'Cherish and Nurture, flourish and aspire'

Burrington News No. 35

Friday 26th June 2026

Burrington School News: Staffing Update

We begin this update with a heartfelt farewell to *Mrs Balicki*, who joined Burrington School in 2020 and, in those years, has made a truly remarkable impact on our school community.

From the moment she arrived, Mrs Balicki brought energy, creativity and vision to everything she did. She worked closely with parents to raise funds that completely transformed Birch Class into a warm, inspiring and engaging learning space. Her innovative thinking also led to the addition of an extra door to the outdoor area, helping to encourage free-flow play and create a more dynamic learning environment for the children.

Mrs Balicki is deeply passionate about reading, and her influence in this area has been outstanding. She introduced a number of initiatives that have enriched our school's reading culture, including birthday legacy books, weekly book reviews, and special 'reading book bags' for Birch Class—all designed to nurture a lifelong love of reading among our pupils. Most recently, she led the transformation of our school library into a wonderful new space, complete with plants, comfortable sofas and a wide range of modern, engaging texts that have already inspired many of our children to read more widely and often.

Her dedication and expertise have been recognised across the Federation, and we are incredibly proud that her outstanding teaching has led to her promotion as Key Stage 1 Reading Lead. In addition, Mrs Balicki has contributed at Trust level, working as part of the writing team to develop English lessons that are now used across our schools—sharing her knowledge and expertise far beyond Burrington.

Mrs Balicki has always given 100% to school life. This is evident not only in the classroom but also through the many clubs she has led, from netball to her most recent and hugely popular writing club, which inspired children of all ages. She is highly creative, full of energy, and her positive attitude has made her a much-valued and respected member of the Burrington team.

Although it is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye, we are also excited for Mrs Balicki as she pursues her goal of teaching across a wider range of age groups to further develop her experience. We are pleased that she will remain within the Federation, and we know she will continue to achieve great things.

We are also delighted to welcome Miss Dursley as Mrs Balicki's replacement. Miss Dursley has been teaching in Birmingham and brings with her valuable experience across several age groups. She is a lovely addition to our school, and we are confident she will be a great fit for the Burrington team. We very much look forward to her joining our community and working with our children.

We thank Mrs Balicki for everything she has given to Burrington and wish her every success in this next chapter of her career. She will always be part of our school story.

School Closure During the Red Weather Warning

This week, we took the difficult decision to close the school on Wednesday and Thursday following the issuing of a Red Weather Warning.

Extreme weather conditions can pose a serious risk to people of all ages, and the safety of our children, families and staff must always be our highest priority. While school closures are something we always strive to avoid, the severity of the warning meant that keeping everyone safe had to come first.

We appreciate that the closure may have caused disruption to family routines and childcare arrangements. However, after carefully considering all available information and guidance, we believed that closing the school was the most responsible course of action.

We would like to thank all parents and carers for their understanding, patience and support throughout the situation. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday and look forward to returning to normal school life.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Summer Holiday Lunch Bag Parcels

As we approach the summer holidays, we would like to remind families that support is available throughout the six-week break.

Parents and carers of school-aged children and pre-school nursery children who are eligible for Free School Meals can collect lunch bag parcels from any local foodbank centre during the summer holiday period. School can provide vouchers for these lunch bag parcels.

If your child qualifies for Free School Meals and you would like to receive a voucher, please contact the school office.

We also recognise that some families who do not currently qualify for Free School Meals may benefit from additional support over the holidays. If you feel that a lunch bag parcel would help your family, please contact the school office in the strictest confidence. We will be happy to discuss your circumstances and arrange a voucher where appropriate.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if we can help.

Uniform

If you are wanting to take advantage of the free delivery to school. Orders must be place by the 28th June to be included in the delivery on the 13th July.

Magazine Appeal

Maple are looking for any children's magazines such as Junior Week and National Geographic etc. Please Donate any old magazines if you can!

Are you looking for a guitar? We have one adults and 2 children's guitars with cases. Unsure of condition but you are welcome to have a look and have them for a small donation.

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.

Wednesday 15th July	**School production 1.30pm and 6pm**
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**
Thursday 3rd September	**INSET Day**
Friday 4th September	**INSET Day**
Monday 7th September	**School open to Birch, Oak and Maple Classes (Closed to Nursery and Cherry)**
Tuesday 8th September	**School open to Birch, Oak and Maple Classes (Closed to Nursery and Cherry)**
Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th September	**Cherry Class Home visits**
Wednesday 9th September	**Whole school open**
Week commencing Monday 14th September	**Year 6 camp**
Monday 12th October	**Individual photos**

We are taking part in the **Rags2Riches4Schools** clothing collection to raise funds for our school and help families around the world access affordable clothing.

