



The Burton Borough School

Bumper Issue!

**Heads Newsletter
February 2015**

As the days get gradually longer, there is a growing feeling that Spring (and hence Summer) is just around the corner. It certainly promises to be a busy one.

When we return to (note – Tuesday 24th February) students in Year 11 will have just 43 school days before their final GCSE exams start. The first exam is Religious Education on Monday 11th May. There is much revision to be completed during these few days. Thank goodness for holidays and weekends. Our best wishes go to Year 11 for this. At least many will have the longest holiday of their lives to look forward to once their exams are over.

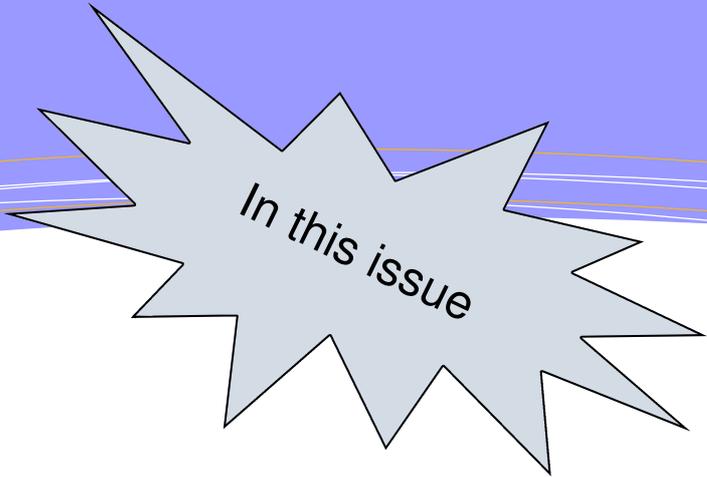
For the school, we are now making final preparations for our 'big move' into the new building. We will have just 11 school weeks to go once we return after half term, and an enormous amount to pack in (pun intended!). After our extended two week Whitsun half term, students will return to school on Monday 8th June (Year 10 a week later, after they complete their Work Experience). This will, however, not be the end of the project. Before September 2015 current accommodation for Science, Modern Languages, Art and 'The Gallery' will all be demolished whilst our current DT area will be mothballed and provide us with the space for long term storage. The areas that are being retained, such as the Hall, reception and music block will all be refurbished. If anything, the busiest period still lies ahead.

The outcome will be a true fresh start in September 2015. Burton Borough will certainly look and feel very different when we welcome our 225 new Year 7 students at the start of the next academic year.

Have a good half term break.

David Hill

Headteacher



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League Tables

I am sure that most of you will have noticed that the Government's League Tables of GCSE results was published recently (29th January).

As you know, at Burton Borough we put our students first, and continued with our 'early entry' policy which was supported by every single student. This led to our League Table figure of 46%. Many students then achieved improved grades in the summer, which would have made our figure 60%. This is therefore our true score, and well above this year's national average of 55%.

We are proud that we put our students first at Burton Borough, and will continue to do so. We have received overwhelming support for our stance, and are very grateful indeed for the time taken by so many of you in contacting us about this.



Antiques abroad?



I am sure we are all aware of the popularity of the TV antique shows, especially those in which a member of the public buys something that makes a considerable profit. I am sure we all imagine ourselves in this position?

Recently our Head of Business (Mrs Wylde) has taken on this challenge! Of course as a specialist in Business, surely she will be expected to make a profit? No pressure then.

We cannot, of course, give any indication as to the outcome before the show is broadcast. The date is not yet finalised, but is expected to be sometime in the Spring or early summer.



Mrs Wylde was interviewed by Elliot Hill and James White, both Year 11 students.

How did you get involved in the 'French Collection' programme?

My daughter sent in the application and I had no idea that she was doing it! The first I heard about it was when I received a phone call whilst on holiday in France. At first I thought it was a joke! I said I would think about it, but given that I am a Business teacher and it involved France, I just couldn't refuse the offer.

What was your favourite part?

All of it was amazing. The other two contestants, Lindsey and John, were fantastic. Lindsey owns a vintage clothes shop and John is an amazing interior designer in London. Buying in France was so exciting.

Would you do it again?

It's the only TV show that I would do. I loved the up cycling and of course the buying and selling. And very interesting to see how to add value to an item. The most profit that I made was on one item, £458 which was 88% gross profit.

What did you learn?

