as absences linked to term time holidays. We are not alone in experiencing low attendance figures for Autumn Term, many other schools are reporting similar results.

Hopefully, we can have a Spring Term whereby we see a huge improvement in weekly attendance figures across all classes.

Attendance letters were sent out before the Christmas holidays. I did manage to speak to the vast majority of parents / carers before the end of term where attendance was below 90% (red letter). All red letter pupils will have a period of monitoring for rapid improvements across January.

If you would like to discuss your child's attendance with me, please call or email the school office and I will book an appointment over the phone or face to face.

### 2) Uniform

To ensure we start the Spring Term off in good fashion, a quick reminder of our agreed



school uniform, **including black shoes** and PE kit. Thank you for your continued support with this.

### **Our agreed school uniform**

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

### **Our agreed PE uniform**

<b><u>PE uniform</u></b>
<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 sandshoes</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, e.g black shoes. Many thanks.**

### **3) Jewellery**

Please can I remind parents / carers that it is school policy that no jewellery is worn in school. Jewellery can be a serious risk to the children's safety during P.E sessions, playtimes, lunchtime sport activities and after school activities. There are lots of opportunities for children to get jewellery caught which can cause nasty injuries.

Towards the end of last term, staff have noticed pupils coming into school with necklaces, chains, rings and earrings. Clear earrings are also not allowed in school or plasters over earrings.

The only exception to our no jewellery policy 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.**

Please can I ask for full parental support with this aspect of Health and Safety from FS1 (bees and butterflies) to Year 6. Many thanks for your support.



#### 4) Names

Please can we ask parents / carers to ensure that all items of their children's clothes are names including jumpers and coats? One Y2 sized jumper looks very much the same as

another Y2 sized jumper. Lost clothing, once located, is much easier to return to the rightful owner if it is named! Many thanks for your support with this.

#### 5) 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 don't 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)

#### 6) Smoking and E-Cigarettes

Just a quick reminder that the entire Burradon Community School and Community Wing site including the school yard, school walkways and car parks, are no smoking. This includes the use of electronic cigarettes. Please can I ask for your full support with this across the site.

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.

8 <sup>th</sup> January	<b><u>Schools re-open after Christmas holiday</u></b>
10 <sup>th</sup> January	9am – Burradon Helpers meeting
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Little Kickers football session with FS2 children (TBC)
11 <sup>th</sup> January	Y1 and Y2 trip to the safety works (pm)



16 <sup>th</sup> January	Boccia Tournament for 5 children and Mrs Baty (pm)
18 <sup>th</sup> January	Y3 trip to Segedunum (all day)
18 <sup>th</sup> January	Fun Day Lunch from Catering Services 'Under the Sea'
19 <sup>th</sup> January	Y2 trip to Newcastle Cathedral (pm)
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD)
26 <sup>th</sup> January	School Council offsite visit linked to Holocaust Memorial Day (am)
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day 2024
16 <sup>th</sup> February	Careers sharing assembly for parents / carers at 9:05am
16 <sup>th</sup> February	Careers dress up day across the school
16 <sup>th</sup> February	<b><u>February half term holidays (school breaks at the end of today)</u></b>
26 <sup>th</sup> February	<b><u>Schools re-open after half term holiday</u></b>
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring term parent / carers meetings (details to follow)
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring term parent / carers meetings (details to follow)
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Bikeability (TBC date and year groups)
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Bikeability (TBC date and year groups)
12 <sup>th</sup> March	ECO Team visit to Northern Gas Network in Blaydon (pm – TBC)
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 skipping festival at The Lakeside (am – details to follow)
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Diversity Role Model sessions in school (Y2-Y5)
28 <sup>th</sup> March	<b><u>Easter holidays (school breaks at the end of today)</u></b>
29 <sup>th</sup> March	<b><u>Bank Holiday (Good Friday)</u></b>
15 <sup>th</sup> April	<b><u>Schools re-open after Easter holiday</u></b>
19 <sup>th</sup> April	High Borrans residential weekend for children in Y5 and Y6
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	High Borrans residential children return

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

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