



Burradon Community Primary School



Monday 6th January 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

On behalf of the Staff and Governors, may I wish you a Happy New Year and send our best wishes for 2025? I hope you all had a good and relaxing time over the Christmas holidays and are ready for the Spring Term!

1) Autumn Term 2024 Attendance update

Below are the individual class attendance figures for across the whole of the Autumn Term 2024. The Government's expectation is 96% and this should be the minimum that we are all aiming for this year.

Attendance for Tuesday 3rd September 2024 - Friday 20th December 2024

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Year 6	92.2%
Year 4/5	96.3%
Year 3/4	98.3%
Year 2	96.3%
Year 1	95.5%
FS2 (Ladybirds)	91.9%

The average attendance from Y1-Y6 across the Autumn term was 95.7% which is just below the 96% national expectation. Across the Autumn term, we had a large number of holidays and absences to attend events before Christmas taken during term time. In addition, we also had a sickness bug in our Early Years.

Hopefully, we can have a Spring term whereby we see an increase in attendance figures so that all classes are above 96%.

Attendance letters were sent out before the Christmas holidays. I did manage to speak to all parents / carers before the end of term where attendance was below 90% (red letter). All red letter pupils will have a period of monitoring for rapid improvements across January 2025.

If you would like to discuss your child's attendance with me, please call or email the school office and I will book an appointment over the phone or face to face.

2) Punctuality

Our gates open at 8:40am so that children can come into school and be ready for good start to their day.



A reminder that school officially starts at 8:50am with registration. Our lessons start promptly at 8:55am. We have a number of children who are coming in through the key stage doors between 8:55am and 9am and a few children who are coming in through the main door after 9am. This means that they are missing the start of their lesson which causes disruption for them but also for the rest of the children in the class who are ready to learn. Please can I ask for your support to ensure your child is in school on time at 8:50am? Many thanks.

3) School Uniform

To ensure we start the Spring Term off in good fashion, a quick reminder of our agreed school uniform, **including black shoes** and PE kit.

Our agreed school uniform

<u>School Uniform</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• White or yellow polo shirt• Royal blue sweatshirt• Grey or black trousers• Grey or black skirt• Blue or yellow checked dress (in summer)• Grey or black shorts (in summer)• Black shoes

Please can I ask for your full support with our agreed school uniform? Phone calls home will be made where children are not in the right uniform. Many thanks.

4) PE Uniform

All children, from FS2 to Y6, will need to bring their correct PE kit into school and leave on their peg each week to get changed into. **The correct school PE kit must be worn.** We will make phone calls home to arrange for the kit to be brought in or will provide a spare kit for your child to wear if they do not have the correct kit. **Children are to wear their school jumper if it is cold on top of their PE uniform.**

Our agreed PE uniform

<u>PE uniform</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• White t-shirt• Dark shorts (navy blue or black)• Dark tracksuit bottoms (navy blue or black for the colder weather)• Suitable footwear, e.g sandals or trainers• School jumper (if cold)

We have our Year 6 class (Wednesday afternoon) and our Y3/4 class (Wednesday morning) going swimming across the Spring term with the letter being sent out before the holidays via School Comms. Your child's class teacher will let you know the dates for individual class PE lessons in their class newsletter for this half term.

5) Jewellery

Please can I remind parents / carers that it is school policy that no jewellery is worn in school. Jewellery can be a serious risk to the children's safety during P.E sessions, playtimes, lunchtime sport activities and after school activities. There are lots of opportunities for children to get jewellery caught which can cause nasty injuries. Towards the end of last term, staff have noticed pupils coming into school with necklaces, chains, rings and earrings. Clear earrings are also not allowed in school or plasters over earrings.

The only exception to our no jewellery policy is a watch which needs to be removed for PE and Sport sessions. A reminder that we do not allow SMART watches in school as they have the facility to take pictures and send messages which is against our safeguarding policies and procedures.

Please can I ask for full parental support with this aspect of Health and Safety from our pre-school to Year 6. Many thanks for your support.

6) Names

Please can we ask parents / carers to ensure that all items of their children's clothes are names including jumpers and coats? One Y2 sized jumper looks very much the same as another Y2 sized jumper. Lost clothing, once located, is much easier to return to the rightful owner if it is named! Many thanks for your support with this.

