



Burlington Junior School Newsletter

Friday 19th December 2025



Banksy - Mrs Cripps
Kusama - Mrs Tal
Riley - Miss Morgan
Samba - Miss Golding



Carver – Mr Lawrence
Goodall - Mrs Kreczman / Miss Henry
Tesla - Miss Puvaneswara
Turing – Mr Panesar



Jemison - Mr West
Peake - Mr Kim
Sharman - Miss Rolfe
Wakata - Miss Duncombe/Mrs Harvey



Bloom - Miss Grinsted
Eliot – Mrs Le Voir-Matthews / Miss Wightwick
Silverstein - Mr Southren
Zephaniah – Miss Harris

Dear Parents,

Christmas is my favourite time of year in school and it has been lovely to hear the children singing Christmas songs at their concerts and seeing them enjoying pantos and parties and of course their delicious Christmas dinner cooked by Steph and her amazing kitchen team.

Thank you for all your help at the Christmas fair earlier this month, if you were part of the committee or looked after a stall, or set up/cleared up - or simply attended on the night and helped to raise further funds for the PTA and school improvement projects. It was a wonderful event and the children had such a lovely time.

I am sure you are looking forward to the festive holiday and spending time with family and friends. As usual we don't set homework over a holiday period, but there are lots of things to do on the school website year group pages. We always encourage x tables Rockstars and reading - don't forget to fill in the book bingo or carrying out some activities on the 'things to do' page (both are in the reading diary). If you want to get ahead, do look on the curriculum pages [here](#) for what the children will be learning next term.

We would love to hear from parent volunteers to hear children read and to help them cook in our new food tech room. Please do let your child's class teacher know if you can help.

Thank you for all your gifts and cards to the staff. It's very kind and much appreciated. I wish you all a relaxing and happy holiday - we return on Tuesday 6th January 2026. We especially think of all our families who have relatives affected by conflicts in the world and continue to hope for long lasting peace.

Best wishes,
Mrs Pip Utting

Monday 5th January

Tuesday 6th January

W/C Monday 12th January

Wednesday 14th January

W/C Monday 19th January

Wednesday 21st January

Friday 23rd January

INSET Day - school closed

Term begins - 8.45am

Y5 Bikeability

Year 4 Roman Workshop in school

Y5 Bikeability

Full Governing board meeting

Jemison Class Assembly - 2.50pm

Key Dates: See Spring 2026 term date card [here](#)

W/C Monday 26th January

Thursday 29th January

Friday 30th January
2.50pm

Y5 Bikeability

Y3 trip to Science Museum

Sharman Class Assembly -



We Are Super Learners...



Our House Captains reflect on the events and activities of this past half term.



Sachin
Aleksi



Isabel
Daniel



Arabella
Helene



Sabrina
Phoebe

Arabella - In my opinion the most interesting and exciting thing this half-term is definitely when we got to wear Christmas jumpers as I loved seeing everyone's jumpers and being able to wear clothes I find very comfortable too.

I loved the school fair as there were so many different stalls and shops. I had the fun advantage of running a stall during the Christmas fair which I found very fun! I also really like the lower school choir's songs and singing myself in the upper school choir!

I really enjoyed the Grand Opening on Wednesday this week as I got to hand out treats for the visitors and sing in the choir! Then all the House Captains got to have a photo with the Deputy Mayor.

I think that Christmas jumper day is an incredible day as I just love having the chance to wear my own clothes and also appreciate other people's!

I thought that the Christmas concerts were amazing because there were so many songs and notes to learn, but it all went very well! My class did 'Merry Christmas Everyone' by Shakin' Stevens and played Winter Wonderland on the glockenspiels. I really liked playing the glockenspiel as it's a new instrument that I have never played before.

I also had a very fun time listening to French storytelling this month too.



Aleksi - The thing that I enjoyed the most was when it was Christmas jumper day because all the different jumpers were really fun. One amazing event that took place was the panto, which everybody found really interesting and funny. I also really enjoyed the Christmas concert as everyone was amazing.



Helene - What I have enjoyed most about this month is the fact that sometimes we do Christmas activities and it is really fun. In my opinion, the Christmas school fair this year was better than any other years because there were many fun stalls like the crochet and jewellery stall that was in the Atrium. The Grand Opening was brilliant and it was interesting that the new school building took 7 years of planning and 2 years to build. My Christmas concert was fun because we got to learn a song, poem to play Winter Wonderland on glockenspiels. The French story was also fun because it was in French but also translated to English before every French sentence, so we knew what was happening - as well as how to say it in French. I also thought Christmas jumper day was nice because it was fascinating to see other people's Christmas jumpers and what was on them.



