



# Burford Primary School

*Respect, Achieve, Aspire*

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 Newsletter 1

It has been a privilege and a joy to receive such a warm welcome to Burford Primary School this week. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know children, staff, parents and governors over this last few days. I'm looking forward to getting to know more of you over the coming few weeks. Do come over and introduce yourself at home time. I'm keen to learn as many parents' names as I can.

What a lovely setting for a lovely school. Burford is the most beautiful town and the children are very lucky to have a school with such gorgeous outside space. Lunchtime on the paddock is very special.

The children have been delightful. I've certainly enjoyed being greeted with such friendly smiles and a thoughtful word or two. I was particularly impressed with Upper School's lining up and listening to instructions as they were preparing for their visit to the Ashmolean on Monday and Lower School's beautiful listening skills in my assembly.

Our theme for this week's assembly has been kindness to others, inspired by the beautifully illustrated *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*, when the mole asks the boy what he'd like to be when he grows up. "Kind" replied the boy and kind is what we can all aspire to be, both now and throughout our life journey. We talked about how we can show kindness and the positive impact of being kind on both the receiver and the giver. I was really pleased by the depth of the children's responses and their grasp of kindness spreading beyond their immediate community.

My heart for a school community is that all feel valued, welcomed, cared for, listened to and understood. Kindness feels like a great starting point here. The delightfully illustrated book "Everyone's Welcome – no matter who you are" by Patricia Hegarty helped our younger children recognize that kindness to others helps build friendship, confidence, and a feeling of belonging. Our class recognition boards, capturing acts of kindness this week will be shared in our celebration assembly later today. and I'm sure this will be a source of encouragement for all of us. I do hope you enjoy looking through the rest of our new format Friday newsletter.



Elizabeth Mason (Interim Head Teacher)

## Look how we've been engaging with our new topics ...

**Wysdom Class** have made a very exciting start to their topic with a trip on the first day of term! We really enjoyed our trip to the Ashmolean and the children were a delight to be with. The education staff were so impressed with their knowledge, thinking and reasoning skills - well done Wysdom!



We spent our day in 3 zones: firstly, we visited the Elias Ashmole room to learn about the founder of the museum, and to explore some of his personal collection. The children used this to generate ideas for their personal museum: what would they include and why?



After that, we spent some time in the sculpture gallery, sketching the artwork: this will tie into our art work this term. Finally, we spent time with the museum education staff, exploring and handling real Ancient Greek artefacts and looking at different interpretations of the past. This was a very valuable day to develop the children's historical understanding and I am really looking forward to exploring the topic more over the coming weeks.

**Tolsey Class** enjoyed a visit from the Oxfordshire Museum to kick off this term's topic: Emperors and Empires. The children took part in several workshops: the first being all about the Roman soldier, looking at all the armour and weapons before experiencing a Roman Army drill.



The second workshop focused on Roman dress, discussing the material, fashions and how these showed a person's status.



Finally the children handled a mixture of genuine and replica Roman artefacts, discussing what they had been used for.



**The school office will be closed on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April.**

Please leave any messages on the school answer machine. This will be checked regularly throughout the day.

**Priory Class** started learning about Ancient Greece this week with a trip to the Ashmolean Museum, which the children really enjoyed.



Not only did we get to view the beautiful cast gallery to learn about the ancient culture and society, but the children were also given an opportunity to handle real artefacts that were thousands of years old.



The children lead deep discussions about what they thought the purpose of various statues and artefacts were and how they were important to the Greek society.

Additionally, the children learnt about the history of the Ashmolean they considered the cultural significance of the gallery and why Elias Ashmole began his collection and why he chose to include certain artefacts within his collection.



The children then took this concept and used it to design their own museum collection, considering what they would want within their gallery.



This week in **Windrush Class** we have begun our new topic 'Emperors and Empires', which will include learning about Ancient Rome and the Roman invasion of Britain. We kicked off our History with a Roman day.