I learned a lot about antiques and realised how awful my French was! The biggest thing I learnt was that it's nice to say yes to something and face a challenge!

Mrs Wylde will be on French Collection, Channel 4 during the next few months—we'll let you know!



Coming Up Soon

Dates for your Diary

- 13th February 2015 Half term—3.15pm finish
- 23rd February 2015 PD Day
- 24th February 2015 School returns—8.50am
- Blue Week
- Options Deadline
- 2nd March 2015 Year 11 Revision Evening
- 6th March 2015 Year 7 Progress Report Home
- 12/13th March 2015 EEL Days—double
- 13th March 2015 Year 11 Annual Report Home
- 23rd March 2015 Year 8 Parents Evening
- 27th March 2015 End of Term for Easter - 3.15pm finish
- 6th April 2015 Paris Trips Departs
- 10th April 2015 Paris Trip Returns
- 20th April 2015 Moore House Celebration Evening
- 21st April 2015 Lennon House Celebration Evening
- 22nd April 2015 Tolkien House Celebration Evening
- 23rd April 2015 Attenborough House Celebration Evening
- 24th April 2015 Year 10 Progress Report Home
- 30th April 2015 EEL Day
- 4th May 2015 May Day Bank Holiday
- 7th May 2015 Year 10 Parents Evening
- 8th May Year 7 Annual Report Home
- 11th May 2015 Exams Begin!
- 22nd May 2015 School Closed
- 25th May 2015 Whitsun closure (including move into new building).



Blind, Kind, Old, Faithful Waters

Through blind hills of perished lands
Flows the livings' bane, drenching soil and turf,
Dancing fear with pain.

Tendering the child of malice in the shadows
As the rain beats down on his dying fires,
Wakening the putrid gas from the earth
To glide and intertwine
Suffocating already shrivelled lungs.

The thunder rolls and falls without grace
As the rain beats down on death's soil,
Tearing up the forms of screaming vapours.
In one final stand,
Electric skies pierce the throats of crying demons and mangle their
chalk bodies.

A cry that roared louder than the clouds,
Thundering over fields in merciless rage
Upon the marsh-like battlefield.
Morn shines her sorrow on the rotten carcass like a king, dead beside
his subjects,
Shadowed by the friendly eyes of the blind hills.

Beyond time or ink that the scribe writes his river
When dreary nights and the embers burning
frighten the cold winds,
Dawn rains its rays of rarest gold upon the dales and hamlets
while far away the crashing waves play fiercely with the sands,
and the light that touches cloud and sky
now smile proudly through great valleys and downs that roll gently

To the sea
As the rain falls kindly on thy kings' brow.

Eleanor Treagust—Year 11



Accelerated Reader Home Connect info!

For KS3 parents not able to attend 'Parents Information Evening' of 'Accelerated Reader'. A Proactive Way to Improve BBS Students' Reading Ages – Preparing for Key Stage 4.

How to Get Involved In Reading At Home.

Q: What is Accelerated Reader?

A: It is a very powerful and software programme which can work out your child's reading age. It also gives your child's ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development). Your child can be directed to books which are both interesting and challenging for them. Every student should read books within their range to ensure reading ages rise. The reading material your child will have to access at KS4 gets increasingly more complex – in all curriculum areas from Maths to English, PE to DT or Science to Humanities. Improving reading ages is essential as your child needs to be able to access and understand information across all of the subjects they will study in the years to come.

Q: How often should my child read?

A: In order for this to work for your child, he/she should be reading **every day**. How long your child should read for depends on their reading age. Any student at KS3 with a reading age below 11 should read for **at least 20 minutes per day**. The higher their reading age, the more they should read. If your child has a 15+ reading age, then he/she should aim for 45-60 minutes per day. We recommend reading to you now and then so you can: question them about words they may not understand; ask them about predictions and impressions of different characters; ask them to read between the lines.

Q: How do I know my child's reading age and ZPD range?

A: Every student in years 7, 8 and 9 have now been Star Tested to determine their reading age. Every student has a sheet attached to the inside back cover of their Personal Study Diaries. You will find all the information you need to know there. This will be updated again in January when every student takes another test to see if their reading age has increased through their reading.

Q: How do they take quizzes on books they have read?

