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Newsletter Autumn 12, 4th December 2020

After School Wraparound Care and Breakfast Club

Both sessions are growing week on week, which is great news for sustainability. Don't forget you can book in with Mrs Gatenby via dojo anytime during the school week. Children remain in their bubbles during these sessions, and our strict Covid Risk Assessments remain in place, so you can be assured that we are minimising risk during these sessions, just as during the normal school day.

NB: there will be NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB on the last day of term. Breakfast Club will run as normal that day though.

Alzheimer's Society fun and games

Well done to everyone who took part in our Christmas Elf competition – and especially well done to Mrs Bettles, who spent the week dressed as an elf – excellent commitment to the cause of the Alzheimer's Society! Thanks too to Mrs Beatty and MRs Beech for their delicious baking which helped to raise even more money! We will let you know our grand total once it's all been counted up. Don't worry if you forgot to send in your donation this morning, just send it in on Monday.

Virtual Archery and Virtual Science

We've worked around the Covid restrictions with a flourish this week – Kites and Falcons have been using archery kits supplied (and duly quarantined) by Richmond High School to hone our shooting skills, and competitors from Year 3 and 4 have sent their scores in to the area virtual archery competition. And Owls had their science beamed in virtually this week too – learning all about wildlife (see photo below).

Nativity

We had a very special visitor in school yesterday – no, not that one, this one had four legs and was carrying Mary around the field to Bethlehem... Our Nativity plans are well underway now, all the classes are involved with readings, carols and acting. Mr Easton/Spielberg has risen to the challenge of putting it all together into a video which will be added to the school's Youtube channel. We will send you a link to this as soon as we have finished – probably towards the end of the last week of term.



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Christingle

The ribbons have arrived, the oranges are being bought – it's Christingle time of year again. We will be making Christingle oranges over the next week or so in aid of the Children's Society.

Ofsted Questionnaires and Home School Learning Survey

Thanks to everyone who has handed in their questionnaire, there is still time to fill yours in over the weekend and return it on Monday – the more we have back, the better informed we are! I have now number crunched the Home School Learning survey and used the results in our new Home School Learning Policy/Procedure. This is going to Governors next week and will be sent to you before we break up. Thanks so much for taking the time to complete these, we really do appreciate it!

Christmas jumpers, lunches, parties and all things tinselly...

I am very aware that this year Christmas may be a tricky time financially for many families. For this reason, we will not be doing a Christmas jumper day – I don't want to put out the expectation that children need a new jumper for this one-off day in school. However, I also know that the children love an excuse to dress up, so as a compromise they can wear their Christmas finery for their class Christmas party – be that special jumper, sequins ago ago or as much tinsel as they can possibly muster! (I'm sure you won't be surprised to know that I am planning on wearing all three...). Dates for Christmas parties are below, please can children come in uniform with their clothes in a bag (otherwise playtime could ruin the aforementioned finery) to change into. Father Christmas has already left a gift for every child in school (thanks FOBS...) and we will make it a year to remember!

Donations for Thirsk Homeless Charity

One of our amazing Year Sixes has chosen to support Thirsk Homeless Organisation as part of his Duke of Burneston project. If you would like to help him, and them, please send your donation of food, toiletries (a more detailed list is below) in to school. Please don't forget this worthy cause – if you are thinking of donating, please send your goods in before the 10th December.



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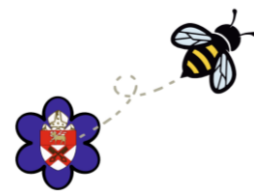




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Attendance

Now the effects of Covid have settled down a little, we'd like to keep you informed of our weekly attendance levels again. As you know, we have all been working extremely hard to catch up on any lost learning (and the results so far show that the children are making excellent progress with this), so now more than ever, your child's attendance at school will make all the difference to their attainment. Thank you all for your ongoing support with this aspect of our Ofsted improvement plan!

Owls: 99.7% Kites:99.3 % Falcons: 100%

Shout out to Falcons on their perfect score!

Twitter

Don't forget you can follow us on Twitter (@burnestonschool) to see what educational shenanigans happen around here!

Christmas Cards

The quarantine boxes are in the classrooms (though they cunningly look like Christmassy postboxes), and are already being filled with Christmas cards. Thanks for encouraging your child to use them rather than directly giving them out, it really helps to keep Christmas Covid safe.

Dates

When	What	Who
Monday 14 th December	Falcons Christmas party	Falcons
Tuesday 15 th December	Owls Christmas party	Owls
Wednesday 16 th December	Kites Christmas party	Kites
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch	All pupils
Friday 18 th December	Close for holidays NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB TODAY	All
Monday 4 th January	INSET day	Staff
Tuesday 5 th January	Back to school	All pupils



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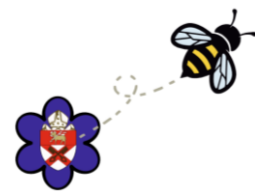




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Here's a taste of what's been happening around school this week:



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