We started by looking at a range of Roman pottery and we made our own out of clay.



We learnt how to be Roman soldiers and followed Latin commands, just like the soldiers in ancient Rome would have done.



We were then fortunate enough to have a visit from The Oxfordshire Museum. They bought some Roman clothes to try on and lots of artefacts to investigate.



It was a really fun day and we are excited to learn more about the Romans now.



Welcome to Term 5 and a brand new topic in **Warwick Class** 'Big Wide World.' We have got straight to work investigating planet earth this week, thinking about the oceans, deserts, polar regions and land and how these climates differ. The children made this wonderful collage of planet earth and asked questions such as "where is the hottest place on earth?" "Why is there green and blue on planet earth?" and "Where do polar bears live?" These are all wonderful questions that we are looking forward to investigating.



We have really enjoyed using the globes to find where different countries are too. Thank you to those parents who have begun sending in photos of their child on holiday / in a different climate and those using different modes of transport, we are really looking forward to sharing them in class.



We have been thinking about the different types of transport we use to travel planet earth and I'm sure you will agree our paintings are amazing! One child said "My grumpy came to stay from Australia on an aeroplane because aeroplanes can take us on holiday!"



Later in the term we are hoping to visit the Cotswold Wildlife Park to enhance our learning on animals and their habitats, more details will follow soon.

## Going to Burford Public Library

Starting week beginning 24.04.23 classes will be visiting the library weekly or fortnightly.



Warwick	Thursdays
Windrush	Thursdays
Tolsey	Wednesdays
Wysdom	Thursdays
Priory	Fridays



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## For families supporting children on the autistic spectrum

Please come and join us on **Friday 28th April** for a friendly cuppa and chat.

Welcome Church, High St,  
Witney OX28 6HL  
10am - 12noon

All families welcome, with or without a diagnosis.

To confirm attendance, or just to ask any questions, please email [chatandacuppa@yahoo.com](mailto:chatandacuppa@yahoo.com)

Upcoming dates: Friday May 26th and Friday June 30th



# Dates for your diary

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	West End in Schools are visiting our school for "A Coronation Event" – a dance, drama and music workshop to celebrate the forthcoming Coronation
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 5 Enrichment Day at Burford Secondary School (please see parentmail 19.04.23)
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Mrs Beaney's Class parents evening appointments (see parentmail 19.04.23)
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Mrs Docherty, Miss Gore, Mr Lillie and Ms Brown's parents evening appointments
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Mrs Beaney, Mrs Docherty, Miss Gore & Ms Brown's parents evening appointments
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Mrs Hunt is out all day – school office emails/answerphone will be picked up periodically throughout the day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday: school is closed
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Quidditch Day event for all the school (details to follow)
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Coronation Celebratory Picnic Lunch (details to follow)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday: school is closed

## Attendance



Our whole school attendance WK beg 17.04.23	Our attendance target is
94%	97%

## Industrial Strike Action

There is a further planned strike action day for NEU members on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April. All classes will be operating as usual on this day.



Impact Education have put together some short videos for busy parents wanting to know how to support their child's mental health and well-being. For the next few weeks, I'll post a different video link that may be a helpful resource for you and your family.

Here is the first one: [Managing Anxiety](#) with 3 practical tips to support our children when they feel "stuck" in worry.

## Online safety for parents



The NSPCC are providing a free 10 minute digital training session, with the intention of empowering every adult to know what to do if a child needs help and where to go if you need support yourself.

[sign up and take the training](#)

### **Safeguarding Children – what to do if you think a child is at risk of abuse or neglect:**

**Immediate danger** – if you think a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999

**Immediate concern** – if you have a concern about a child, please call MASH on 0345 050 7666

A special helpline is available if you are concerned that a child you know is being **sexually exploited**, contact the Kingfisher Team on 01865 309196

[Concerned about a child / OSCB](#)