



**Burnham on Crouch
Primary School**
Connected to our world

5th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! Welcome to those joining us this September! We hope you had a good break and your children are looking forward to coming back to school.

A few reminders or for those new to the school:

To contact the Parent Forum about any concerns please use the red Post Box in the front reception area. I will be meeting the Parent Forum members soon to discuss if they wish to continue. Claire McCormick has kindly volunteered to be the representative for Reception. If you are interested in joining the Parent Forum please contact me before the end of September.

To contact teachers please use the slips available in the front reception area. If you are a working parent and need to email a teacher their details are on the website and will also be in their welcome letter. Please be aware if your query is urgent, teachers are unlikely to read emails after 8am so it is advisable to contact the school office. All emails will be replied to within 48 hours in term time (and where possible within 24 hours).

There will be no swimming this first week. Details of Swimming and PE lessons will be in the class welcome letters. Please support the school in keeping our Year round swimming lessons by paying for your childrens' swimming lessons. Year 3 classes have PE on Wednesday 6th September. Children with newly pierced ears will not be able to swim.

Thank you once again for the generosity shown to staff and myself including the many kind cards and emails of thanks. I couldn't quite decide if my house looked more like a winery or a florist! We are always grateful for your kindness, support and words of appreciation. We do not do what we do for recognition but I speak for all staff to say that your appreciation is always valued.

The school is now at full capacity. Over 100 children have joined us in the last two years. We now have two deputies to help me - Mrs Bache who is responsible for EYFS and Key Stage 1 and Mr Russ who is responsible for Key Stage 2. They will be on the school gate with me in the mornings and after school to resolve any matters or concerns quickly. Please contact them in the first instance.

A copy of the home school agreement will be sent home on the 6th September. Please take time to read this and return it by the end of September. Policies are on the school website. For new parents and carers please be aware that we reward excellent attendance three times a year to children with 98% attendance or higher. Nearly three quarters of our pupils now regularly attend 98% or higher which part explains the excellent progress and achievement last academic year.

We have purposefully arranged Inset days to help you with cheaper flights and holidays. I respectfully ask that you do not take holidays during term time. Essex has a strict policy on unauthorised absence, and more recently punctuality. The school does not have any option but to comply with this and penalty notices will be issued for both attendance and punctuality issues - please bear this in mind.

Burnham on Crouch Primary School, Dunkirk Road, Burnham on Crouch, Essex CM0 8LG

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www.burnhamprimary.co.uk

Last year was a huge success; children enjoyed a much wider range of activities and experiences. Art days became a real treat and resulted in being part of the Burnham Art trail. The new Sports Day received unprecedented praise and the school now has a wide range of clubs and sporting opportunities. Considerable work has gone into changing the school curriculum so it is exciting, challenging and encourages children to be respectful of others and become the best versions of themselves. Curriculum maps are also on the website with full details.

Children enjoyed their end of term behaviour award and took part in activities such as Tough Mudder, Pottery, making slime and bin bag fashion. I will be starting my tea parties with children again next week. Please understand that for the parties to be of any value I can only invite 12 children at a time and there are over 400 children in the school. Every child will get an opportunity over the year.

Year 6 and Year 2 achieved the highest levels the school has ever seen, with a significant proportion attaining the higher standard. For detailed information on this please go to our website.

As always please be assured that your children are at the heart of everything we do and we continue to strive to provide the very best education and primary experience for your children. I have very high expectations of my staff, of the children and of myself. If you have any concerns or are unhappy with something please do come to us directly and give us the opportunity to fix it. As stated before any comments on social media will not be acted on unless comments are defamatory and further action is necessary. We work hard to make our school the best it can be so please work with us.

Frustratingly, the school was let down by our contractors on the very last day of term. Consequently the work to the front of the school has had to be postponed until October half term. I apologise sincerely for this and thank you in advance for your patience. To improve the safety of your children and to respond to comments, we are adapting the way children come into school and leave.

Year 1 will go in and leave from Gorilla class door at the front. All others Year groups will go in and leave through the black gate to the right of the entrance. Year 2 children will be let out of school first so we will ask Year 2 parents and carers to stand in a designated area to collect them first.

Finally, the focus this year will be on building character – children will be taught to work hard, tell the truth, be kind and be brave. Please ask your children about the mistakes they make each day to help them realise mistakes help them learn and to encourage them to give it a go!

Thank you in advance for your support for the school.

Kind regards,

Kelly Stock
Headteacher

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