



MFL (Modern Foreign Language):

We are very lucky that Miss Lopez, who is a native Spanish speaker, has agreed to teach Spanish across the school. Reception will start after Christmas and everyone else has started this week. Miss Lopez will be teaching one lesson in each class every week. Many of you will have seen her Spanish lessons during lockdown so I am sure you will agree, this is a great opportunity for our Burbage children.

Year 6 are going to continue with French lessons this year as they have enjoyed several years of excellent French with Mrs Nicholson.

Reception Year intake September 2021:

Please spread the word that although we are unable to hold open mornings for prospective new parents, we are able to offer individual tours of the school for anyone with children due to start reception next September.

We will be minimising tours to parents (no extra family members or children please). We will ask them to wear a mask and will not be able to take them into classes. However, it is still possible to share the positives of enrolling at our lovely school. Please let your friends and contacts know to book an appointment at the school office by phone or email.

Buddy Crew – new members:

Congratulations to Felix and Evie who have been invited to join Buddy Crew in year 2. They will be able to wear a smart red jumper so they can be easily identified by their peers as a helper if there are any friendship issues on the playground. We are very proud of our Buddy Crew children who play an important part of us "Inspiring and Nurturing Together".

Speed:

It has been brought to our attention by Ailesbury Way residents that there have been a number of parents speeding on the way to and from school. Please can I remind you that it is a 20 miles per hour zone near the school and we don't want to upset our neighbours or have anyone injured or worse.

Sustainability:

We are lucky to have been able to have all our lights in school upgraded to LED – this has been done across many Excalibur Schools and is part of a large academy project focusing on sustainability. This has really improved the brightness and feel of the school as well as the long-term benefits of us being more environmentally friendly.

We have also invested in hessian backing for all our display boards in a move to save paper waste.

Recycling:

The children are being helped to sort out recyclable and non-recyclable waste from their disposable lunchboxes. We recycle as much as we can in school and are keen to develop the children's knowledge of materials and their properties.

Thank you:

The teachers and TAs would like to thank all parents who are sending in disposable lunch bags. As these have to be stored on the floor in the classrooms, it really helps us manage in the class as the bags are smaller and are gone at lunchtime meaning there is less likelihood of tripping over belongings. This is because we are not using the centrally situated cloakroom areas and keep all



belongings inside each bubble as we are focussed on keeping as much of the school open as possible should there be a Covid outbreak.

This is a local decision to make things work well for us here at Burbage. We are grateful for your continued support.

New Playground Area:

We are delighted with how well the work is progressing in the corner of the playground where the rather soggy 'sensory garden' was. We are replacing some rotten trim trail equipment and updating the area. This will really open up the usable all year round space and will help us to have three classes out playing at the front of school once the school field is wet and out of action for the winter.

The children have enjoyed watching it all develop.



PTA AGM:

Folowing the increased restrictions issued by the government this week, we feel we should not be inviting parents into school for the PTA AGM on Wednesday 30th September as planned. We will be holding this event virtually, there will be more

information to follow shortly with information on how to join the meeting.

This meeting is an exciting opportunity to hear about the fabuou work of the PTA which makes so much possible in school than our budget doesn't allow for. Every single one of our children have benefitted from the projects the PTA have fundraised for. Not only are they great fundraisers, they have really supported the school community, through events before lockdown and throughout. We are incredibly lucky to have such great team and encourage anyone who hasn't yet got involved to come along to find out more.

Equestrian Team:

There is a possibility of the Excalibur Primary Schools having their own Equestrian team. This will open up additional competing opportunities for those who are interested and have their own ponies. This has been offered to other local schools, please let Mrs Garbutt or Laura Moore know if your child may be interested in joining.

Festival Day - change of date- Friday 9th October:

We will be continuing our successful festival days to teach the children about other cultures. We will learn about the Jewish festival of Sukkot.

Unfortunately we will not be able to work in mixed age groups as usual. We will be adapting our practice to continue with this important aspect of our education about different cultures.

Future Dates:

TD day - 21st October - no school for children

Half-term - 21st - 30th October - the first day back for children is Monday 2nd November