



# Burley Primary School

Church Lane, Burley, Ringwood, Hampshire

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Headteacher: Mr Dan Twyman BSc(Hons) PGCE

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Dear Parents,

Despite gas leaks; power cuts; frost and viruses we have once again reached the half-way point of the academic year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children and staff for their hard work since returning from the Christmas break and wish you all a restful and fun half term.

### Staffing Update

I am delighted to be able to welcome Mr Young back to school following his recent operation and look forward to 'business as usual' in Kestrel's class following half term. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our most sincere thanks to Mrs Potts for her hard work during Mr Young's period of recovery which has provided excellent continuity for the children in Kestrels.

As many of you will already know, Mrs Parker has also been unwell recently having contracted, along with many of the children (see later in the Newsletter) in the Lower School, the 'flu like' virus currently 'doing the rounds'. Once again I am pleased to be able to inform you that Mrs Parker seems to be recovering well and we hope she will be able to return after half term.

### Mid-Year Reports: Date Change

Due to our recent period of staff absence, we will be sending the children's mid-year reports home on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. Dates for parent's evening remain unchanged and will be on the **14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March** as planned.

### Attendance

Due to the recent spell of illness experienced, whole school attendance has fallen below 95% (our target is 97%). In line with Hampshire County Council policy, following half term I will be writing to the parents of all children with attendance rates lower than 90% in order to (a) raise awareness of current attendance levels and (b) to offer the opportunity to discuss any specific barriers to attendance that may exist on a case by case basis.

It is important to re-iterate that as a school we completely understand that illness is an unfortunate and unavoidable part of life and appreciate the efforts made by the overwhelming majority of families to ensure their child routinely attends school other than when inappropriate for them to do so which is why all cases are reviewed individually. The school's attendance policy can be viewed on our website.

### Missing Jacket

A blue Joules jacket has recently gone missing from Kestrels class. If you find it, please return to the school office and we will ensure that it is re-united with its owner. Thank you.

### New Clubs for Next Half Term

If your child is interested in joining either the Year R/1/2/3 multi skills club or the Key Stage 2 Choir club after half term, please remember to complete the 'sign up' slip (separate letter sent home earlier this week) and return by **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** at the latest.

There are still places available in the Key Stage 2 Football club and Fencing (Year 2 upwards). Please ask in the office for more information.

### World Book Day

World Book Day this year will be on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. As usual, to help everybody get in to the spirit of the day, we are encouraging children to **come in to school dressed as their favourite book character**.

### Extreme Weather Procedure

A reminder of our procedures in the event of extreme weather:

- 1) I will contact Chris White (Caretaker) first thing in the morning to find out about the situation locally to the school.
- 2) All staff will be contacted to check the position locally to them.
- 3) A decision will be made based on the following factors...i) Is the school site accessible and safe; (ii) can enough members of staff get to the school site in order to safely operate; (iii) is the weather likely to deteriorate as the day progresses. Please note that the early morning 'picture' within Burley is not the only contributing factor towards the final decision.

- 4) In the event of a decision that it is unsafe to open the school, the banner on the home page of the **school website** will be updated and **local radio** will be informed. Where possible, a decision will be made **before 8am**.

We appreciate that any decision to close the school will cause inconvenience to a large number of our families and as such will not be taken lightly. Thank you in advance for your support and understanding around what is a potentially a difficult situation.

#### Headteacher's Tea

Next half term's Headteachers' Tea will be on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 'drop off' time. If you haven't been to one before, they are an informal opportunity to catch up on events in the school over a cup of tea or coffee. All very welcome!

#### Lost Property

The lost property box has been moved near the front entrance. If your child has lost anything recently, please take time after half term to do the following:

- i) Check through lost property for any missing items
- ii) Name all belongings that come in to school. Surname only is often the most effective way as it means that we can ensure the belongings go back to the correct family and it is re-usable for younger siblings. All items within the lost property box are unnamed.

Any un-named items of uniform etc still unclaimed after the end of the second week back will be added to the second hand uniform stock or recycled.

#### Dates for your diary....

Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	E-Safety Talk for Parents 6.00 – 7.00pm
Week Beginning Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Half Term</b>
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	<b>First Day Back</b>
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	World Book Day <i>Dress Up as Favourite Character</i>
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March <b>NEW DATE</b>	Rock and Roll Bingo <i>From 7.30pm</i>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Date Change</b>	Mid-Year Reports Home
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Olympic Athlete visiting School
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	BPSA Film Night <i>After school – 5.00pm</i>
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Headteacher's Tea <i>After 'Drop-Off' Time</i>
Week beginning Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening Mon/Tue: 3.30 – 5.30pm Thurs: 4.30 – 6.30pm <i>Appointments now bookable through Tucasi nearer the time</i>
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Easter Assembly (School Hall) <i>After 'drop off'</i>
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Spring Term Ends</b>
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Summer Term Begins</b>

#### BPSA - Rock and Roll Bingo

Rock and Roll Bingo is back! On **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March** Simon Western will be hosting an evening of fun and testing our musical knowledge. Rock and Roll Bingo is Bingo with a difference, instead of numbers you mark off well known songs which are played. Doors open at 7pm, a cash bar will be available serving wine, beer and soft drinks throughout the evening. Bingo will start at 7.30pm and your first card is included in the ticket price. A chilli supper (either meat or vegetarian) will be served part way through the evening. Tickets are £10 each.

**Lent Lunches**

Many thanks once again to the organisers of the Lent Lunches (Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March from 12.00 to 1.30pm in the village hall. £3 for adults and £1.50 for children) for supporting the school with half of this year's proceeds - to be spent on play equipment for our children. We would all be extremely grateful if you could support this fantastic community event in any way you can.

Warmest Regards,

Dan Twyman  
Headteacher

*Previous Newsletters are available on the school's website [www.burley.hants.sch.uk](http://www.burley.hants.sch.uk)*