A: Simply go to the Burton Borough School website. Right at the top is a very small link marked 'Intranet'. Click on this and you will find a link to Accelerated Reader 'Home Connect'. This directs you to the correct website. DO NOT click on the box 'Star Reader' ! Go to the orange box 'Accelerated Reader'. Your child has set their own password. If they have forgotten it, please contact your child's English teacher to reset. This can be easily done. Once logged in, they can type in the book name and do a test. If there is no test available for that book, it will be obvious. Try to read books regularly which have tests.

Q: How can I help my child choose books within their ZPD (or ATOS level)?

A: Go to the Burton Borough intranet (as above) where there is a link to AR Book Finder. Here, go to the ADVANCED SEARCH tab. Click onto the drop-down box for interest level (choose their age range) ... tap in tier ZPD ranges into the two boxes (the same as ATOS levels) and choose to add extra filters under 'additional criteria'. You can also choose fiction or non-fiction. Click 'go' and a list of suitable books come up. There are books in our library so suit every reading age an interest level. Your child MUST have a book with them at all times in school.



Accelerated Reader: Read to Succeed!

Since launching Accelerated Reader in October, the staff at Burton Borough School have taken a keen interest in how our students have been doing. Special assemblies were held this half term to celebrate the successes. The majority of our students in Key Stage 3 have been reading and taking quizzes. We awarded various certificates for students who had met their first targets – Super or Advanced Reader Awards. We were also able to reward the students who had been reading and quizzing the most in every year. Well done to all of the students who received awards, and prizes this time. Reading ages will go up when a student reads for at least 20 minutes every day. We will be Star Testing students to see how much their reading ages have gone up!

Year 7 – highest number of tests taken/passed at 80%+ pass rate
Eliza Ensor (most quizzes taken and passed at 80% correct or more)

Abigail Rayner
Alexander Lowe
Harvey Steel
Harry Walton
Zacariya Jan
Callum Prince
Callum Brookfield

Year 9 – highest number of tests taken/passed at 80%+ pass rate
Serna Cox (most quizzes taken and passed at 80% correct or more)

Phobe Shaw
Amrit Dhariwal
Jordan Lewnes
Frances Jones
Dan Blake
Jack Smith

Year 9 – highest number of tests taken/passed at 80%+ pass rate
Mir Barge (most quizzes taken and passed at 80% correct or more)

Harrison Fletcher
Euan Manning
Charlie Ensor
Lucy Simmons
Grace Padkin

Special awards of Kindles & Amazon voucher for enthusiasm shown in the programme:

Dylan Baumforth (Year 9)

Jordan Lewnes (Year 9)

Nathan Lane (Year 8)

Jordan Duggan (Year 8)

David Phelan (Year 7)

Joseph Thrower (Year 7)

8

Miss Owen

Literacy Co-Ordinator



CELEBRATING SUCCESS, OVERCOMING CHALLENGE, SUPPORTING OTHERS!

What an absolutely amazing half term this has been for Lennon House! During the last very short five weeks, we have organised and delivered a fantastic Lennon House Charity Day.

The day's theme was inspired by John Lennon in the 1970s and was based around the idea of a music and entertainment festival. Our wonderful house captains organised some amazing acts to perform in the Gym. We had music from Charlie Conquest, Jacob Simmons, Lucy Simmons and Sydney Greaves. We also had a drama piece from the wonderful Emily Rodwell. You can see in the photo below some of the students who enjoyed the entertainment on offer.

All of our tutor groups raised money for Alder Hey by selling sweets, organising raffles and tombolas, making hot chocolate and 'sponging a teacher'. The latter proved very popular indeed, but Mrs Alecock and Mrs Payne have decided that next time, throws are to be underarm only! Some of our boys are more accurate than we anticipated. All in all, over £400 was raised at lunchtime and the final fund will be known once mufti day money has been added to that.

Well done Lennon House! You really did Lennon House proud!



Mrs Alecock



Lennon House Charity Day





Bad Weather Procedures



Severe Weather/Unforeseen Circumstances

If over the coming winter months, school has to close due to severe weather conditions, the closure will be made as early as possible in the morning via:

- Our school website <http://www.burtonborough.org.uk/>
- Telford & Wrekin's website <http://www.telford.gov.uk/winter>
- Twitter @BurtonBorough
- BBC Radio Shropshire may also announce the information that they receive from the websites.

As always, we will make every effort to keep the school open at all times.





