



**Children's Mental Health Week,  
launch of additional website support:**



The children all took part in an assembly about children's mental health this week, the theme this year has been 'Growing Together'. We have thought about who they have in their lives to support them, how they have grown and how they can help others to grow.

As a nation, we are seeing an increase in children and families in need of extra support particularly following the pandemic. As a school, we are keen to support wherever we can and have launched a new information page on our website this week. The page can be found under the heading 'Parent Info'

<https://burbage.excalibur.org.uk/parent-information/mental-health-wellbeing/>

The page offers signposts to agencies and website that may be of help for both children and parents. We take mental health concerns very seriously at Burbage. We hope you will find this resource useful, it is worth having a quick look even if you are not in need, to know what is available.

**Year 5 and 6 Hockey Success:**

Congratulations to both year groups for taking part in the tournament held at Marlborough College Astro pitches on Tuesday. We were pleased to have entered lots of Burbage teams, both into hockey and quicksticks (a shorter, smaller variation of hockey). We were delighted to have won the competition overall with our 'A' Team coming first in their section.

There was fierce competition from four other schools. Well done to everyone on the team, this includes Evie who wasn't in the photo.



Thank you to parents who provided gum-guards and hockey sticks and to Darcy's mum who kindly brought some well-deserved post-play chocolate!

**Resilience:**

We are very aware that children's experiences have been limited due to the pandemic. Opportunities such as the hockey festival, swimming lessons, class trips, dance festivals, residential visits etc provide children with different experiences beyond the classroom. We aim to take up every opportunity available to us.

Naturally there are some children who are finding some of the opportunities a little daunting as they have not been part of their routine for the past two years. We aim for our children to develop a positive 'can do' attitude to new experiences. We ask that you talk positively about these events at home. It is



reasonable to feel nervous; we want children to know that those nervous butterfly feelings are normal; the additional adrenaline can actually improve their performance. By reassuring children and not 'feeding the worry', we feel confident that these experiences will begin to feel less daunting.

This week we were proud to see that those children who were anxious about hockey actually performed brilliantly. We are so proud of the 53 children who took part and represented our school with confidence.

#### **Internet Safety Information:**

The children have been learning about how to keep safe online. They have produced some fantastic posters. Miss Lopez has kindly sourced some parent information leaflets which will be sent home with your child today. There is valuable information about how to keep your child safe online.

#### **A reminder, Year 6 Cake Sale on Monday:**

Our year 6 children are holding a cake sale to support "Children's Chance" on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February at school pick up. If you are able to bake any cakes or traybakes, all donations will be gratefully received. Please drop them off at the school office in the morning.

We are hoping you will be able to support our Year 6s by bringing money to the sale.

Alternatively, you can directly support the charity by following this link:

[Childrens Chance - Funding activities for children in and around Salisbury](#)

Burbage children have benefitted from support from this wonderful charity in the past so they are close to our hearts.

#### **Carpark Closed - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February:**

With the exception of staff and disabled badge holders, the carpark will be closed on Monday to allow the coach to manoeuvre safely (as it is the KS1 trip to Steam). Please allow additional time to park.

#### **World Book Day Competition:**

World Book Day (Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March) is almost upon us! Miss Arkle and the rest of the staff at school have already begun to put in place lots of fun activities to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Book Day. To name a few; there will be live and digital author sessions, book speed dating and designing your own character bedroom.

To help celebrate World Book Day and encourage a love of reading we are setting a character challenge for the whole school! This will involve you creating a character from a book using a potato or a wooden spoon. All entries will be collected in on our first week back after half term and judged by the staff on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be prizes for the winners of each Key Stage.

Below are some examples of what you could create:





Potato book characters

Spoon book characters



Finally, every child will need to bring in a small box (no bigger than a shoe box) for World Book Day for their character bedroom activity.

The children are encouraged to dress as their favourite book character. Home-made outfits are encouraged, please don't feel you have to spend.

#### **PTA - Country Fair Reminder:**

Please remember to encourage your child to enter. See separate email for details. The winners will be announced on 4<sup>th</sup> March. This was a really popular event last year, please support our wonderful PTA.

#### **Improvements to Pre-School outdoor area and the front of school:**

The final touches to our improved outdoor area have been added this week. It is looking great and is being enjoyed by our little learners. The most observant of you will have seen that we have sadly had to cut down a huge tree which was lifting the tarmac of the playground, this is due to be resurfaced shortly. Please be assured that we have plans in place to make sure that we replace the tree.



#### **Save the Date - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March:**

We would like to involve as many families as we can in our 'Wildflower Meadow' planting event which is part of the work the School Council have been doing on sustainability. There will be more details to follow, essentially we would like you and your child/ren to come along with their rakes and spades to seed to area along the side of the school field. The PTA will be there with some post-digging sustenance, please bring your friends and family.

#### **Dates for the Diary:**

- KS1 trip to Steam in Swindon - **14<sup>th</sup> February**
- Dance Festival for those who do Dance Club - **17<sup>th</sup> February**
- Year 3 trip to Stonehenge - date to be confirmed
- World Book Day - **3<sup>rd</sup> March** - get thinking about your costumes now! (no need to spend out, creativity is encouraged!)



- ISP meetings (for those with ISPs) **8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March**
- Festival Day - we will be learning about the Hindu festival 'Holi' on **11<sup>th</sup> March**
- Tag Rugby Festival at St John's for Year 4 - **16<sup>th</sup> March**
- Cricket afternoon at Marlborough Leisure Centre run by Wiltshire Cricket for Year 5 - **17<sup>th</sup> March**
- Red Nose Day - **18<sup>th</sup> March**
- Written Reports for all classes (except Reception who have theirs in the summer) will be out at Easter
- EYFS Parent's Evenings for Wren's Class - **5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April**
- Cricket Skills Day by Wiltshire Cricket - **8<sup>th</sup> April**
- SATS week (Year 6) - **9<sup>th</sup> May**
- St John's transition day for Year 6 - **1<sup>st</sup> July**
- PTA Summer Fair - **9<sup>th</sup> July**
- Sports Day for all children 1.30pm - **14<sup>th</sup> July** (we thought you may appreciate early notice to book days off work)