'Cherish and Nurture, flourish and aspire'

Burrington News No. 37

Friday 10th July 2026

National Nurturing School award

I have great pleasure in announcing that Burrington Primary has been awarded the National Nurturing Schools Award. Over the last two years we have been undertaking training with staff from across the school and have reviewed our practice across all aspects of school life to ensure it was in line with the six principles of nurture. Much of what we were already doing at Burrington demonstrated a nurturing approach but it was great to be able to consider how we could improve and make some tweaks! The final evidence which was submitted before the assessment day included a video of the school environment and an extensive power point on different aspects of nurture at Burrington. We also had to submit case studies of partnership working as well as lots of data such as attendance and assessment data, to name but a few things. It certainly was a thorough assessment!

Thank you to the whole community of Burrington and especially the children, staff and parent group who were involved on the day of the assessment earlier this week. It is an award for everyone in the school. The assessor was most impressed by the relationships within the school which she felt lay at the heart of the success and she even commented that we were a **'beacon of nurture'**.

Well done to everyone!

Sarah Joskey

Burrington Bids Farewell to Beloved Teaching Assistant and Community Champion

There are some people whose impact on a school simply cannot be measured by a job title, and Katrina Russell is undoubtedly one of them.

Although Katrina officially joined the Burrington staff team in 2023 as an Early Years Teaching Assistant, her connection to the school stretches back many years. Long before becoming a member of staff, she was a familiar face in our community, volunteering countless hours and even serving as Co- Chair of the PTA. Her dedication helped raise thousands of pounds for the school, ensuring children benefited from memorable experiences and valuable resources.

Prior to joining Burrington, Katrina's passion for children and reading was evident through her work as a library assistant, where she forged strong links between our school and Yatton Library, regularly organising displays of Burrington children's artwork for the local community to enjoy.

In the classroom, Katrina quickly became known for her calm, nurturing approach. While supporting our youngest learners in Early Years, she also achieved remarkable success working one-to-one with children across the school. As Cherry Class's much-loved **Little Wandle Phonics Fairy**, she brought enthusiasm and encouragement to early reading, while her organisation of the annual **Summer Reading Challenge** inspired children to continue enjoying books beyond the classroom. Through her patience, encouragement and unwavering belief in every child, she helped many make significant progress.

Always the consummate team player, Katrina never hesitated to lend a hand, often volunteering for extra duties and supporting colleagues wherever she was needed. During the holidays, she worked tirelessly to transform and organise our school library, creating a welcoming space that will inspire a love of reading for years to come. She also championed Burrington's commitment to sustainability by establishing recycling initiatives across the school. Her kindness, professionalism and quiet generosity have made her an invaluable member of the Burrington family.

Of course, no report on Katrina would be complete without mentioning Tortellini, our school tortoise. Under Katrina's devoted care, Tortellini has enjoyed what can only be described as the life of luxury: gourmet treats freshly picked from the garden, daily spa treatments and regular opportunities to stretch her legs with a leisurely stroll around the staff room. Rumour has it Tortellini has already packed a tiny suitcase and is hoping to join her favourite keeper on the move to Cornwall!

As Katrina—Trina to so many of us—and the entire Russell clan prepare for their exciting move to Cornwall, they leave behind a school enriched by their friendship, commitment and service. Everyone at Burrington wishes Trina and her family every happiness in this exciting new chapter. She will be greatly missed, but her legacy of kindness, loyalty and community spirit will continue to inspire us for many years to come.

Dates for the Diary

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**

Oak Class Trip

What an action-packed day Oak class had last Friday, when we went to visit Bristol as part of our History learning about the Ancient Egyptians.

We began the morning with a theatre show at the Bristol Old Vic. The Horrible Histories show, entitled 'Awful Egyptians', was full of facts and fun. The children sang songs about the Pharaohs, learnt about Ramses II and Egyptian mummies, as well as finding out more about The Book of the Dead.

