

# Burnside News

\*Be Safe \*Be Smart \*Be Kind

Burnside Primary School

Northumbrian Road, Cramlington, NE23 1XZ

Tel: 01670 736 052 Email: admin@burnside.northumberland.sch.uk

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

DATE 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and are enjoying the small steps back to normality. We are looking forward to a sunny, settled, summer term.

### **Burnside Bounce Back**

We continue to support our children recover from all they have lost during the COVID pandemic. We are committed to the principal that the best way to make children learn is to make them happy.

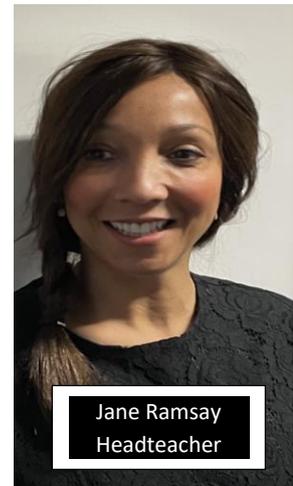
Parents have asked how they can support their children, my answer is that if you want your child to be *interesting* and *bright* then read to them or encourage them to read. If you want them to be *really interesting* and *bright* read to them more or encourage them to read more. Fairy tales and fantasy stories are our recommendations!

During the pandemic the majority of our children have missed out on 5 things

- Routine
- Structure
- Freedom
- Opportunity
- Friendship

In addition to our focus on academic studies this half term, our emphasis is going to be on providing experiences to allow children to recover and ignite the flame to learn again.

Although we are still operating under tight COVID guidelines to ensure everyone in school is safe, we believe just by being back together we have brought routine and structure to our children's lives. We will be incorporating opportunities for them to develop socially by



Jane Ramsay  
Headteacher

playing with friends, discussing with their class all issues regarding friendship, learning how to resolve conflict, how to initiate new friendships and let go of old ones.

For us “freedom” means many things including choice and providing a safe environment for children to try new things without fear of getting things wrong or not being able to do something YET. We will be reintroducing our Friday golden time when the children are given a choice of activity. This will, however, need to be within their classrooms and activities will need to be scaled down a little.

To conclude this half term our focus will be not only on academic development but also on restoring mental health and having fun!

### **Out of School Holiday Club**

Our Easter holiday club was a huge success and provided support for parents needing to work or attend appointments. Both Mrs Williams and I dropped in throughout the weeks and were thrilled to see the children having such good fun.

Currently the COVID guidelines remain the same so we will be able to provide child care during the May Half term holiday although places will continue to be restricted. To support our families we aim to have the holiday programme of activities published in the next couple of weeks. I fully understand that many parents prefer to pay nearer the time, so to support you we will accept provisional bookings via the school office to secure your place in addition to the usual eschool booking system. This will hopefully allow you to plan work schedules or book to attend appointments.

### **Parent/ Teacher Telephone Consultations**

Hopefully you received the eschool message and have already booked your appointment. Once again due to COVID we have to do these consultations via the telephone rather than in person. The teachers will discuss with you how well your child has settled back into school and answer any queries you may have.

### **Lateral Flow Tests**

All adults working in school will continue to take a twice weekly Lateral Flow Test. Parents/Carers can get a lateral flow test. Please check on the government website [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) to confirm the nearest place to your home to collect a kit.

### **Packed Lunches**

Please be mindful that we have some children in school that have severe nut allergies and therefore packed lunches must not contain nut products.

### **Job Vacancy**

We have a vacancy for a lunch time supervisor. If you are interested in this post please telephone the school office for further details.

Kind Regards

Jane Ramsay

Headteacher