

# Burlington Junior School Newsletter

## Friday 26th January 2024

### A Message from the Headteacher:

Happy new year! Thank you everyone for all the kind gifts and treats for all the staff at the end of last term, they were very much appreciated. It was a long term (!) but the children achieved so much and it is lovely to see them back for the new spring term energised and refreshed.

You may have seen in the news that the Mayor of London is extending the free school meals programme for Junior children for another year. This is fantastic news. Children can still bring in a packed lunch of course but there is always a delicious selection of food on offer each day, including vegetarian. If you would like to come and have lunch with your child please book at the office and come and see for yourself how good they are.

You are also no doubt aware how concerned school leaders across the country are about recruitment difficulties (especially support staff), rising staffing costs and budgets. Burlington is no different. Teaching staff have had well deserved, long awaited for pay rises but they have not been adequately funded. Of course utilities have risen for schools too and every company seems to have put their costs up in the last 2 years, the gardeners, the cleaners...it goes on. Governors and school leaders constantly look at ways to reduce costs but your support for PTA events, paying for school trips in full and your voluntary contribution (which is in your Gateway account and can be paid in installments) really does make a difference. If you have already paid the £50 per family, thank you so much, it means we can fund the 'extras' in school that the children really do benefit from.

Finally, we are still looking for 2 Governors to join the board. If you are interested, please do come along to our next meeting in school on January 31st at 6.30pm. Please let the office know you would like to attend. It is an excellent way of understanding how a school delivers teaching and learning, manages a budget and maintains the safety and wellbeing of the school community.

Best wishes,

Mrs Pip Utting, Headteacher

### We Are Super Learners

#### Year 3

In Year 3 we decided to interview 2 pupils on what they have been doing in PE and if they enjoy it. In indoor PE they have been doing dance. This is what they said they like doing during indoor PE. "I like how we can be creative and do whatever style of dances that we want!" While learning different moves this allows children to express themselves. They like practising their underarm and overarm movements.

In outdoor PE they have been practising handball with our wonderful PE teacher Mr Malinic.

They say it helps them to practise their agility, stamina and strength. In previous weeks they have enjoyed football. On Tuesdays there is a chance to play football as an after school club, there is also a girl's football club available on Mondays. They said that they feel very welcomed when they play at lunch time . They all told us that they find it helpful that the teachers practise all the things we would need to do in a match for around 4 weeks and then after we know everything we would do during an actual match.

We hope you find this information useful.

Written by our house captains Khloe and Aanandh

#### Year 4

TESLA: Everly , Hayden

Year 4 are learning about netball in P.E and they really enjoy it. They also think that the P.E lessons are too short. They are swimming in indoor P.E and they think that there should be only one day for swimming. They like front crawl and they enjoy netball because they can learn more sports. They think outdoor P.E is more fun. They also do fun games in P.E.

TURING: Hardee , Denise

Year 4 are learning about golf in outdoor P.E but do swimming for indoor P.E. They like Outdoor P.E because they get to take random shots to practise at the start. They like to swim as fast as they can. They want to move up to a higher stage in swimming and want to improve the P.E lessons by making them longer.

CARVER: Dharun , Isabel

Year 4 are learning netball in outdoor P.E and swimming. They enjoy playing netball and like to do stuff you can't do outside. They think that the outdoor P.E lessons are enough for them and think it is good that they are learning a new sport. They think that none of the P.E lessons need improving. They also just like P.E in general because they can work with new people.

GOODALL: Hannah, Finlay

Year 4 are learning about swimming and golf in P.E. They like doing sports, working as a team and fresh air. They think that golf should be longer and that it is good that they have two days for P.E. They like sports in general and like playing sports. They are both at high levels in swimming but this is good because it could save someone's life.

Written by our house captains Aksara and Yeon-Sung

#### Year 5

Orla and Brandon, from Yr5 Sharman, have been doing bhangra and street fusion in indoor PE as well as warm up games in outdoor PE. They are learning the dance in parts, and Orla has been having fun practising the routine. Brandon enjoys getting a break from the classroom and participating in new games outside with his classmates during PE. They both like getting active and being involved with the different activities.

Written by our house captains: Flo and Emma

#### Year 6

This term in PE, Year 6 have been learning dance during indoor PE and netball and invasion games in outdoor PE.

We interviewed two students in Eliot class. Aksara said, "I enjoy learning dance because we get to do lots of partner work. It's also fun when we do group work."

Will said, "I quite like doing netball in outdoor PE because we sometimes do defence and attack games."

Rocky said, "We are playing different invasion games and are learning how to work as a team."

We hope Year 6 continues to enjoy PE.

Written by our house captains: Anisa and Felix W

### Safeguarding at Burlington

There is lots of support available for our Pupil Premium families...

#### FUEL

FUEL (which stands for 'Feed Ur Everyday Lives') is the name for the holiday activity and food programme (HAF) in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. It is funded by the Department of Education and run by Achieving for Children.

<https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/community-information/information-and-advice/fuel-holiday-activities-and-food-programme>

#### Other support

School can provide food bank voucher for eligible families to support you through the cost of living crisis. Please ask in the office or speak to Miss Capon in confidence.

The DONS action group can also provide weekly food donations if eligible, again please ask Miss Capon or the school office.

