

# Newsletter Autumn 1, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Welcome back everyone!

Although we remained open throughout lockdown, it has been wonderful to welcome back the entire school this week. Everyone is bright eyed and bushy tailed, and as one of the teachers has commented: there's a real buzz around the place! Although things are slightly different, we are trying hard to adapt our practices to ensure continuity. You will see the Dates for Diaries section is pretty sparse at the moment, as we are unable to have parents and carers in school. We are looking into having our usual events, such as Celebration Assemblies, via Zoom, or recording them and putting them onto the school Youtube channel (as we did for our Year Six leavers last summer). As you can imagine, this is still a work in progress, and we will be in touch nearer the time. The eagle-eyed amongst you may have noticed a slight change to the letterhead – I said we had been very busy! Having consulted with parents and carers about the school's vision and values, the staff, Governors and I have further worked on what we had started this time last year. We are now bringing the children on board – Kites and Falcons have worked with me this week on our new school vision, which we hope to encapsulate in three words: Celebrate, Collaborate and Pollinate. We have chosen Bees to symbolise our school – working together, creating a buzz around learning, and helping the environment. As we go through the term we will be sharing further work on this with you, and the children should become more and more confident in talking about it too!

## **New Starters**

Wow what a fantastic group of Reception children we have! They've been in school for four days now, and they look right at home: eating lunch in the hall, self registering in the morning, feeding Mrs Piggywinkle – they've taken it all in their stride. Congratulations too to Mrs Oakeley and Mrs Dollimore who had learned all their names by the end of day one... I'm nearly there too now!

# Pick up/Drop off

Day Two of the new improved system seems so be going smoothly too; thanks so much for your support with this. As I'm sure you can appreciate, it's difficult to know how plans are going to look 'on the ground' sometimes, but we will soon be into a routine. Miss Watson and Mr Easton will be outside in the mornings from 8.40 for Kites and Falcons to drop their children off (please stay with them until a staff member is outside), so hopefully we can alleviate some of the parking load too. Owls takes a little longer to set up in the mornings, so Mrs Oakeley and Mrs Dollimore will be out at 8.45.







## **Coronavirus and School Queries**

We have emailed a what-to-do style guide for all things Covid this morning. I think this will become more relevant as we head into autumn and beyond. As usual, please feel free to get in touch if you have any specific queries and we will do our best to help. Official advice is also available via these links:

# https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-householdswith-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection

## **Open morning**

Our usual plans for an in-school Open Morning for new starters 2021 are a little up in the air at the moment, we have lots of ideas, but in the meantime, if you know of any parents of new starters for next September, please could you help to spread the word? I hope we all agree about how fantastic our school is, and this year's record number of new starters was so exciting, we would love to beat it next year!

#### Website

We are moving websites shortly to a shiny new format, so for now newsletters will be via email only. We'll be in touch once the new website is up and running, but if you need any information in the meantime, please get in touch via phone, dojo or email.

## Wellies and overs

I think pretty much everybody in school has brought in their outdoor clothes. This is very timely as the grass was cut on Tuesday, and I'm sure the wet weather will be with us soon. Please leave wellies and overs at school so that they are always available.

## PE days

Our PE day system is up and running successfully, and the unexpected bonus has been an increase in active time for the children, as they no longer spend time getting changed. I think this is definitely something we will keep going after restrictions ease. For reference: Owls need to come in PE kit on Tuesdays, Kites on Fridays and Falcons on Thursdays. As the weather cools, please make sure your child has extra layers such as jumper/hoody and trackies. I would appreciate it if you could keep colours dark: grey, navy or black please. I am intending to avoid the fashion show opportunities!







## Twitter

Please do follow our school (@burnestonschool) on Twitter as we try to update as often as we can - it's a great way of sharing how brilliant our school is with the wider world

## Bottle tops/dressing up clothes

Thanks to everyone who has sent in these items from home. Please do keep collecting bottle tops and sending them in when you have a bag full – we are able to sanitise them in school. We hope to have enough collected by Spring term to create some stunning artworks for our Reflective Area. We've stored the dressing up clothes which have come in so far (grown up clothing rather than superhero style costumes please), and once restrictions ease we can use them for the whole school to have imaginative playtimes!

## **Reading books/homework**

All children should now be up and running with a reading book and diary. If your child hasn't received them, please get in touch with their class teacher. Kites and Falcons will be sending out information in the near future about spellings and maths homework, and our main focus for Owls is settling the children in happily. As we go further into the term, Mrs Oakeley will be in touch with Owls parents regarding how you can support from home in areas such as reading, phonics and maths.

Dates for diaries (these are only pencilled in at the moment, we will be in touch nearer the time to confirm)

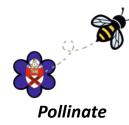
When	What	Who
Week Commencing 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent and Carer Consultations Week	All
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity, at St Michael's Kirklington	All











Here's just a taster of what's been going on around school this week:





