

Burrough Green Church of England Primary School

'The fastest small school in Cambridgeshire'

Burrough Green, Nr, Newmarket, CB8 9NH

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Headteacher: Mrs. Madeline Vosper



15th November 2017

Dear parents and carers

What another great week we are having with so much excellent learning going on around the school! After doing a 'Learning Walk' this morning I felt that I would write to you all and give you a snapshot of part of the day.

This morning the children were treated to one of our fortnightly 'Open the Book' Acts of Collective worship led by visitors from St Mary's Church in Newmarket. They told, and acted out, the story of Joseph and his amazing coloured coat. This week our theme is 'Who is our neighbour?' and other morning worships are focused on who we can care for around us and our responsibility to 'do the right thing'. This Thursday, Mrs Street will be doing a special Internet Safety Assembly in order to help our children understand how to use the internet and mobile 'phones safely.

While doing break duty this morning it was lovely to see the children enjoying themselves outside. Many were in the woodland area playing imaginatively and building structures with a variety of materials. Other children were playing tennis while others were playing running games on the playground. No footballs were in sight as we need to purchase some new sponge balls – they do seem to go over the fence rather often! As always at Burrough Green, it is a pleasure to see the younger children being supported in their play by the older pupils.

After break I began my 'Learning Walk' around the school. Headteachers and subject leaders do these regularly to monitor the teaching and learning that is going on in school. Children in Class 4 were involved in a spelling lesson with Mrs Street and they had taken their spelling test before I entered the class. In Class 3 'Guided Reading' was in full force with three different groups working with an adult, reading round in a group and then answering questions put to them. This is one of the ways reading comprehension is taught in school. We are ordering some new 'Guided Reading' stamps so that parents will see when children have had such a reading session with an adult. While some children are reading in a group, other children will be working independently; groups and activities are rotated from session to session.

Tuesday is a busy day in school because it is the day when Mrs Page, our Music teacher, and Madame Kelly, our French specialist teacher are in school. They teach all the children at some point in the day while teachers get a certain amount of 'planning, preparation and assessment' time (PPA). The quality of the teaching in both Music and French, and the standards that children then achieve, are very good here at Burrough Green – but most importantly the children really enjoy these lessons.



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This morning I was entertained by Class 2 learning a song all about 'Recycling' while playing their own homemade instruments – see the school website for a taster! The children are preparing to perform the song at our open afternoon on **Friday 24th November** – I hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for some exciting activities with your children. I then stopped off briefly in Class 1 who were enjoying a story about the three bears told in French. Madam Kelly's method of teaching is to talk to the children in French for most of the lesson – by the continued use of repetition the children soon understand the meaning of common French words and phrases.



At lunch time I was working alongside the year 5 girls running the gardening club for Class 3 children. Today we were tidying up the area at the front of school and the children planted up a number of new containers with bulbs, shrubs and Viola's. Look out for them next time you come into school.

Finally, I would just like to say thank you to all those of you who were able to join us for our Remembrance service last Friday. I was extremely proud of all the children and the role they played in the time of worship. The time of silent reflection outside by the

war graves was very moving and I felt that the children were extremely mature in their behaviour. As there was no Remembrance service at St Augustine's on Sunday, our school cross, adorned with the poppies made by the children, will stay at the church for a week or so.



Thank you also to all of you who attended our parent consultation meetings last week. We had a great turnout and we had 55 completed surveys returned. It is reassuring for all staff and governors to know that all those parents completing a survey would recommend Burrough Green Church of England Primary School to another parent. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Madeline Vosper
Interim Head