Snow

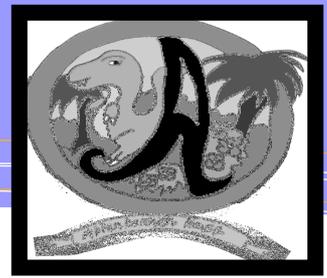
Our thanks for your support and understanding regarding the preparations for a snowfall during the night of 20th /21st January. Thankfully the snow never arrived!

As a few of you are aware, we did have a problem with 'a bug' in the software in our new website. This meant that a message we had pre written (to say the school was closed) was available to some users despite us not making this document 'live'. This has now been sorted, and cannot happen again.

If you have any other feedback on our arrangements it would be gratefully received.



We have dedicated web pages on the Council's website, www.telford.gov.uk/winter, which provides clear information in one place. It includes clear guidelines on where we grit, a 'check my road' feature where you can find out if your road is gritted and frequently asked questions on winter maintenance. You can also find out about school and other service closures, as and when they happen, and find out about affordable warmth.



Why fit in when YOU were born to STAND OUT?



Attenborough has had a very successful half term where as a house we have managed to raise over £100.00 for Cancer Research by selling our Charity badges and wristbands alone. This combined with our outstanding total from our Tree of Light charity event where we raised £203, brings our total raised this half term to £303! A **HUGE** thank you goes to our Attenborough students for promoting our charity events and of course, a huge thank you to all of you who supported our charity by donating and buying.



One of our year seven students has 'stood out' this half term for getting involved in our local community and going above and beyond in his role as Newport's very own, Junior Town Crier. Lee is one of only 6 young people in the country to hold the position of their town's Junior Town Crier. Lee is the longest serving Junior Town Crier in the country and certainly the most well-known after his recent photo-shoot and article in The Shropshire Magazine.



As well as having success with our charity this half term some individuals from Attenborough house have also 'stood out' from the crowd. Our **Students of the Month** for January are; drum roles please.....



Harvey Steel and Izzy Dale.

A huge congratulations goes to both students who more than deserve this accolade. 100 House Points for each of you for doing so well.

Coming up; Next half term we have our Attenborough charity day on Friday 20th March. Our House captains are currently organising different charity events to take place that week as well as each form holding responsibility for providing a different fundraising activity throughout the same period. It is Attenborough's opportunity to really stand out from the crowd and trump the other houses within the school by showing what we can do after Tolkien and Lennon's recent success with similar days.

Mrs Tomlinson

As Student Support Manager for Attenborough House, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Miss Loughborough for her time standing in as Head of House. Unfortunately, Miss Loughborough is heading back to the dark side by returning to Tolkien House and her position of form tutor, with the imminent and welcome return of Mrs Tomlinson from her time away with a broken ankle.



Miss Loughborough has been fantastic whilst post, building positive relationships with all students, supporting everyone's needs within the House and doing so with a smile on her face at all times. Miss Loughborough leaves the House in a very strong position and with our best wishes. Thank you.



SPRINGBOARD'S
FutureChef





Future Chef

Huge congratulations to Aiden Maddox and Toby Adams for their first and second places at the Local Heat of Futurechef on 8th January. The Local Heat was held at Ludlow and Hereford College, Hereford. They were asked to cook and present two identical main courses and desserts, within a budget of £7. Three Chefs judged the competition, giving marks for skills and techniques, presentation, taste, texture, appearance, menu balance and organization. There were only 2 marks separating them! Both students received positive feedback and ways to further improve. It was an excellent opportunity and a very enjoyable, and very stressful, day.

Aiden has the Regional Heat on Saturday 7th February at University College Birmingham. A huge thank you to Stuart Leggett, Chef Lecturer from Ludlow and Hereford College who has very kindly been mentoring Aiden as part of the Futurechef programme. He has been to Burton Borough for two afternoons working with Aiden to perfect her dishes. She is making Thai Fish Curry with Asian Salad and Citron Tart with Raspberry Compote and Cream

We wish Aiden all the best at UCB.

K. Goodridge

Design Technology





Help your child with Numeracy

Do you struggle to help your son or daughter with the maths methods currently taught in school? Do you want to help your son or daughter be as numerate as they can be?

If so, come along to our evening sessions. Each session runs from 6pm – 7pm and gives practical demonstrations and applications of numeracy in action. Refreshments are provided, free of charge.



The sessions will be run on the following dates:

Tuesday 24th February

Tuesday 14th April

Tuesday 19th May

Tuesday 23rd June

If you require any more information, or wish to confirm your attendance, please email Lisa Kane (Numeracy Coordinator) at lisa.kane@taw.org.uk

Kind regards,

Lisa Kane
Numeracy Coordinator
Burton Borough School

Comments from parents who attended the last session said: “ it was very helpful just learning how they learn maths now” . “I will now be better placed to help him at home with problems”



GREASE



This year's school musical has been the ever popular West End, Broadway and film hit Grease. Nearly every year I have had students asking me if we can do this musical, but I have resisted until I knew we had the right cast and could do the show justice- and 2015 was the year! Grease seems to be a musical which everybody knows and loves (even the people who claim to not like musicals!) with everybody having a favourite song or character.

Over 80 students took part in the show and all of them worked extremely hard to produce the show, rehearsing every Friday night since September and giving up four Sundays for all day rehearsals. This shows how much commitment the given pupils to this production- they want to put in the hard work in to make the performances as good as they can possibly can be. This is also one of the first years that our band has been made up almost entirely of Burton Borough students which is exceptional as playing in a live show is a tricky skill to master, but one that our students have done brilliantly.

This year is the first time we have had a number of students who have been in every school musical since they started here at Burton Borough 5 years ago. They have gone from the chorus line to taking on lead roles in this year's show. This in itself a testament to the students' commitment to Performing Arts at BBS, and the enjoyment that being part of a show provides: The friendships formed, the new skills learnt and the confidence they gain from performing to a live audience of friends and family will stay with the students for life.



As well as the Performing Arts staff, the production team also had several ex-students and ex-members of staff who came back to help out with the show in many different ways - from set design and construction, costume and helping in rehearsals. It is really wonderful to know that so many people have enjoyed working on these shows as much as I have over the years and are willing to give up their time to be a part of the show. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the production team for their hard work as without them the shows would not have been possible. I would particularly like to thank Nigel Beal- not only did he construct an entire car for Greased Lightning, he has helped with everything from set painting to helping backstage during the performances. We are so grateful for his help and continued support.

Due to the success of past shows we not only added an extra performance this year, but for the first time ever we sold out all 5 shows before we even got to show week! This means that over 700 people saw a performance of Grease. I would like to thank all the families, friends and staff who came to support and watch the students. The students performed brilliantly over all 5 shows and after months of rehearsing it was fantastic for the cast to see that all their hard work had paid off and that the audiences were enjoying the show- even joining in the singing and dancing!

I know I speak for all the Performing Arts staff when I say we have thoroughly enjoyed working with such talented students over the course of Grease- they are a credit to the school and their families.

Now all we have to do is choose next years musical!



Tolkien House



This half term we have welcomed our new Student Support Manager Mr Peter Lamb.

The students have all met him and he is already working with some students within our house. We thought we would take this opportunity to introduce him to you.

Hello everyone, first of all it's great to be working at Burton Borough I hope I will be able to offer help, support and guidance to our students and their families.

A bit about my life. I was born in Liverpool and quickly forged my allegiance to the Red half of the city. At 19 I joined the RAF and spent 23 years travelling all over the UK and the World, working on Aircraft and Bomb Disposal. In 2010 I left the RAF and starting working in Student Support at Abraham Darby Academy as a Mentor, before coming to Burton Borough.

If parents need to contact Mr Lamb his email address is peter.lamb@taw.org.uk. If you need to contact him by telephone his direct line is 01952 386553

Mr Lamb has lots of experience with the Anti-bullying Ambassador scheme so that is going to prove invaluable to us all, not just the members of Tolkien House.

Things to look out for over the next half term include Tolkien's got Talent. Anyone who would like to enter the Tolkien's got Talent competition and maybe go through to represent our House in the finals needs to see our Dance/Drama Captains.

Mrs Heins

Head of Tolkien House



Parents beware: Holidays in term time may cost you more than you think

Most people will be aware that a local family was recently fined roughly £1000 for refusing to pay the fines for taking their children out of local schools during term time. They also now have a criminal conviction.

Government Guidance on leave during term time changed on 1st September 2013. Any unauthorised leave of 5 or more days will lead to a fine. Head teachers now have extremely limited discretion, and their decision is final. Full details of recent changes to the law are available on our website, as well as our own guidance.

We do not want any of our families to face a fine or even worse a court case. Any request for leave during term time will almost certainly be refused, and could prove very costly.

Dave Hill
Headteacher

Trina Elliot
Education Welfare Officer

Looking to Plan a Holiday in 2015?

