Believe And Achieve

Burrington News No. 32

Friday 5th June 2026

Burrington Primary School is preparing to bid a fond (and slightly sniffly) farewell to one of its most cherished teachers, Mrs Kuipers, who will be leaving at the end of this term.

Since joining the school in 2017,Mrs Kuipers has been an integral part of the Burrington family, first making her mark in Maple Class.

One of her earliest and most memorable contributions was the legendary “French Café.” Pupils were transported across the Channel (without ever leaving the classroom!) as they enjoyed a *très magnifique* French breakfast while speaking the language. Even the most hesitant linguists found themselves confidently ordering croissants and attempting *bonjour* with admirable enthusiasm—and
occasionally very impressive (or very inventive!) accents.

Mrs Kuipers was a truly multi-talented educator. Her music lessons were unforgettable, particularly the boom whacker sessions. Many pupils (and staff!) will remember the joyful chaos as colourful tubes bounced around to the rhythm—sometimes perfectly, sometimes… less so, but always with plenty of laughter. Her art and DT lessons were equally inspiring, encouraging creativity and imagination across the school.

However, her real passion lay in Mathematics. She had a remarkable gift for turning numbers into puzzles and challenges, delivering problem-solving lessons that stretched even the most confident learners. Under her guidance, pupils didn’t just learn maths—they became real mathematical thinkers, tackling complex ideas with growing confidence and curiosity.

More recently, Mrs Kuipers moved into Early Years, where she continued to make an incredible impact. She taught the youngest
children far more than just phonics, opening their eyes to the wider world through her wonderful storytelling. Her RE lessons were always a highlight, filled with special props and opportunities to dress up, bringing meaning and excitement to every topic. Her love of nature regularly came into the classroom too, with unforgettable experiences involving live animals—whether caring for tadpoles and chicks or exploring fascinating fossils. She took over the Forest School mantle from Mrs Price and truly made it her own. Her passion for outdoor learning and nature has been infectious, creating magical, muddy and memorable experiences for not only the youngest children, but all the children.

As a colleague, Mrs Kuipers has been invaluable. Leading Maths and RE, she brought energy, dedication and a clear commitment to making Burrington the very best it can be. Her enthusiasm has inspired staff across the school, and her willingness to share ideas (and the occasional laugh) will be greatly missed.

Although we are very sad to see her leave Reception Class, there is some good news—Mrs Kuipers will still be supporting Forest School, ensuring her legacy continues and future pupils can enjoy those same wonderful outdoor experiences.

Thank you, Mrs K—you have been simply brilliant.

Moving Up for a New School Year

As the end of the academic year approaches, excitement is building across Burrington School as pupils prepare for the next stage of their learning journey.

On Tuesday 23rd June and Wednesday 24th June, our Year 6 pupils will attend induction days at Churchill Academy. These important visits give the children an opportunity to experience life at secondary school, meet new teachers and classmates, and become familiar with their new surroundings ahead of September.

Back at Burrington, we make the most of these mornings by holding our annual "Move Up" sessions. All children spend time in their new classes for the coming school year. For some, this means moving into a different classroom, while others who will remain in the same class have the chance to get to know their new classmates and begin forming new friendships.

Effective classroom transitions play a vital role in helping children feel confident and secure. By giving pupils the opportunity to experience their new learning environment before the summer holidays, we can help minimise any worries or anxieties they may have about the changes ahead.

As a small school, our children are fortunate to already know all of the teaching staff well, making the transition process much smoother. Nevertheless, these two mornings are incredibly valuable. They allow teachers and pupils to spend time together, build relationships and establish positive routines before the start of the new academic year.

We are sure that these transition days will help all of our pupils feel excited, prepared and ready for another successful year at Burrington.

Uniform and weather reminder

As we begin Term 6, we would like to remind everyone of our school's expectations regarding appearance and uniform.

Over the past few weeks, we have noticed a number of children arriving at school wearing items that are not part of our school uniform. A reminder of our uniform requirements can be found on the school website. Please ensure that children come to school wearing the correct uniform, including appropriate footwear.