We Are Super Learners...



Our House Captains reflect on the events and activities of this past half term.



Sachin
Aleksi



Isabel
Daniel



Arabella
Helene



Sabrina
Phoebe

Isabel - This term I really liked the cinema trip, I enjoyed the movie lots! The fair was amazing, I was buying so much and I just really enjoyed it. Christmas jumper day was so festive and I really felt the Christmas spirit. The Christmas concerts were good, I loved learning all these Christmas songs!! When the MFL story teller came in I thought it was great and I learnt lots of new French words and loved seeing the performance!!!



Phoebe - The thing that I enjoyed the most was the Christmas dinner and the school Christmas Fair. I liked the Christmas dinner because it is very tasty and you can sit with your teachers. I also liked the Christmas fair because I got to run a stall with my friends and the games are really fun! I also like the Panto because it is always very funny.



Daniel - The thing I enjoyed the most about this month was the Christmas fair on the 5th of December. I think the school fair was good because it was at night time which made it more fun and it had some great games too. I liked the Grand Opening because I liked the speech that the Mayor did. I liked Christmas jumper day because it was fun to see other jumpers and they were comfortable. I think the Christmas concert was excellent because I like listening to the Christmas songs. I liked the French story telling lesson because we could go up to the front and act as one of the characters. The panto was fun because the actors interact with the audience and are funny.



Sachin - This month, I personally enjoyed practising and performing our Christmas concert because we worked really hard on it. I think Christmas jumper day was a great opportunity for the pupils to wear a jumper to symbolise the upcoming Christmas spirit with each other.



Sabrina - I have enjoyed the Christmas activities because I really like festive things. I enjoyed the panto, it was also really fun and enjoyable. The school fair was one of the best things because there were so many different stalls, games, food and many more things. We also got to spend time with our friends. I also really liked the Grand Opening because we got to see new guests who were really kind, and we got to show them the new school. I liked the Christmas jumper day because we got to wear our colourful jumpers. The Christmas concert was really fun and it really got me into the Christmas spirit - it was really fun singing and dancing to the music.

We Are Super Learners...



144 Club - Our New Members

Congratulations to our children who have become members of the 144 Club this month after working hard on their multiplication and division facts.



A big 'well done' to :

Year 3 - Ada K, Hugo, Jay A, Jianing

Year 4 - Ben H, Charlie L, Cormac, Eleanor, Elina, Ellie K (Carver), Emma GC, Eugenie, Juliet, Leo L, Leon B, Lingrong, Marco, Mithraa, Monty, Morayo, Vincent, Yunus

Year 5 - Diana, Helena, Isobel L

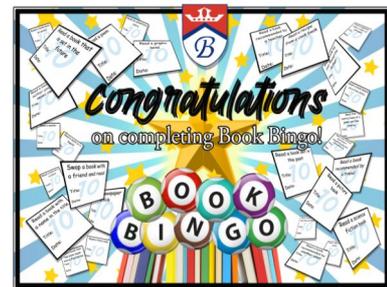
Year 6 - Daniel, Jack CS, Nirtana, Phoebe M (Bloom), Theo

If you have any concerns it is always good to give the school a quick call to see if we can help in anyway. The office can quickly direct you to the right staff member. Often, when emails are sent (especially if written with the help of AI), they can come across in a different way than intended. We always want to do all we can to resolve any worries you may have. Do come along to our termly Parent Forums too, they are good way to talk about school systems, including how school and home best share communications.

Book Bingo

Children who complete their Book Bingo in their diaries receive certificates from Mrs Utting and their name in the newsletter.

Well done to **Ava B, Eva B and Rogan in Y3 and Anna, Ariaah, Grace and Younha in Y5** who completed their Book Bingo



Things To Try Before You Leave Burlington

In pupils' reading diaries, and on the [school website](#), children can find a list of things to try before they leave Burlington Junior School. These lists contain a range of tasks which aim to deepen children's understanding of the world around them, support pupils in developing positive attitudes and challenge them to read a variety of texts.

Children who complete this receive a special diamond award from Mrs Utting for completing all the tasks.





Thank you!



Christmas Lunch

Thank you to Nourish for a delicious Christmas lunch yesterday. Steph and her team cooked nearly 1000 scrumptious lunches and the children had a wonderfully festive time.



Join us on a Festive Winter Trail around New Malden!

Sign ups are now live: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/bsa-pta/>

Windows will be lit every evening between
11th - 30th December from 5:00pm - 9:00pm.

Follow the trail, find the answers to the clues, and enjoy some Christmas cheer.

The house that receives the most votes for "favourite window design" will receive a Christmas Treat! And a random winner will also be selected from each submitted form with 8 or more correct answers.