Term dates are available on our website.

Please remember — Holidays taken during term times will almost certainly **NOT** be authorised. Any holiday requests **MUST** be made on our 'Leave of Absence' form which needs to be returned to school at least three weeks prior to your leaving date.



PD Days

Please check our school website for details of our PD days. These may differ from the ones posted on the Telford & Wrekin website. If in any doubt, please contact school directly.



8X Harry Potter Trip to Warner Bros Studios

On the 10th December, all the students who were going on the trip to explore the Warner Bros Studios arrived at school for 7am; we were all extremely tired and felt like zombies. When we got registered, we had to face the wrath of the freezing cold winter morning to get to our buses. It was a long, tough 3-hour ride to the Studios, but was worth it.

As we excitedly entered the main foyer, staff welcomed us, and we were presented with huge blow-up canvases of most of the main characters from Harry Potter which hung from the surrounding walls. Then we waited in a queue to go through to a small, darkened room, which led us into a cinema. We took our seats whilst the woman started explaining what was going to happen. The screen flashed up from behind her. We were shown how the films began to develop and how J.K.Rowling used her imagination to create the world's most famous stories.

After this, the screen went black. It rose ... revealing the grand entrance to the great hall, and most of us were startled. We were led into the great hall; here we were able to see the props, special effects and costumes for the scenes from the movies. We saw the Ministry of Magic, the Potion room, the Death Eater's hollow – and we saw Nagini (Voldemort's snake) with dead lady hovering above him. This sent shivers straight down some of our spines. Along with this we saw, the Gryffindor common room, along with the boys' dormitory. Some of the students had a go on the flying broomsticks and in Ronald Weasley's flying car, in the green screen section of the tour. When they received the pictures, it actually looked like they were flying in mid-air. It was fantastic!

We then went into the back-lot outside. Here stood the house where Harry lived with his dreadful aunt and uncle, and the rest of Privet Drive. Here too was the night bus and the bridge from Hogwarts. Shivering from the icy wind, we ate our lunch on the tables in the backlot, and many of us bought some Butter Beer and hotdogs.

Once we had finished eating, we carried on with the tour, next visiting Dobby, one of the cutest and kindest creatures ever created within Harry Potter. In addition to this we saw the suit used to make Hagrid a giant and also Buckbeak, Hagrid's companion. As we rounded another corner, Hagrid's giant spider, Aragog, hanging from the ceiling, suddenly confronted us. This shock was then followed a stroll down Diagon Alley. Whilst walking in the alley, we saw many of the popular shops, such as Gringotts Bank, Ollivander's wand shop, and the twin Weasley's joke shop with puking pastels on display.

Once the gallery was at its end, we were mesmerised by a model of the whole of Hogwarts, with every detail included - from the shaping of the towers, to the slit windows around the building. Also, to add an extra effect we were privileged enough to see 'Hogwarts in the Snow', so we saw every inch of the castle in a thin, delicate layer of snow. It added a super effect, and you got to see what the building looked like all the way around.

Finally, our fantastic tour had sadly come to an end; however there were many treats to buy in the gift shop - from Honeyduke's chocolate, to replica wands of the characters. Also there were posters, magnets, and of course a whole section filled with sweets, (which many of us enjoyed eating)!

Overall, the day was a very enjoyable experience, and we would like to say thank you to Ms Owen, Miss Neild, Mrs Walker Miss Walsh, Mr Hill, Mr Wood, Mrs Prowse and Mrs Wycherley for taking us on this amazing trip!

Myaa Powar and Sarah Moffitt





At this time of year we look forward to what will be a busy calendar year ahead. We aim to build on the last term in terms of the success we had as a house in relation to house points and many individual student success. At the time of writing this article I was so impressed watching so many of our students perform in the fantastic school production of *Grease*. It is so pleasing to see so many of our students involved in the variety of activities the school offers and would encourage all students in our house to get involved in some of the many extra-curricular activities available to them.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'K. Mainwaring'.

Kevin Mainwaring



Moore Community Challenge.

The Burton Borough School is a big part of the local community, and we hope to get as many students involved in what we are calling the Moore Community Challenge. This will involve students giving their time to support the local community. At the moment we are planning a Big Clean up morning in Newport as one of the ways students can get involved. The challenge will involve students logging hours for the time they donate, with badges and certificates awarded for set amounts of hours. We really do hope as many students as possible get involved in this project.





