

Headteacher: Mrs A Armstrong

Newchurch Road, Tadley, RG26 4HN

Tel: 01189 814498 Email: adminoffice@bcp.hants.sch.uk Website: <u>www.burnhamcopse.co.uk</u>

Friday 9th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update

PCSO

We were pleased to welcome our new Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), Bethany Ireland, when she visited us last week. She went to the doorway of every classroom to say a socially distanced 'hello' and enable the children to become familiar with her. You may well see her out and about in Tadley and we will definitely be receiving more visits from her over the coming months.

We had a surprise visit from Emma, our previous PCSO, whom the children have already met on a number of occasions. She has now been given a different local area to oversee but is still involved with Tadley so we may see her occasionally.

Walktober

Many of the children have told us that they are walking to school as part of the Walktober challenge. In school the classes have been doing laps of their outside learning and play zones. We will be adding up all of the laps completed over the month to see how far we have collectively walked as part of our challenge. Watch this space for updates on our progress!

Have any of you spotted Mrs Vatcher walking to school this week? She has been parking her car off site and completing the last part of her journey on foot. She will be walking a few more times throughout October – do say 'hello' if you see her.

Harvest

We may not be able to host our traditional Harvest Festival assembly but we will still be marking the occasion this year. Currently every child is preparing a contribution to a whole school display which will be put on the fence by the Newchurch Road entrance for you all to see. We are also producing artwork and other surprises for you. Further information will follow!

We are collecting for the local foodbank again and will be grateful to receive donations on Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October. We will then deliver all the items to the foodbank before we break up for half term, on Friday 23rd October.

Hands

I have heard from some parents about the effect of the necessary frequent handwashing we all have to do to contribute to infection control. Some children are beginning to get dry, sore hands. For most, a generous layer of hand cream before bedtime will help enormously, but some of you have told us that this has not completely solved the problem for all children. We don't want our children to be sore and we must make every effort to prevent cracked skin which could harbour infection.



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Therefore, if your child is suffering from very sore or cracked skin, he or she can now bring a hand moisturiser/cream into school. There are some vitally important things to note. The cream must not contain any nut products, argan oil or shea butter as we have children in school who have severe allergies and could be seriously affected by these ingredients.

It is also important that your child is able to open/close the container easily and is able to apply an appropriate amount of cream themselves. Please spend time showing him/her how to do this effectively and independently.

The cream will need to remain in the classroom and not move between home and school each day. It will be kept with your child's belongings on the desk in the classroom and should therefore be of a suitable size – not too big! A small sized tube will be perfect. Please make sure that the tube is named clearly.

In addition, it will help all our children if we all reinforce a few simple tips we have been explaining in school to help look after our skin.

- Wet your hands thoroughly before applying soap. This enables the soap to be diluted with water immediately it is applied and helps to create a good lather.
- Use the right amount of soap. If too much is used, it is difficult to rinse it all off. If it remains on the skin it will cause the skin to become excessively dry.
- Dry your hands thoroughly, including between the fingers and on the wrist.

Your children are coping amazingly well with all the changes to their usual routines and expectations. Thank you for helping us to support them.

Relax Kids

Welcome back to Kath Routledge who has started virtual Relax Kids sessions with our Year 3/4 classes. She has adapted her usual face-to-face sessions to enable her to lead from home and develop calm and relaxation strategies while the children sit at their tables in the comfort of their classrooms. The sessions are going brilliantly and we have had fantastic feedback from the children and staff. Thank you, Kath, for finding a way to continue to offer your valuable and vital support.

News from our Governors

There have been some changes on the Governing Body this year. We said goodbye to our fabulous clerk, Lisa Philpott, who has worked tirelessly to manage all the business of governance and diligently record our meetings and documents for over 10 years. She has overseen all our meetings, prepared papers and documents, managed all Governor records and ensured that we have remained compliant with statutory requirements. Her knowledge and expertise have been invaluable. We will miss her enormously and wish her well in all her future ventures. Thank you for all your commitment and hard work, Lisa.



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After many years served on the Governing Body, Jason Miles has decided to step down as Chair. His support and involvement in all aspects of the school has been incredibly valuable and we are grateful for the time and effort he has selflessly dedicated to all of us in the school community. We are very relieved that he will remain as an active Governor and continue to contribute to the strategic leadership of the school. Thank you for your steady leadership of the Governors, Jason and for your consistent determination to achieve the very best for our children.

Careyanne Williams has agreed to take on the role of Chair. She previously held the position of Vice Chair which has now been filled by Alison Dodd. Thank you to both ladies for being willing to step in and continue to move the governance of the school forward.

We also say goodbye to David Read who has stepped down as a governor after many years service. He was a Governor of the Infant School previously and was an integral part of the amalgamation process which joined the infant and junior schools to form our beloved Primary School in 2010. Remaining very much part of the school, he continued to serve as a Governor devising assessment systems, recruiting staff and monitoring all aspects of the school for the benefit of all the children. We are extremely fortunate to have had the benefit of his wisdom for many years. Thank you David. We hope you enjoy a well earned rest from your duties!

We currently have vacancies for Parent Governors on the Governing Body and look forward to welcoming new Governors to join us. If you would be interested in finding out more about what is involved, please contact the school office and we will put you in touch with someone who can talk to you. Governance is a very worthwhile and rewarding role. Being involved in the leadership structure and having an impact on the direction of the school is a chance to shape the education and overall experiences of all our children. We look forward to hearing from you.

We are also looking for a new clerk. If you think you may be interested, please let the school office know and we will arrange for you to be contacted to discuss the role in further detail.

Parent Consultations

This year we will be unable to have face-to-face parent consultations. Instead, they will be carried out over Zoom. There will be appointments available with your child's class teacher during the week beginning Monday 19th October. You will receive further information next week about how to book.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

Best wishes to you all.

Ali Armstrong Headteacher Email: <u>a.armstrong@bcp.hants.sch.uk</u>



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'Tomorrow will be a good day.' Colonel Tom Moore

Some superheroes don't wear capes...



...they wear medals

#Thank YouCaptainTomMoore