With the warmer weather hopefully continuing, we would also like to remind families that children should have an 8-hour sun cream applied before school each morning. In addition, every child should bring a named sunhat and a named water bottle to school every day.

As English weather can be unpredictable, children should also have a lightweight coat in school.

Finally, please ensure that all clothing and belongings are clearly named. Our lost property box fills up very quickly, and much of the unclaimed clothing is brand-new school uniform. Naming items makes it much easier for us to return them to their owners.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sports Day

A reminder that Sports Day is on Wednesday the 17th June, parents are welcome to come along and watch. Sports day starts at 1pm, (parents cannot access the field before 1pm) please can you send your children into school in a t shirt in their house colours and PE shorts.
Kestrels - Blue, Owls - Red, Peregrines - Yellow.
If you are unsure what house your child is in then please contact the office.

Nursery children that attend on a Wednesday, please can they wear a white T shirt and shorts. (they will be going to the field at 2pm) Nursery children will need to stay until the end of the school day.

Parents are more than welcome to follow their children around the 'field' events. For the races, can parents please sit the church side of the race track and children will be on the other side.

Lets pray for the sunshine!

Maple Plea

Maple would like to replenish their children's magazines. If anyone has any old magazines they no longer need, please may we have them!

Ruby in Year 6 has mislaid her Leavers Hoody, We believe it may have been left on the field. Please can everyone check they have not picked it up by accident.

Head lice

There have been cases of Head lice in school this week. Please can all families check their child's hair and treat accordingly.

Weekly checks: Inspect hair and scalp weekly.
Look closely: Check behind ears and the neckline.
Spot the difference: Nits are firmly stuck to hair.
Dandruff flakes: Easily brush away, unlike lice eggs.
Moving lice: Only treat if live insects are found.

Wash hair: Use ordinary shampoo first.
Apply conditioner: Apply generous amounts to wet hair.
Fine-tooth comb: Use a specialized fine-toothed detection comb.
Root to tip: Comb through systematically from scalp to ends.
Repeat timeline: Comb on days 1, 5, 9, and 13

Well done to the children who received certificates this week.

Maple Class

Reading Certificates:

125 Nights : Arabella, Max, Wayne
150 Nights : Sebby
200 Nights : Alma, Harry P
225 Nights : Alexa, Ruby
250 Nights : Adam, Betty, Teddy

Marvellous Mathematician:

Fractions club 3: Nyasha
Mixed 100 club: Teddy
Number bonds to 100: Alice

Star Award: Evelyn for a great attitude to learning and excellent work, particularly Maths

Well Done Certificates:
George for writing an excellent diary about Change Sings

Elsie for rocking English Reading Assessment and getting a top score

Oak Class

Well done certificates:

Myles for fantastic effort and recall of new vocabulary in French

Kaiden for excellent work in maths finding change with money

Brooke for being an amazing mathematician

Tilly P for your lovely work on the Hindu creation cycle in RE

Emily for hard work and consistent effort in all subjects

Birch Class

Reading Certificates:
75 nights: Robin
100 nights: Aubrey
125 nights: Cora
150 nights: George
200 nights: Rye
225 nights: Hollie
250 nights: Tilda
Superstars:
Nina for exceptional learning all week

Gus for fantastic reading

Cherry Class

Superstars:
Regan for smart writing on your whiteboard
Finn for excellent explanation of a habitat
Tinashe for excellent reading and phonics effort
Josie for taking such care with your writing
Ben for an incredible story book
Finn for exceptional tidying up

STAR AWARD: Mrs Balicki for an Oscar award winning performance of Alice Tinker!
Mr Hushers tidiest classroom award: Cherry and Cherry Buds

Have you read…? (No.35)

I picked up Freedom 1783 in a bookshop after noticing it in the older readers section whilst still being a shorter chapter book. The story starts quickly and gets straight to the point, which kept us hooked from the beginning.
The book follows a young boy who is enslaved in Jamaica and taken to London with his master. Although the story is centred on the cruelty of slavery in the 18th century, the subject is handled in a way that is suitable for younger readers without losing the importance of what the boy goes through. It is a good book for introducing this period of history in an age-appropriate way.
I found it quite moving. It would be a great book to share with children, but it also works well as an independent read for older readers. I would recommend it for children aged 8–11.

