



Abbey Road, Old Buckenham, Attleborough, Norfolk. NR17 1RH
Head of School: Miss A. Cockburn Executive Headteacher: Mrs J. Humphrey
Telephone: 01953 860380 Fax: 01953 860952
Website: www.oldbuckenham-pri.norfolk.sch.uk Twitter: @OldBuckenhamPri

7th September 2018

Dear Parents,

We would like to wish everyone a very warm welcome back from the summer break. We trust that you made the most of the weather to get out and about, see some new people and places as well as to find some time to rest. As always, it is good to get back into a routine and the new school year especially has a distinctive buzz of excitement as children and staff get off to a good start together.

New arrivals

This September we welcome a number of new children and their families to our school – In the EYFS reception class we have been joined by Amber, Benjamin, Cerys, Freddie, Jack M, Jack R, Jade, Oskar, Percy, Peter, Sienna G, Sienna H, Sonny, Sophia, Summer-Rose, Tahlia, Thomas, Travis and William. In Year 2 we have been joined by Archie and in Year 3 we have been joined by Taya.

Nursery

We are also joined by all of the staff, children and their families from the Buckenham Pre-school which was formally amalgamated with the school on August 1st. We are very excited to get to know everyone and fully incorporate nursery provision into the workings of the school. Our age range has legally changed from 2-11 years and with it, we have a new logo (see above) and name.

Two new staff members have joined the teaching team this September. We welcome Mr D. Briscoe to EYFS and Miss K. Purling to Year 6. Each have taken on significant leadership responsibilities with Mr Briscoe leading across the nursery and EYFS class and Miss Purling will lead English. We also welcome two new non-teaching members of staff, Miss P. Hardiment and Mrs C. Coleman.

And also last but not least we are all very excited to have Hugo, our school dog, join us at school. He has spent the summer with Mr Grass preparing for his new role and already is a very popular addition to Old Buckenham Primary.

Please take a look at our 'meet the team' display in the foyer to find out who's who and where they can be located.

Getting started

Over the next week your child should bring home -

- A copy of the class newsletter which will outline what they will be learning this term. Copies of these and class timetables will also appear on the class website pages.
- The Home School Agreement for Behaviour and another for Learning. We ask that you read through these both, discuss them with your child and sign to say you agree to support us with both aspects.
- A new style reading record (different ones for KS1 and KS2) which include helpful reading tips, key vocab for specific year groups and phonics pointers. This year we are aiming to increase reading for pleasure in addition to reading for understanding and meaning because we want children to be able to enjoy texts of all types without having to always analyse, extract information and record answers to questions.

On the school website (by mid-September) you will also find copies of the plan for the spending of the Sports Premium Grant, the Pupil Premium Grant and summary School Development Plan.

The Norse catering page now displays the Autumn term Norse menus.

Don't forget to check the twitter feed too as this is a great place to see what has been going on in school.



Abbey Road, Old Buckenham, Attleborough, Norfolk. NR17 1RH
Head of School: Miss A. Cockburn Executive Headteacher: Mrs J. Humphrey
Telephone: 01953 860380 Fax: 01953 860952
Website: www.oldbuckenham-pri.norfolk.sch.uk Twitter: @OldBuckenhamPri

Getting involved

Over this term we plan to hold a number of informative sessions for parents which we hope you will attend. The dates below are to give you good notice but further details will come out nearer the time.

- Phonics meeting for parents of Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 children – **26/9/18** at 2pm & **28/9/18** at 9am
- Sapientia Education Trust meeting for all parents to outline their role within the school – **20/9/18** at 3.15pm
- Maths café – **12/10/18** from 9.15-10.15am
- Reading Café - **23/11/18** from 9.15-10.15am
- Harvest festival at Church for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – **18/10/18** from 9.30-10.30am
- Harvest Festival at Church for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 – **19/10/18** from 9.30-10.30am

Parent Helpers and Volunteers

We would very much like to welcome parent volunteers in to school to help with a range of activities. If you would like to do this then we need you to come in and complete a registration form from Sapientia Education Trust and complete a DBS check if you do not already have one. **This also applies to all our very valued existing helpers.** We take our safeguarding role very seriously therefore volunteers will not be able to be in school until all checks are completed.

Attendance

Attached to this letter, please find the statutory Local Authority letter about attendance and punctuality which we have to provide each year.

School trips and visitors

Last year, for transparency and to be informative, we let you know about the shortfall we had accrued through school trips.

We all agree that first hand experiences enhance and raise children's interest in learning. This is why, when class teachers complete their themed learning plans for the term, they try to incorporate as many hand-on activities as possible. Trips and visitors into school are an exciting part of this and, when we have asked parents what they would like us to improve in school, this has been something they have asked us to do more of - seeing real historic artefacts brings much more enjoyment than simply looking at pictures of things online or in books.

All trips costs are researched carefully, with staff aiming to get the best value experience. Coaches are often a very expensive element which is why we have sometimes asked visitors to come into school rather than taking a trip out somewhere. In our policy we aim to keep our requests for money towards trips to around £30 per child over the course of a year, with the exception of the Year 6 residential. We do have to ask for financial payment for trips as the school is not given money in the budget to pay for these. For those of you who have children at secondary school, you will know that children are not allowed to attend a trip unless the school receives payment.

From our calculations of visits during 2017-18, we had a total shortfall of around £140 where parents had not paid the full amount or any of the amount we had requested. Once again this year, we shall monitor the amount of money we receive for such activities and may have to reconsider whether we run trips.

School Photos

The photographer will be in school on Thursday 27th September for individual and sibling photos for all our children including Nursery



Abbey Road, Old Buckenham, Attleborough, Norfolk. NR17 1RH
Head of School: Miss A. Cockburn Executive Headteacher: Mrs J. Humphrey
Telephone: 01953 860380 Fax: 01953 860952
Website: www.oldbuckenham-pri.norfolk.sch.uk Twitter: @OldBuckenhamPri

Trophies

At the end of the last academic year we were delighted to award the following trophies to these very deserving pupils:-

The Macro Cups – to Katerina & Dominic
The Bloom Cup – to Evelyn
The Kindness Cup – Charlie
The Jean Ashby Cup for Original Thought – Emily D in Year 4
The Challenge Cup – Jake R in Year 3
The Art Cup – Jayden in Year 5
The Smile Cup – Ciara in Y5
The Cullum Cup for Creative Writing – Ava R in Y6

This year the trophies are being returned to school to be displayed so that we can share in their success and inspire next years' recipients!

School lunches & Pupil Premium

All children in EYFS & KS1 are entitled to a free school lunch as part of the Universal Free School Meals scheme. Lunches for all other children are £2.20 per day, payable in advance please. If paying by cheque please make payable to Old Buckenham Primary School. Please send all monies in to school in a named envelope. If you think you may be eligible for free school meals please enquire at the office. Thank you

Car Parking

The children brought home information yesterday regarding parking at the Village Hall. Further information is available on <https://www.facebook.com/OBcarpark> or by emailing OBcarpark@outlook.com

Community Grants

We have earmarked an exciting project that we would love to explore as a whole school, however we would need to fund this from external sources. We are aware that many businesses as part of their community outreach are keen to support local causes. We would be really pleased to hear from you if you might be in a position to help. Thank you.

With kind regards,

Mrs J. Humphrey and Miss A. Cockburn