“Who do I contact if I have a query?”

As you know, all children from each family have been placed in the same House in order to make this as easy as possible. The first point of contact should be with your child’s tutor (perhaps via their planner). After this, please use the House structure as follows:

To contact any of these staff, please use the Helpdesk number on **01952 386559** or email the **helpdesk.bbs@taw.org.uk**. All calls via the Helpdesk are logged so that we can ensure that each issue resolved.

House	Head of House	Student Support Manager
Lennon	Mrs Alecock	Ms Dakin
Moore	Mr Mainwaring	Mrs Pickering
Tolkien	Mrs Heins	Mr Lamb
Attenborough	Mrs Tomlinson	Mr Garbett

Contact Details

Please remember to let us know if your contact details change. It is vital that we are able to contact parents and carers in the event of an emergency.

We now have email details for 95% of parents and carers, but would like one for every parent.

Please contact us as soon as possible if you have not already given us your email address.



Student of the Month

November 2014

Attenborough Nominations

- PVI Katie Lowndes, Lucy Evans, Jay Moore
- KST Alex Devitt, Alex Maidens, Olivia Hawley
- PEV Dan Higgins , Jess Taphouse, Jennifer Wilmot
- HNE Hannah Wilkes, Izzy Dale, Abi Berridge
- VLC Harriet Broad, Jennifer Ray, Iwan Armstong
- RBA Sam Skinner , Mary Strickland, Emily Pierce
- JWA Jack Mcnamara , Reiss O'Neill, Alex Woodvine
- LKA Brayden Jones, Rhiannon Bowen , Harvey Steel
- NPR Amrita Virk, Luke Burton , Ruby Wilson



Lennon Nominations

- JGL Harjiwan Dhariwal , Charlie Gamble
- JGR William Grigsby-Locke, Ellie Baughan, Joseph Trickett
- CCO Jack Banks, Holly Lea, Alex Briggs
- KGO Will Anson, Harry Fletcher, Chris Grand
- KLP Elizabeth Tanner, Ellie Rushton, Amber Barron
- CJO Milly Glasgow, Charlie Parker, Matt Bate
- SJG Joe Alexander, Alex Letza,
Jorge Hadley Moore
- GFA Nicole Coombes, Brendan Overa,
Caitlin Riley
- AWA Peter Overal , Ella Vann,
Becky Bodger





Student of the Month

September 2014

Moore Nominations

- JWY Thomas Wall, Jack Smith , Hannah Kiernan
- KPR Alexandra, Amplett, Zofia, Powell-Laybourn
Jack Brumbill
- SRU Sophie France, Mark Dixon, Harley Talbot-Parker
- JNI Tegan Bould, Ellen Marshall, Robert Skelding
- SSD Alice Parker, Morgan Astbury, Jacob Johnson
- MWY John Ruston, Aaron Price Sale , Josh Millington-
Chapman
- ACO Adam Evans , Hayden Ravenscroft, Fran Garrott
- RGE Jon Scott, Louis Arrowsmith, Rhiannon Thomas



Winners!
Hannah Davis
& Jacob
Johnson

Tolkien Nominations

- KBA Holly Walsh , Phoebe Davies-
Boydell, Molly Evans
- EHE Maizy Carroll-Stone, Will Stan-
worth , Hannah Sargent
- MPF Callum Brookfield, Josh McCormick, Jacob
Campbell
- ABE Charlie Ensor, Ellie Marley , Imogen Price
- ARU Archie Locke, Olivia Johnson, Chloe Clayton
- MHE Brandon Claridge, Leah Eccleston, Emma Hardy



Winners!
Josh McCormick
&
Phoebe Davis-
Boydell



Into the Revision Zone!

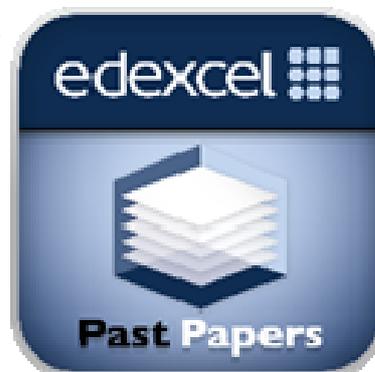
So with just over 4 months to go until the first exam of the 2015 season we are well into the final straight for our Year 11s, a period of time when getting into the best learning habits is absolutely essential. So some top tips:

Have a plan! Many students do this on paper, many with an app, but it is essential to plan a schedule that includes all of the key examination dates and ensures that each subject is covered over the following weeks. Most students will study 9 or 10 subjects, so planning chunks of 30 minute sessions each day can mean that over a week all subjects get covered. Typically this will mean covering 3 or 4 subjects each evening giving a total of about 2 hours of revision each day.