Winner of the Little Rebels Children's Book Award 2019

"Filled with humour, compassion and hope" The Guardian

Nathaniel doesn't want to move to England with his master's family, leaving behind his mother and sister on the Jamaican plantation.

But then he remembers what his mother told him: once a slave sets foot on English soil, they're free. Perhaps he can earn his fortune and buy his family's freedom, too...

Link to North Somerset Libraries:

https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/libraries-leisure-open-spaces/libraries

Birthdays

Birthdays are a particularly exciting time for children, and we love celebrating with them at school. One of our well-known traditions is the 'birthday claps' that take place during our celebration service on Fridays. Additionally, we sing "Happy Birthday" to the children in their classes, and each class marks the occasion in a special way, such as with a card or sticker.

We understand that some children may wish to bring something special to school on their birthday. However, to accommodate children with allergies or dietary restrictions, we kindly ask that these birthday treats are not sweet items. Instead, if a child wishes to bring something into school to mark their birthday we are offering an alternative: **the opportunity to contribute a 'birthday book'.**

A 'birthday book' is a book chosen from the school's recommended reads or a high-quality book that the child recommends themselves. We will place a special sticker inside the front cover of the book, noting that it was purchased to celebrate the child's birthday. The birthday child will have the opportunity to present the book to their class, and, if they wish, it can be read aloud to the class on their special day. This creates a lasting legacy of books within the school, while also making the birthday celebration more meaningful.

We hope this new tradition will be a memorable way for children to celebrate their special day while contributing to our school community.

Our school has a whole list of books in a wish list from https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/wishlists/a70a350cc0fef7bf58d0783292631472

For every book purchased through this website, LoveReading4Kids donates 25% of the purchase price back to our school account, allowing us to buy even more books.

We have lots of new exciting books on our wish list to help us refill our lovely library. Thank you all who are buying Birthday Books.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 17th June	**Sports Day 1pm (No afterschool club)**
Thursday 18th June	**Music recital @ 9am in the Church**
Friday 19th June	**Reserved Sports Day**
Tuesday 23rd June	**Churchill Academy Induction Day (Yr6)**
Tuesday 23rd June	**Moving up morning**
Wednesday 24th June	**Churchill Academy Drama Day (Yr6)**
Wednesday 24th June	**Moving up morning**
Wednesday 15th July	**School production**
Friday 17th July	**Awards Service @ 9am**
Wednesday 22nd July	**Leavers Service @ 1.30pm**
Wednesday 22nd July	**NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**
Wednesday 22nd July	**End of term**

Absence from school for unauthorised term time holidays

IMPORTANT CHANGES—are you aware?

There are now changes to the penalty notice framework since August 2024:

1. Fines have increased from £60 to £80 for a first time offence or £160 if paid after 21 days and within 28 days.
2. In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be **charged at the higher rate of £160.**
3. For a repeat third offence- a Penalty Notice will not be issued- Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. **Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.**
4. The Threshold at which a Penalty Notice must be considered is 10 sessions in a 10 week rolling period.
5. Local Authorities (LAs) have a duty to check with other LAs if a Penalty Notice (PN) has previously been issued in the preceding 3 years- which means that even if families move LA area, any previously issued PN by another LA can count towards the two PN limit per parent per child in the 3 year period.

Have a look at the link to the DFE website: Fines for parents for taking children out of school: What you need to know – The Education Hub (blog.gov.uk)

Please avoid taking holidays in term times. Thank you for support.