We especially enjoyed the 3D show, when we took a journey inside Tutankhamen's tomb and lots of rocks and snakes came tumbling out of the screen to squeals of delight from us all.

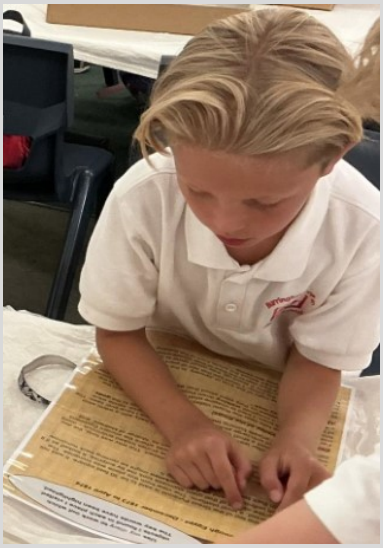
We then crossed Bristol city centre to walk up Park Street, taking note of the Geographical features we observed on our route, including the River Avon, College Green and a shop that sold erasable pens!

After we arrived at the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, we had a quick lunch and then took part in a History workshop all about the Victorian Explorer Amelia Edwards. The children had boxes of artefacts and replicas and they had to decide what the artefacts were, and whereabouts in Egypt they had come from. We looked at maps and timelines and learnt all about what a plumb line was and how they were used in the building of the Ancient Pyramids.

The museum staff were especially impressed by the children's knowledge and commented on their amazing behaviour and thoughtful questions and observations.

Thank you to Jane for supporting us on our visit. The children wrote in their recounts for their Enrichment books, that they really enjoyed the trip especially wearing the 'special glasses'.

Well done Oak Class.



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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

BEN AND NINA.

Thank you so much for your lovely Birthday Books.

Well done to the children who received certificates this week.

Maple Class

Reading Certificates:

175 Nights : Luke, Sebby

225 Nights : Edie, Harry K, Leila

250 Nights : Alexa, Ruby

275 Nights : Edwin

300 Nights : Adam, Alice, Evie, Georgina, Peter

Gold Award (earning 350 class merits): Katie, Sebby

Superstars:
Alexa, Alice, Georgina, Edie, Evie, Elsie and Peter for being fantastic helpers at Sports Day

Maple Spelling Champions: Nyasha and Evie

Oak Class

Reading certificates:
100 nights: Freddie
125 nights: James
150 nights: Teddy, Grace
175 nights: Alfie
200 nights: Alfie, Emily
300 nights: Kaiden, Bethany

Well done certificates:

Skye for your enthusiasm and increased confidence on stage in our production

Kasper for your brilliant ideas and suggestions during our production rehearsals

James for enthusiasm and burgeoning acting skills in our production rehearsals

Pen Licences: Alice, Olga and Skye

Birch Class

Reading Certificates:
150 nights: Lammy
175 nights: Leonora
200 nights: Nina, Wilf and Rory
225 nights: Rye
250 nights: Hollie
275 nights: Tilda
300 nights: Mabel and Chloe
Stars of the week: Aubrey and Rye
Pencil Licence: Henry

Cherry and Cherry Buds Class

Superstars:
Reuben for drawing an excellent map and labelling it independently
Jaxx for fantastic reading this week

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
100%	99.52%	93%	97.25%

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

BURRINGTON SPORT

A huge thank you and well done to Maple Class for organising a fantastic range of sporting activities for the rest of the school during National School Sports Week.

Children enjoyed taking part in cricket, tennis, football, netball, obstacle courses and much more. Maple Class showed great leadership throughout the week, encouraging and supporting the younger children with enthusiasm, kindness and patience.

The week perfectly reflected this year's theme:

"This summer of sport, every child deserves to feel part of the action."

It was wonderful to see every child joining in, having fun and experiencing the joy of being active together. Well done, Maple Class, for making the week such a memorable success!