7) Reading

Reading fluency and the enjoyment of reading are a high priority across the school. As parents / carers, you can continue to support at home by reading regularly at home with your child and by writing regular comments in their reading diaries each week. You are never too young or old to read or be read a story to!!!

We want to get off to a flying start with reading this Spring term and very much appreciate regular reading taking place at home. It makes a real difference and the children love telling the teachers when they have been heard read at home and by who!

8) Safeguarding

As we start the new year, can I remind parents / carers that safeguarding is everyone's business? If you have any Child Protection or Safeguarding concerns, please speak to

- Miss Hunter (Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs Little (Deputy Head and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs Kane (SENDCo and Additional Designated Safeguarding Lead) – currently on maternity leave



- Mrs Hopper (HLTA and Additional Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Any member of staff (who will pass on your concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead)

I am sure you will agree that we all need to work together to ensure that our children are safe both in school and out of school.

9) And finally..... congratulations!

I am delighted to inform parents that Miss Watts, our Y6 class teacher, is expecting her 1st baby in April. We wish Miss Watts a healthy, happy and safe pregnancy. I am sure you will join with us in sending very best wishes to Miss Watts and her partner on their wonderful news.

I will be in touch with our Year 6 parents / carers towards the end of February / beginning of March with the staffing arrangements for our Year 6 class until the end of the summer term.

Yours Sincerely

A.L.Hunter

Miss A.L. Hunter
Headteacher

Upcoming events at Burradon Community Primary School

Letters for events and activities below, where appropriate, will follow.

6 th January	<u>Teacher Training Day 3 (school closed to all pupils)</u>
7 th January	<u>School re-opens after Christmas holidays</u>
8 th January	9am - Multiplication Tables meeting for parents / carers of children in Y4
10 th January	House Team Event linked to Primary Engineer Project (D&T)
15 th January	9am – Burradon Helpers
16 th January	Fun Lunch promotion
17 th January	La Petite Crêperie working in Y3/4 and Y4/5 linked to French enrichment
21 st January	9am – Phonics Screener meeting for parents / carers of children in Y1
21 st January	Y6 at Safety Works session (afternoon)
23 rd January	FS1 parent / carer art and craft session at 9am
24 th January	FS2 parent / carer art and craft session at 9am
3 rd February	Children's Mental Health Week 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'



5 th February	Y4/5 visit to Newcastle University for Coding Enrichment
6 th February	9am – End of KS2 SATs meeting for parents / carers of children in Y6
11 th February	Safer Internet Day
14 th February	Y2 working with skipping coach (afternoon)
21 st February	Careers Sharing Assembly at 9:05am
21 st February	<u>School closes at end of today for February half term holidays</u>
3 rd March	<u>School re-opens after February half term holidays</u>
7 th March	British Science Week (7 th – 16 th March) – theme is Change and Adapt
10 th March	Empathy Week
10 th March	Y6 Financial Education talks (afternoon)
13 th March	Y2 visit to Newcastle Cathedral (afternoon)
18 th March	9am – Burradon Helpers
18 th March	Parent / Carer Teacher Night (online booking will follow)
19 th March	Y2 visit to Newcastle Quayside and Discovery Museum (all day – TBC)
19 th March	Parent / Carer Teacher Night (online booking will follow)
11 th April	<u>School closes at end of today for Easter holidays</u>
28 th April	<u>School re-opens after Easter holidays</u>
5 th May	<u>School closed for Bank Holiday Monday</u>
12 th May	<u>Key Stage 2 (Year 6) SATs week</u>
21 st May	Y3/4 visit to Newcastle University for Coding Enrichment
26 th May	<u>School closes at end of today for May half term holidays</u>
2 nd June	<u>Teacher Training Day 4 (school closed to all pupils)</u>
3 rd June	<u>School re-opens after May half term holidays</u>
17 th June	Y3/4 Newcastle History trip (TBC)
19 th June	Y4/5 Newcastle History trip (TBC)
23 rd June	EYFS trip to Cullercoats (TBC)
3 rd July	Y6 trip to Alnwick Gardens (all day – TBC)
18 th July	<u>School closes at end of today for summer holidays</u>

www.burradoncommunityprimaryschool.co.uk
info@burradoncommunityprimary.org.uk

