

The Burpham Blog Autumn Term Issue 3 9th October 2017



It definitely feels like Autumn has arrived. As the weather changes please make sure that your child has a suitable coat to wear as we try to get outside in all weathers. After half-term children should all be wearing their winter uniforms please.

Thank you for your continued support to raise funds for the school. Sadly the national schools funding crisis is still very much an issue with the impact of cuts on school budgets threatening educational improvements across the country. In 2010, a group of parents from Burpham undertook the **National 3 Peaks Challenge**, climbing the highest peaks of Scotland, England and Wales in under 24 hrs, and raised **£13,900** to buy laptops for the school in the process. Then, in 2014, another group repeated the feat, raising a further **£16,100** towards renovating the playground.

In what's becoming a bit of a tradition, they are planning to do this again in summer 2018. If you're interested in joining them on this fantastic fundraising feat, either as a walker or as part of the support / driving team, come along on **Wed 11th October at 7:30pm** to a short presentation in the School Hall.

On the night, you'll hear about our previous exploits, learn about the training required for such a challenge, and of course find out how your efforts benefit your children's school.

MacMillan Coffe Morning



Thank you to everyone that supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning, either by helping to set up/clear away, bake or buy. Between us we managed to raise an amazing **£403.03!**

Drop-in afternoons

This Thursday, 12th October, will be a drop-in opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom after school and have a look at all the wonderful work they have been doing. Classrooms will be open until 3.45pm and the A3 playground will remain open until that time if you need to need to leave a buggy outside, as unfortunately we cannot accommodate them inside the school. The drop-in date next half term will be Thursday 14th December.

Class Zone



The Kestrels and Falcons enjoyed an afternoon of team building and tag rugby last week as we were joined by a group of 6th Formers from the Royal Grammar School, along with their PE coach. The children had a great time and we hope to arrange further opportunities to work together in the future.

Drug Freeze



On Thursday 5th October, The **Guildford Flames** (The Guildford Ice-Hockey team) came into Year 6 to talk about drugs. They talked to us about how to deal with them

and what to do in a situation where someone was forcing you to try the drugs. To help us remember what to do, they taught us three simple statements – NO, GO, TELL.

Signs of someone having drugs: Smell it on their hair, breath and clothing; their teeth might start to rot; they may start to cough and have a croakier voice than usual; get into fights and get more aggressive than usual; tiredness.

Luckily for us, The Flames had time for three people to try on the full kit – Julia, Lottie and Lewis. Julia wore: leg pads, shin pads, really long socks, shoulder pads, jersey, elbow pads, skates, helmet. I'm (Emilia) a really big Guildford Flames fan, I had brought my special Guildford Flames scarf in and got both of them to sign it for me – which I was extremely pleased about! Overall we had an excellent time with the Flames and learnt lots about the dangers of drugs. Please look on the Eagles' webpage for photos and keep checking for our drug awareness powerpoints.

Lily and Emilia, Year 6 Eagles

Sponsored Walk

What a wonderful morning we all had last Friday! All the children took part in our **sponsored walk** and most of them managed to keep going for the whole hour walking the half kilometre circuit around the school. As you can see from the photos, the younger children were supported by the older ones and we witnessed so many instances of support, kindness and encouragement. Well done everyone! Your child should have brought home a slip with their total laps and distance recorded so that they can start to collect their sponsorship money which should be paid using Scopay in the usual way by this Friday 13th October. If you are unable to pay online then please hand the money/cheques to the school office.. Thank you so much for supporting our school. All funds received will go towards improving our playgrounds.



Olympic Times Table Challenge

Congratulations to everyone who took part in our first Olympic Times Tables Challenge of 2017-18. We are delighted with the resilience of so many of the children who take part in the challenge every month and despite getting one or two wrong each time, keep on trying until they succeed. You are all brilliant! This month's winners are :-

Olympian	Bronze	Gold
Freya Lewis Yr 4	Macwell McArdle Yr 6	Yundi Chen Yr 6
Holly Southgate Yr 4	Oqtay Eslamdoust Yr 5	Aayan Bhagat Yr 5

The next Olympic Times Tables Challenge will take place on Friday 20th October

PSA



We have two **Bag 2 School** collections this school year on Friday 1st December 2017 and Friday 8th June 2018. For those of you who aren't aware, this is a collection of unwanted clothing, paired shoes, handbags/bags and belts. The items donated by parents are taken away and weighed and the school receives a donation depending on the weight of the items received. This is an easy way to help raise funds for the PSA and it often mounts up to over £300 per collection! If you are having a 'clear out' over half term, please hold onto any unwanted items for our next collection date in December. Please don't return your filled bags until 1st December as we do not have any storage space at school. Bags will be distributed soon.

Staff news



The old ripped chairs in our staffroom are no more! Thanks to the Governors' Fund which comes from the school's lettings, we have been able to replace them with some lovely new ones. The school council had their first meeting sitting on the new chairs this half term and one of the Year 4 councillors, Daniel, was particularly impressed and would like to thank the governors on behalf of the school council.

From the Office



Our website provider, Webanywhere, have been making improvements to the school's website. The changes will be made this Wednesday therefore if you are using the website please be aware that you may not be able to look at particular pages and you may see the message 'website under construction'. In November we are also

easily look at the website on their mobiles phones, tablets etc.

A FREE FAMILY TICKET TO KIDTROPOLIS COULD BE YOURS

If you're wondering what to do with the kids in Half Term Kidtropolis at Excell in London is a great option. With shows by The Next Step, Sooty, Fireman Sam, and more it's a great day out. One lucky family from Burpham Primary can win a FREE FAMILY TICKET (worth £66) by entering a raffle.

Tickets are just 20p each and go on sale TODAY until THURSDAY 12th OCTOBER. The winner will be announced on FRIDAY 13th OCTOBER.

To request yours email ruth@orchidpr.co.uk or look out for Ruth at pick up time.

100% of proceeds go to the school.

Pedestrian Crossing A3100

Do you:

- a) walk/ cycle/ scoot to school, or want to?
 - b) need to cross the A3100 London Road to do so?
- If so - **we need your help!**

There is currently **no pedestrian crossing** for those who live on the Eastern side of the road to get safely across. This includes anyone walking to school from Winterhill Way, Great Oaks Park, London Road, Mead Way, Orchard Road and New Inn Lane - and many others!

Crossing the road is **not safe** - cars are coming off the A3 at 40mph and pedestrians are reliant on drivers stopping or slowing to get across.

We are campaigning to bring this issue to the Council's attention and to **secure funding for a crossing**. We have made contact with our local councillor, Graham Ellwood. The next step is to make a case to him as to how this is affecting pupils at Burpham Primary.

If this is your walking route to school, or if you drive to school to avoid walking this route, please get in touch with me at jmunday1980@gmail.com by the end of October.

Ideally, please:

- send me a few lines about your experience of crossing the road - or if it puts you off crossing altogether!
- indicate if you would be willing to put your name on a petition to Cllr Ellwood to get a crossing installed.

Jenny Munday