Headlice

We kindly ask all parents and carers to check their child's hair regularly – ideally once a week and more frequently if you are aware of cases in your child's class or friendship group. The best way to check is by using a fine-toothed detection comb on wet hair, as this is the most effective method of finding live lice.

If you discover head lice, please begin treatment as soon as possible. There are a range of treatments available from pharmacies, including medicated lotions and sprays. Wet combing with a specialist detection comb every few days over a two-week period can also be an effective way to remove lice. It is important to follow the instructions carefully and check all members of the household, treating only those who have live head lice.

Children do not need to stay off school because of head lice, but prompt treatment helps reduce the spread to others. We also encourage children with long hair to keep it tied back where possible, as this may help reduce head-to-head contact during play.

By checking hair regularly and treating head lice promptly, we can all work together to minimise their spread and keep our children happy, healthy and ready to learn.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Have you read…? (No.36)

One of the best book discoveries we've made over the past few years has been the Adevnturemice series. I actually came across these books thanks to a Grandparent purchase for my boys. They were the perfect stepping stone into chapter books. The text is broken up with plenty of illustrations, so the pages never felt overwhelming or daunting, helping to build confidence as my boys began reading longer stories. They worked brilliantly for both independent reading and cosy shared reading at bedtime. While we loved the whole series, Mermouse was definitely our favourite!

I would recommend the Adventuremice books as shared reads from around age 4, and they're they are great for independent readders age 6/7+ . If you're looking for a series to help bridge the gap between picture books and longer chapter books, these are well worth adding to your bookshelf.

Pedro is getting used to the thrilling life of the Adventuremice. But one stormy night, he finds something he's only ever dreamed of seeing: a real, live mermouse! This little mermouse is lost, and Pedro and the Adventuremice need to get him safely home.

They must summon all their bravery and brilliance, plunge into the depths of the ocean and find the mysterious Mermouse City. It won't be straightforward, but it will be another exciting, friend-filled adventure for Pedro and the team!

Link to North Somerset Libraries:

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

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

TECH-FREE SUMMER FOR TEENS

For many 11- to 16-year-olds, summer can quickly become screen heavy, especially when socialising, entertainment, and downtime all happen via their devices. Encouraging a tech-free summer isn't about banning technology altogether, but about helping young people rediscover friendship, creativity, independence, and the great outdoors. The NHS recommends that young people aged 5 to 18 aim for an average of at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day across the week.

1 BUILD OUTDOOR CHOICE

Teens are more likely to engage when they feel they have a level of control. Create a simple 'summer outdoors menu' with options such as cycling to a favourite café, playing rounders, visiting a skatepark, dog walking, photography walks, geocaching, or helping around the garden. Parents and educators can then ask young people to choose two or three activities each week that interest them.

2 PREPARE THE KIT

Small barriers can stop teenagers going outside, especially if they feel uncomfortable, too hot, or unprepared. Keep a grab bag with sun cream, water, snacks, plasters, a cap, period products, and a lightweight waterproof. During hot weather, plan shade, water breaks, and calmer activities, as vigorous exercise is not advised on very hot days.

3 TRY MICRO-ADVENTURES

Outdoor activities don't need to be expensive or complicated. A micro-adventure could be as simple as watching the sunrise, walking to a local viewpoint, making breakfast outside, visiting a new green space, or planning a bus journey to a nearby nature trail. Encourage teens to plan the route, snacks, and timings themselves to help build their independence.

4 LINK TO REAL INTERESTS

A young person who dislikes sport may still enjoy being outside if the activity connects with something they already care about. Link outdoor time to music, art, animals, fashion, cooking, photography, or social interaction. Ideas include sketching in a park, making a nature playlist, filming a wildlife vlog script, or designing posters for a community garden.

5 CREATE SOCIAL PULL

For many teenagers, friends are the strongest motivator in various areas of life. Parents can invite one or two friends on walks, picnics, or garden games, while schools can promote lunchtime leagues, outdoor clubs, or summer meet-ups linked to existing interests. Make these activities feel social rather than supervised, with adults nearby for safety but not dominating the experience.