BRITE Box is a family recipe meal kit. Every Friday, families receive a BRITE Box with all the ingredients you need and a step by step, child friendly recipe guide to cook a balanced meal for 5 together. If you would be interested in signing up for a BRITE Box every Friday please let the office know and you will be added to the waiting list for the next round. Brite Boxes are delivered to school every Friday and collected by students at the end of the day.

### Building Update

The build continues to develop and the school landscape changes everyday. Click on the [link](#) to see all of the updated photos that we regularly share with the children.

Do speak to your children about what they have noticed about the building site. Although there is a lot of activity on the site, it does not really have an impact on the school. However, the excitement is building as the new school and the sheer size of it begins to take shape.

The builders came and talked to the children in STEM week and explained their career paths,

led by Kate McAdam - Morgan Sindall Project Manager.

The children were then involved in building structures to see which were taller. The winners then went onto the building site for their own guided tour on the 17th January which was very exciting. We have been showing the children pictures taken on the site and what they saw.

A metal frame will soon start being constructed around the lift shafts and staircases that are now visible on the site. We are also aiming to have a whole school walk through and also Y6 signing the stone slab of the floor.

Riley winners - Aida, Ghassan, Aarav, Kenzi, Taso and Hareem.

Zephaniah winners- Ryan, Summer W, Emily, Callum, Anne and Poppy R.

Silverstein winners - Rose, Sam, Olisa, Hajun, Leo and Clara.

### PTA Funds

Every year we ask staff and children how they think we should spend the money raised by our wonderful PTA. Now we would like to hear your thoughts.

We would be grateful if you could complete the very short Google form below.

<https://forms.gle/LVX8VJJ25d6XY8cv5>

### Homework

We are aware that there has been some discussion about home learning and marking expectations. This has been discussed in Parent Forum in the past too. Please see our policy [here](#). Class teachers do not deep mark home learning. This would take a great deal of time for teachers to do and it is uncertain how much adult input has been given. Teachers spend their time planning and marking work completed in school which is more informative. In our policy it says:

How will pupils receive feedback on their home learning?

Children receive feedback on their home learning in a variety of ways:

1. From grownups at home. It is important that children share their home learning with their grownups at home before sharing it at school.
2. From an adult in school - this may be in the form of a comment, stamp or sticker.
3. From their peers in school when home learning is shared with their class.

### Key Dates for February

W/C 29th January	Bikeability
29th January	Y6 Junior Citizen to Chessington
30th January	Upper school choir to O2
31st January	Full Governor meeting 6.30pm
2nd February	Goodall class assembly
9th February	Parent Forum meeting 9am
9th February	Bloom class assembly
9th February	Break for half term
19th February	INSET day school closed

W/C	20th February Book week
20th February	Pupils back in school
26th February	Y4 Tesla and Carver to Tate Modern
26th February	Y6 height and weight check
28th February	Y4 Turing and Goodall to Tate Modern

### Maths - Fractions Workshop for Parents

I would like to invite parents to a fractions workshop on Friday 15th March at 9am in the Junior Hall. This has been requested by parents to help improve your fraction knowledge as well as helping you to understand how we teach your children fractions in school. I will talk through what is taught in every year group and there will be an opportunity for you to practise using the methods, as well as asking questions. I hope to see many of you there!

*Miss Dunne, Maths Coordinator.*

### Parent Forum Meeting - Friday 9th February 9am

Please use this form to raise any questions for the upcoming Parents and Carers' Forum on Friday 9th February. Parents and Carers' Forum is for talking about school-wide issues, so if you have a question that's specific to your child, please talk to your child's class teacher. If you can get your questions in by Friday 2nd February, that will give us time to be ready with answers the following week.

*Matt West, Year 6 Teacher*

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAqHmvbpYSiUPpP4W6DK9lwurKPWwZtF-c5QRxX5KtmC4jnA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAqHmvbpYSiUPpP4W6DK9lwurKPWwZtF-c5QRxX5KtmC4jnA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

### Easyfunding

Easyfunding is an easy way to raise money for the school when you're shopping on Amazon and other online retailers, and it doesn't cost you a penny more. Please click on the link to find out more.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/burlingtonjuniors/?searchSessionId=699f41a6-525c-44a7-a6bd-d81a416f55d>

### Voluntary Contribution

These contributions help us to offer enriching experiences that cannot be paid for out of the school budget. We believe they will be educationally beneficial to the children and also allow us to continue to offer a diverse and exciting curriculum. For example, French food tasting, additional sporting activities, theatre companies who come into school to perform and extra art activities (which often require expensive resources), are all things we have spent your contribution money on in the past.

Please make your donation through your child's School Gateway account online. We will leave this on our School Gateway system for the whole year so if you wish to pay in instalments you can do so. It would be wonderful if we could have all parents support with this.

Thank you

### OPAL

You may have noticed a few different things on the playground and sometimes a little more mess on the play areas.

We have now set up digging areas on the front and back playgrounds. Each lunchtime children are busy making rivers and mud pools. They have also been making chocolate soups and other delights with the mud.

Thank you to Mr Douglas and some Y6 helpers who helped to build and then fill the sand pit outside Y3 for all children to use. This has been very popular with people making tunnels and pyramids in the sand.

Clearly you may see a little more sand and dirt on the playgrounds as we learn how to utilise all these spaces effectively.

We are also training up cleaning monitors who have been helping sweep and clear up any mess. The next step is getting the fallen tree on the field safe for playing on, and including sand and digging areas on the field also.