Attendance

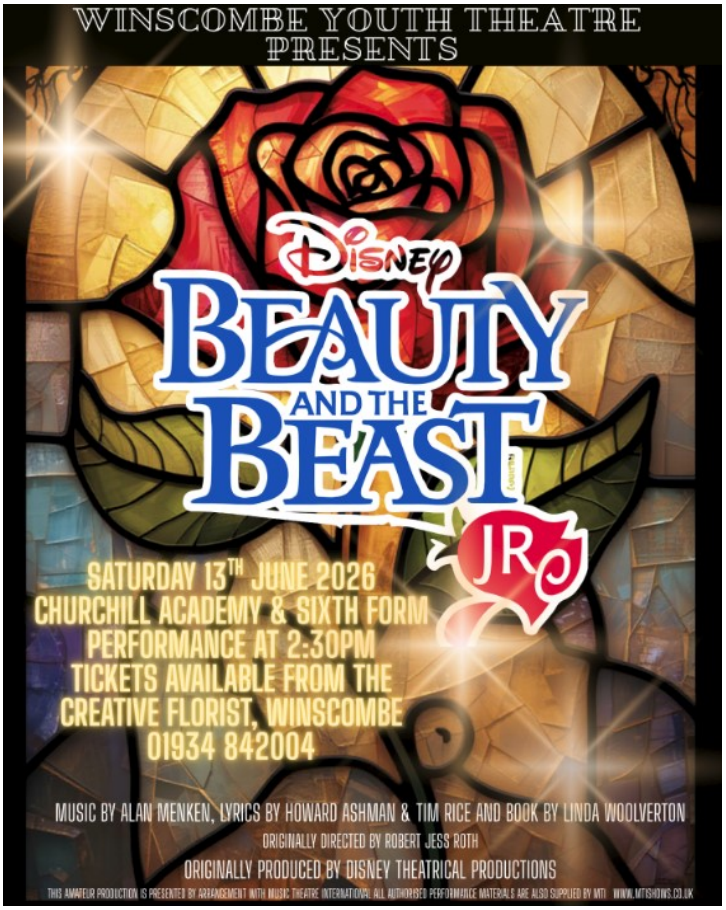
Please find below the weekly attendance rates by class across the school. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%. **There is considerable research about the link between attendance and attainment.**

We understand that children should not be in school if they are ill (or are recovering from a tummy bug - sickness or diarrhoea -for 48 hours); however, children should still come to school if they are tired or have a minor cold. We also respectfully ask you to avoid taking holidays in term time.

95% attendance equates to 9 days of absence which is approximately 2 weeks off school, which means approximately 50 lessons have been missed. 80% attendance equals 38 days absent which is approximately 8 weeks or 200 lessons.

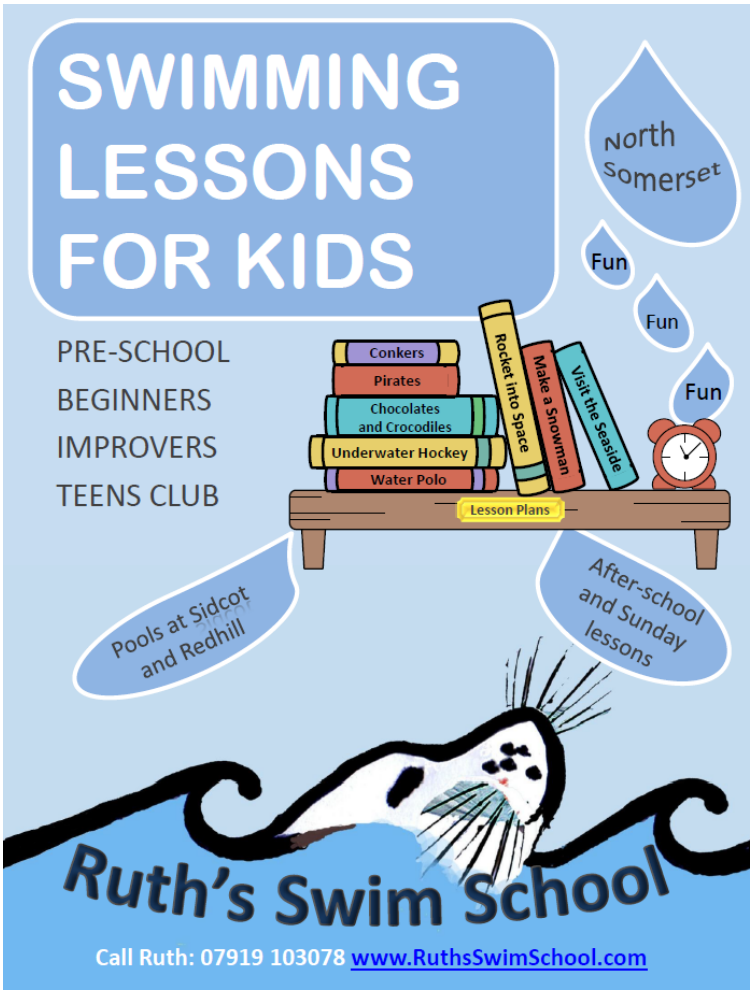
Birch	Oak	Maple	Whole School
98.96%	96.67%	98.33%	98.12%