6 MAKE TRAVEL ACTIVE

Active travel is a practical way to build outdoor time into everyday routines. Encourage young people to walk, cycle, or scoot short journeys where it's safe to do so, such as to school, the library, a friend's house, or a sports club. Educators could run a summer 'active miles' challenge, with pupils logging their journeys completed on foot or by pedal.

7 USE PHONE-FREE CHALLENGES

Rather than simply saying, "Put your phone away", turn time spent offline into a shared challenge. Try a two-hour, phone-free park visit, a family evening walk, or a tutor-group challenge where pupils track their screen-free outdoor hours and share what they've been doing. You could all agree to keep devices in a box, bag, or classroom drawer, and allow for check-in time afterwards.

8 OFFER REAL RESPONSIBILITY

Teens often respond well when outdoor activities feel purposeful. Give them the responsibility for setting up a garden get-together, planning a picnic budget, leading a warm-up routine, mapping a walking route, or organising outdoor equipment. Schools could ask pupils to design an outdoor wellbeing trail, manage a sports rota, or support younger pupils during activity sessions.

9 REPLACE, DON'T REMOVE

If screens are taken away without an appealing alternative, young people may see outdoor time as a punishment. Replace gaming sessions with football drills, dance practice, basketball shots, treasure hunts, or card games outside. Replace screen scrolling with a 'boredom box' containing items like chalk, a frisbee, skipping ropes, playing cards, seed packets, or a disposable-style camera.

10 CELEBRATE SMALL WINS

Not every teenager will suddenly love the outdoors, so recognise their gradual progress. Celebrate a 20-minute walk, an hour at the park, a phone-free picnic lunch, or choosing to cycle instead of being driven around. Parents and educators can use praise, certificates, group displays, or simple shared reflection to show that outdoor effort matters.

Meet Our Expert

The National College provides expert-led training and resources to support schools, trusts and education settings worldwide. Its guidance helps parents and educators understand the issues affecting children and young people today, covering topics such as safeguarding, wellbeing, digital safety, and healthy development.

See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 08.07.2026

WEST OF ENGLAND
IMPACT ALLIANCE
Somerset Community Foundation
Winscombe
Festival
Of Arts and Nature
FREE!
12TH JULY
12.00-18.00 WINSPACE AND GREEN, BS25 1JA
MARY & THE MINATONES
MUSIC!
KID CARPET ROSINA BUCK
MISS RADIDA RAZZMAJAZZ
HANNAH MOORE MICHAEL LOADER
STORYTELLING!
WORKSHOPS!
GRAFFITI ART FLOWER CROWNS
CIRCUS SKILLS BIRD FEEDER WEAVING
BUTTERFLY COLLAGE LIVING SOIL
ALSO:
THE MUSEUM OF ROADSIDE MAGIC
POLLINATOR PARADE LED BY
AXBRIDGE STREET BAND - NEAR YOUR WINGS!
'COMMUNITIES IN THE LANDSCAPE' INSTALLATION
PRO carve LTD
CNC ROUTING SPECIALISTS
ORRISS & LOW Optometrists
Sidcot Live adventurously
The Art Shed Winscombe
Pattis
THE Creative FLORIST
Reflex First Aid Training Ltd
adventure babies
TWF AUDIO
HONEYCOMB
natracare

YMCA DAYCAMPS
PART OF YMCA DULVERTON GROUP
YMCA
Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you
7 Weeks of
Daycamps
★ Week 1 ★
Carnival of sports (Laser tag, caving, Carnival Fair Friday)
★ Week 2 ★
Ocean adventure (Caving, slime, Friday Ocean olympics)
★ Week 3 ★
Outdoor adventure (Climbing, frisbee golf, Day Camper Friday)
★ Week 4 ★
Animal adventure (Orienteering, Safari Friday)
★ Week 5 ★
Farm to fork (Planting & Growing, Mud Kitchen, Farmer Friday)
★ Week 6 ★
Myth and legends (Potion making, Viking Axe Throwing, Weston museum, Legends Friday)
★ Week 7 ★
Future innovators (Rocketships, boat racing, Robot Madness Friday)
As well as all our core favourites such as archery, climbing, segway etc.