If you have any questions about the event, please email us for support:

info.burlingtonpta@gmail.com

Completed forms must be received by 10pm on 30th December to be counted.

Our thanks to everyone who has decorated their windows this year, to help us raise funds for the Burlington Schools Association.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Official Opening

On Wednesday 17th December we had our 'official' opening. We had lots of important people come including those who helped build our school.

It was a great event and we would like to thank Sir Ed Davey MP and the Deputy Mayor for officially opening the school. The School Council and House Captains did an amazing job showing our guests around The Hive and The Honeycomb and serving refreshments.

Thanks also to the choir who performed brilliantly to our VIP's and shared some memories of the old building, as well as how they feel about coming to learn everyday in a lovely new school.



Busy Lizzy

For an extra special session, Lee from Busy Lizzy invited some children to decorate T shirts with a Christmas theme. Thank you Lee!





Gardening Award

Well done to Miss Kollarova and Mrs Gibbins who have worked so hard with their gardening club and the rest of the school resulting in BJS being awarded Level 2 of the RHS School Gardening Awards.

With the children they created a planting area, with things such as overwinter garlic, onions and spinach.

During assembly children were asked to write down their own gardening at school ideas. They collected letters, ideas, drawing and members of their gardening club (32 children from all the year groups) then decided and planned the activities.

Year 6 children suggested planting spring bulbs along the pathways to school, which they have done during their lunch breaks. They also working closely with the science lead, who included gardening and growing their own food in science lessons in Years 3-6.

A message from the Governors

Over the past term, governors have been busy supporting the school community. During Governors' Week, we all spent time speaking with children and staff about the new building. We were delighted to hear how much everyone is enjoying the space. Our SEND link governors, Julie Hickman and Mariam Uteem also carried out a focused visit to learn more about the important work of our SENDCOs, Mrs Case and Ms Duncombe.

We are pleased to see the new building up and running and continue to work closely with the local authority to help address any early teething issues.

If you would like to know more about the governing board and what we do there is a dedicated section on the school website with information about who we are and what we do.

<https://www.burlingtonj.kingston.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Governors&pid=25>

We wish all the families of Burlington Juniors, a happy and peaceful holiday season and for those who celebrate, a very Merry Christmas.



Thank you PTA for our Book Vending Machine

Thank you to the PTA who have generously funded our lovely new book vending machine in the library in the Honeycomb.

Children who achieve certain reading related activities (including a completed book bingo) will be able to 'purchase' a book from the machine using special tokens. This will be theirs to keep. More details to follow next term!

Girls' Football

A huge well done to our Girls' Football team - three superb group-stage wins (7-1, 3-0, 2-0) and a brilliant run into the cup knockouts! ⚽

Their teamwork, determination and resilience really stood out on the day!

We're also celebrating our new *Digital Award for Equal Access in Girls' Football* awarded by the FA which recognises **all** the work we've been doing to open up more chances for girls to play!

Thank you, parents, for your support as always - more competitions to come in the near future- watch this space!!👁👁 - Mr. Kim





And Finally...



Outdoor PE

Please make sure your child has tracksuit bottoms and top in their PE bag. It has turned very chilly and the children are outside for PE, sometimes during lunch too as they usually get changed before their afternoon PE lesson.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who bought a Poppy, we raised a massive £422.52 for the British Legion with the total raised in New Malden standing at an incredible £30,000.



Healthy snacks

Children should be provided with a healthy snack daily. The snack can be fruit, vegetables or a piece of hard cheese. Please no nuts, crackers/ rice crackers. If your child has any dietary needs please let the class teacher know.

Ed Davey's Christmas Card Competition

These Year 4 pupils were highly commended in the Ed Davey's Christmas card competition. Well done all of you!

Andi, Aroukeh, Isabella H, Kitty

NHS Guidance for Parents

Is my child too ill for school? – a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Taekwondo

Earlier this month Hayden in Year 4 went to Southampton for a taekwondo open competition with Wild Tiger Martial Arts teams

Hayden got a gold medal. He worked very hard and is very proud of his achievement.



Music

On Sunday 23rd November, I prepared and observed 3 of my pupils perform in a student concert organised by Kingston Music Service. Well done to all the children for a wonderful concert!

Henry (Y4) (pictured below) performed the 'Skip to My Lou' duet (with me) & he played both 'Primo' and 'Secondo' parts.

Anya (Y4) performed 'Hungry Herbie Hippo' (black key version) as a duet with me.

Tanvi (Y4) performed 'Swans on the Lake' solo.

Julie Cooper - KMS Piano Teacher