Gold 97+ Silver 95-96% Bronze 90-94% Red 80-89% Blue below 80%


WINSCOMBE YOUTH THEATRE
PRESENTS
Disney
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
JR
SATURDAY 13TH JUNE 2026
CHURCHILL ACADEMY & SIXTH FORM
PERFORMANCE AT 2:30PM
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE
CREATIVE FLORIST, WINSCOMBE
01934 842004
MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN, LYRICS BY HOWARD ASHMAN & TIM RICE AND BOOK BY LINDA WOOLVERTON
ORIGINALLY DIRECTED BY ROBERT JESS ROTH
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

Qwell
Free, safe and anonymous mental health and wellbeing support in North Somerset for all parents & carers.
Whatever you're going through, we're here to help
Connect with our supportive online community
Find practical advice and information
Chat anonymously with a counsellor
Access a range of emotional wellbeing tools
Get support today
qwell.io

BLAGDON TENNIS CLUB PRESENTS.....
MULTISPORTS CLUB
WHEN & WHERE:
MONDAYS AFTERSCHOOL
3:30-4:30PM
@ BLAGDON TENNIS CLUB
AGE GROUPS:
4-7 (KS1)
RECEPTION - Y2
DEVELOP SKILLS, STAY ACTIVE, HAVE FUN!
REGISTER NOW!
COLLECTION FROM SCHOOL AVAILABLE FOR BLAGDON STUDENTS
£6/SESSION BOOKED AS A TERM-TIME BLOCK
LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE
HTTPS://CLUBSPARK.LTA.ORG.UK/BLAGDONTENNISCLUB/COACHING/BOOK/12EF3924-F321-4B75-9FE1-E9F8152120E3


SWIMMING LESSONS FOR KIDS
North Somerset
Fun
Fun
Fun
PRE-SCHOOL
BEGINNERS
IMPROVERS
TEENS CLUB
Conkers
Pirates
Chocolates and Crocodiles
Underwater Hockey
Water Polo
Rocket into Space
Make a Snowman
Visit the Seaside
Lesson Plans
Pools at Sidcot and Redhill
After-school and Sunday lessons
Ruth's Swim School
Call Ruth: 07919 103078 www.RuthsSwimSchool.com

Our School Christian value this term is:

Truth and Truthfullness

'Tell the truth to each other'

Zechariah 8:16

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Sarah Joskey (Head Teacher)

Deputy safeguarding Lead: LJ Annandale (Deputy Head)

Safeguarding Governor: James Pretty

SENCo: Tracey Jones

Learning Mentor: Maylina Allen

Administrator: Mel Hodgkinson

Concerned about a child?

Please speak to us about it.

PRAYERS:

From: ..... Class: .....

Please could we say a prayer in Service on Friday for:

.....

.....

.....

Ms Sarah Joskey – Headteacher