SKOOL BEANZ
NEW KIDS GARDENING HOLIDAY CLUB
AT THE YEO VALLEY ORGANIC GARDEN
Garden and art joy with Lara at Skool Beans
Club Details:
All children aged 4+ years welcome
£15 (2-hour Gardening & Art Club)
1 child (inc free garden entry for 1 adult during the session)
Pre-book only, 12 kids per session
Location:
Skool Beanz Children's Garden at Yeo Valley Organic Garden, Holt Farm, Bath Road, BS40 7SQ
Book Now:
www.yeovalley.co.uk/events
Lara
SESSIONS IN AUGUST:
THURS 6TH, SAT 8TH,
THURS 13TH, SAT 15TH,
& FRI 28TH.
(2 SESSIONS PER DATE)
10AM OR 2PM START
Supported by...
Yeo Valley ORGANIC

CHEDDAR
TENNIS CLUB
SUMMER HOLIDAY
JUNIOR
TENNIS CAMPS
FUN • SKILLS • FITNESS • FRIENDS
MONDAY 27TH – FRIDAY 31ST JULY
LTA SENIOR LTA CLUB COACH
HIGH COACH-TO-PUPIL RATIO
RACKETS AND EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED
BOOK A SINGLE DAY OR ALL FIVE DAYS!
5-10 YEARS MORNING SESSION 10:00am – 12:30pm
11+ YEARS AFTERNOON SESSION 1:00pm – 4:00pm
£7.50 PER HOUR
FOR MEMBERS
A SMALL SURCHARGE APPLIES FOR NON-MEMBERS
CONTACT STEPHEN PEARCE FOR INFO
07904 061301

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.

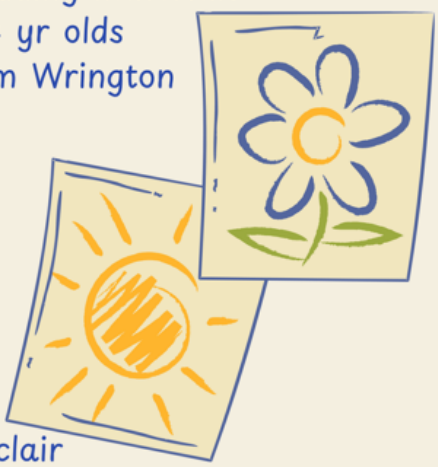
Date	**Tuesday 28th July 2026** **Thursday 6th August 2026** **Monday 10th August 2026**
Time	**9am to 3pm**
Cost	**£25 per child**
Location	**Lower Stock Farm, Bakers Lane, Wrington, BS40 5HT**

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

Codingbug

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CODERS & MAKERS

Robotics Club for children

At our Robotics Club, children design and program robots through hands-on activities that combine coding and artificial intelligence. Using sensors, cameras, voice control and AI-powered vision, they learn how robots 'see', 'hear', and respond to the world around them while also building their problem-solving, creativity and teamwork skills.

Children will:

- design, build and program robots
- use sensors, cameras and AI-powered vision
- program robots to respond to voice commands
- code, problem-solve and debug
- develop creativity and build confidence

WHERE
Yatton library
48 High Street,
Yatton,
BS49 4HJ

WHEN
Mondays
3:45pm – 4:45pm

FOR AGES
Children aged 8–12 years
For curious beginners and those up for a fun challenge

HOW TO JOIN
Scan the QR code to join and book a spot.
Limited spaces available!
codingbug.co.uk/robotics-club/

codingbug.co.uk

info@codingbug.co.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:

.....

.....

.....

Ms Sarah Joskey – Headteacher