



# Burchetts Green CE Infant School

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Mrs Delia Sheppard  
Headteacher

12<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

May I start by thanking you on behalf of the staff and I for the kind wishes, cards and presents we received over the Christmas period. They really are very much appreciated. I would also like to wish you a happy New Year and welcome you back to what I'm sure will be another fantastic year at Burchetts Green. This term our topic is The Elements...



The children will have the opportunity to investigate all four areas of our topic before the end of term three. The staff have lots of exciting outdoor activities arranged including bird watching, a visit from White Waltham Airfield, woodland walks and fire making when the children will make fires and cook marshmallows!

## Swimarathon



This year, once again, Burchetts Green Infants – as well as past pupils – took part in the Rotary Club Swimathon and did exceptionally well. We have the youngest children, a team of six children from Key Stage One, taking part and between them they swam over 90 lengths! The children also had a big surprise when the Prime Minister, Theresa May arrived to watch them.

## Walk to School

We are all very aware of the need for children to exercise to keep their bodies and minds healthy. Many schools across Europe are adopting the idea of getting children active for 15 minutes or for 'a mile a day'. We at Burchetts Green have been ahead of the game by adopting an outdoor learning ethos which involves lots of physical activities in the children's daily education. However we'd like to take this further and eventually be able to say – 'A Mile a Day – the Burchetts Green way'!



To help this endeavour we would like to create an activity/sensory path around the inside parameter of the school – monitory support for this venture will be a fund raiser activity and we have a few ideas up our sleeve that I will share at our FOBGS meeting (**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January**).

We are also extending our 'Walk to School' Wednesdays so that initially they will become a regular monthly activity. To this end I am delighted that Mrs Diver and Mrs Milne have volunteered to arrange 'Walk to School Wednesdays' throughout the year. We have chosen Wednesdays as the children will be in their PE kit. Mrs Diver and Mrs Milne will send the dates and start time to you (they are also on our website). Generally the walks will be on the third Wednesday of the month - but please check each individual date as holidays and other dates have at times meant a change to this. Please dress according to the weather!

You can park in the church car park and join the walk or leave your child with us to take to school across the fields near Stubbings Nursery.

To learn more about the benefit of physical exercise for children you can visit <http://thedailymile.co.uk/> which is the website for the Daily Mile Foundation.

### Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's between January and May. Please post your vouchers in the collection boxes either in the Office or the parent post box – thank you.



### Website Video



Over the next few weeks our video will be being filmed. Mr Bishop, our camera man, will be visiting school to capture special moments in the school calendar as well as day to day life. Please could I remind you that if you do not want your child to be part of this video to inform Mrs Derrett or Mrs Cullum in the school office, thank you.

### FOBGS and Parent Reps

The FOBGS and the Parent Rep teams do an amazing job in so many ways; as well as raising considerable funds for the school (FOBGS), they help the school keep communication open (Parent Reps) and I would like to offer a big thank you for all that they have done and continue to do.

On **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January** at 8.00 pm FOBGS have a meeting for all parents and friends of the school to attend. It will be an opportunity to look at the activities that take place. It will also be a forum to discuss how we will spend the funds raised and where I can report on activities within school as well as communicate new initiatives such as an early morning club we hope to start before the school day and an increase in the number of walk to school sessions. Please could I warmly invite you to attend – we would love to have you with us.

### White Waltham Air Field Visit

As part of the 'Air' aspect of our topic the children will be looking at *flight*. To support their learning on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January** we are being visited by members of White Waltham Airfield. They are bringing a plane cockpit and simulator with them and all the children will be able to take part in this experience. They are also bringing Peddle Planes with them and there will be other artefacts on display in the hall to accompany a short talk by the club members about flight.

### Maidenhead's Got Talent

We have been invited to take part in the Rotary Club show 'Maidenhead's Got Talent'. This is a new venture for us and we are very excited to be involved! The children will be learning two songs and some might be included in a dance routine as well - time being the issue here!



The show takes place on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** at Taplow Court and the children need to be at the venue by 2.00 pm. They will travel with staff by coach. The show starts at 3.30 pm (this is the matinee performance) and parents and siblings are invited to join us. The show finishes at 5.45 pm and you will then be able to take your child home. If you are not intending to watch the show please collect your child at 5.45 pm. This is a longer day than usual for the children but we hope that as it is a Friday afternoon it will not interrupt routines too much.

Tickets are available to purchase NOW at <http://rotary-in-maidenhead.org.uk/gottalent>. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the event, subject to availability. The prices are:

Adult	£8
Under 16 and senior citizens	£6
Pre-school age children	Free



Some refreshments are available but please provide your child with a packed 'tea time' meal and a drink.

This is a lovely opportunity for the children to perform to a wider audience and supports our Gold Artsmark status.

### Chocolate Topic Day

On the subject of gold ... on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February** the children will receive a 'Golden Ticket' inviting them to attend, for the day, Burchetts Green Chocolate Factory. The Chocolate Factory will be opened at 8.45am and will be a delicious day full of surprises! Please remind your child to bring their golden ticket and to arrive in time for the grand opening.



### Parent Evening Appointments

Please add our parent evening dates to your diary. They will be on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30 – 5.30 pm** and **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 5.00 – 7.00 pm**. Mrs Derrett will send you a booking form with first and second time preferences nearer to the date.

### Gymnastics Display

On **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** Mr Smith, our PE teacher, has arranged for the children to give a short gymnastics display to show the skills that the children have learnt this term. The times are:

Tawny Owls 11.15 – 11.45 am

Barn Owls 1.15 - 1.45 pm

Snowy Owls 2.00 – 2.45 pm

You are welcome to attend and see the progress your child has made over the term.

### Mother's Day Celebrations



On **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** we are holding a Pamper Morning and Nail Bar for all Mothers and other Ladies involved in the lives of our children! We will start with a short assembly at 9.10 am and then the children will carry out the pamper sessions and nail bar activities in their classrooms. We do hope you will be able to attend.

### Food Share

Following the success of our offering to Food Share after our Harvest Service last year we have decided to give regularly to this local charity. We will provide a bin which will be available for donations of tinned or dried foods. This will be kept by the water cooler at the children's entrance. We can also accept donations of disposable nappies, infant milk and shampoo or soap. Thank you.



### Sickness

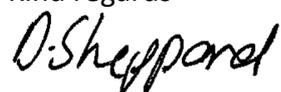
Please see the school's website regarding when and for how long children should be kept off school following all types of illness. Click the 'parents' drop down bar and go to 'policies' then click on 'Guidance on Infection Controls'. This document gives the recommended time a child will need to be off school after they have been ill, including when they have been sick.

### Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

The Maidenhead 'Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child' team contacted the school to thank everyone for the contributions to the 2016 shoebox campaign.

7,611 gift-filled shoeboxes were sent out from the Maidenhead Processing Centre which means your effort and generosity contributed towards a tangible difference in the lives of 7,611 underprivileged children. The shoeboxes were sent to children in Albania, Estonia, Romania and Ukraine.

Kind regards



Mrs D Sheppard