Do you have clothes in your wardrobe that you no longer wear? **Let's give them a new life!**

What they collect	What they don't collect
Clean, good quality, dry reusable clothing Adults, children's & babies clothing Paired shoes and footwear Jewellery and accessories Belts and Handbags	Poor quality items such as dirty, wet, ripped or soiled clothing Uniform or sports kits Socks Pillows Duvets Curtains Books or CD's or bric-a-brac

STOP & THINK – *Would you pass it on to a friend to wear?* If not, it's not suitable to donate. Even one item makes a difference, and don't forget to ask your friends, grandparents and neighbours to join in!

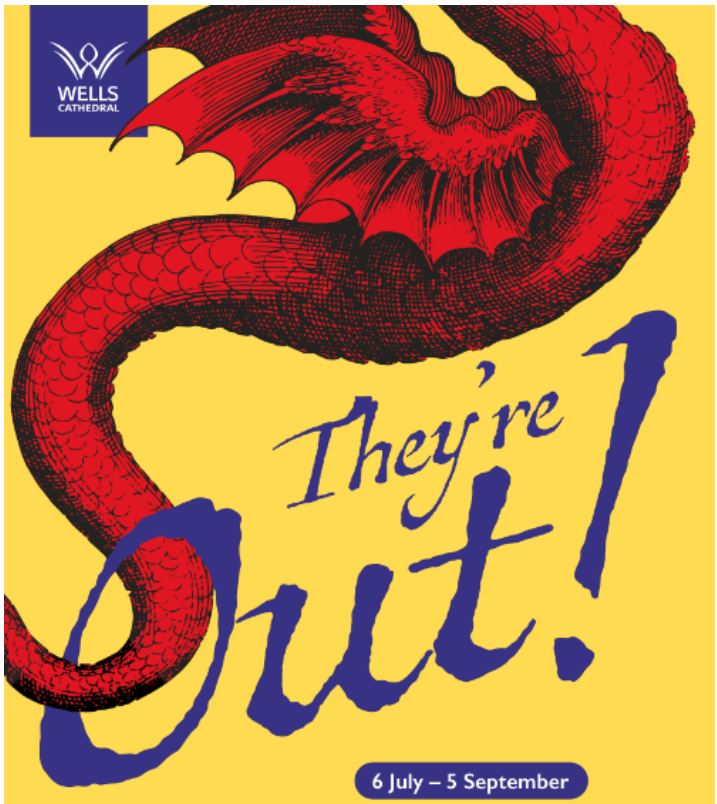
Please bring your donations to school on: *Friday 3rd July 8.35-9am*

✨ *Did you know? Every bag we fill helps reduce textile waste going to landfill. Clothes are sent to Europe, Africa and beyond, where they are resold at affordable prices, giving them a second life and helping families in need.*

Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts!

With thanks, *Burrington PTA*

WELLS CATHEDRAL



They're Out!

6 July – 5 September

Mythical Creatures
WELLS CATHEDRAL

Mythical creatures have escaped from the books in Wells Cathedral's medieval library – and they need your help!

Fly over to:
wellscathedral.org.uk/creatures

Wells Cathedral is a Registered Charity, No. 1207269

FARMLINK

Take learning off the page and into the countryside

Holiday Club

Adventure, Nature & Creativity
Give Your Child a Holiday to Remember!

Packed full of fun outdoor experiences at a beautiful working farm! Children will enjoy pond dipping, outdoor games, exploring nature, cooking activities, creative crafts, and lots more. A perfect way for children to learn, play and make new friends in the countryside.

Date	Tuesday 28th July 2026 Thursday 6th August 2026 Monday 10th August 2026
Time	9am to 3pm
Cost	£25 per child
Location	Lower Stock Farm, Bakers Lane, Wrington, BS40 5HT

Book your child's place today!
Contact dani@farmlink.org.uk

Summer Holiday Creative Workshops

27,28 & 29 July

9:00am-3.00pm
(stay and play until 4pm - £6 extra)
£39 per day including materials
Suitable for 6-14 yr olds
Lower Stock Farm Wrington

Contact: Jo Sinclair
E. craftysewandsojo@gmail.com
M. 07905 289721

BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY
at Wells Cathedral

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 2026

Wells Cathedral invites boys and girls between the ages of six and nine to come and meet the Choristers, find out about Chorister life, and sing at Cathedral Evensong

For more details, and to book your place, please contact: musicoffice@wellscathedral.org.uk

WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
https://wells.cathedral.school

WELLS CATHEDRAL
www.wellscathedral.org.uk

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:

.....

.....

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Ms Sarah Joskey – Headteacher