RAG your revision guides. Focus your revision. Start by working through the contents section of your revision guide, and with a red, amber and green pen or crayon RAG each section. Put a red dot beside the sections that you are finding most tricky; an amber dot for those sections that need a little bit of work to get you confident and finally a green dot for those sections that you are pretty confident about. The key thing is then to make sure that you start the revision by focusing on the amber sections – in this way you should get your revision off to a flying start and get your confidence improving quickly. Get the amber stuff to green and only then get tackling the red sections.

Grab some past papers. Ask your teacher or download these from the exam board website. Try some questions and then mark your responses using a mark scheme. Most of our best learners say that this is the best way to revise.



Don't just read a revision guide! USE the information in it to create your own notes, mind maps or revision cards. Just reading through a revision guide is perhaps the worst thing that you can do with it! Make your notes colourful and include pictures to make them more memorable.

Log on to SAM Learning. You won't learn much directly from SAM Learning but it is a fantastic way of testing yourself on a topic that you have just revised. Look out for the 'revise' tasks.



Get appy. There are many favourite apps to help you revise or to organise your time. Get this right and your revision can come with you anywhere on your phone!

Get into the zone! Focus on your work in 30 minute chunks and have the discipline to leave checking in on Facebook, Snapchat etc. until your next break. Choose some calming music, preferably music without lyrics as this can be a distraction, and some healthy snacks!



ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE – some reminders:

If your child is ill you must contact the school as soon as possible, giving us the following information:

- **Your child's name, year and form group;**
- **Reason for absence and nature of illness;**
- **Likely length of absence if known.**

You can inform us by one of the following methods:

By contacting the Attendance Office on 01952 386554
(answer phone in

operation so please leave a message),

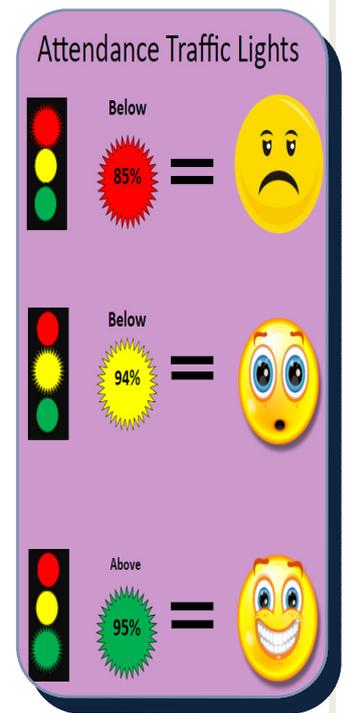
E-mail: attendance.bbs@taw.org.uk

Phone **Reception** 01952 386500.

Please do not be alarmed if we call to check on your absent child's progress for our records.

If you need to inform us of future medical or other appointments you can do so by:

- using the same contact details,
- sending in a letter,
- writing a note in their PSD,
- E-mailing your child's tutor (their address can be found on the school web site).





Sexting

Across the country there is increasing concern about students 'sexting' which is the practice of sending photos of their bodies to others. This dangerous practice inevitably leads to these photos being widely shared, and the dangers of adults obtaining them are obvious. Taking part in this is illegal and can (and does) lead to the police taking action through cautions and more serious steps if the person does not stop. Even a police caution can, of course, lead to travel bans (e.g. USA) and some jobs being unachievable in later life.

Students at Burton Borough are not immune from this practice, which is why we recently invited the police to lead assemblies during which they spelt out the dangers.

Please have regular conversations with your child about this dangerous, widespread problem.





Burton Borough Website Survey

What do you think?

Before the summer 2014 posted a request for visitors to our website to tell us what they think and the responses we've had have been really helpful. As a result, we're working on making changes to key information for parents including newsletters and key dates which we will have up and running very soon.

However, because we want to keep in touch with what our visitors want we would really appreciate it if you could take a look at the survey we have online. It's completely anonymous and won't take any longer than a few minutes to complete. You can find it by pointing your web browser at the following address:-



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GXMX2V7>

We would really appreciate your feedback and will use it to help improve the website for the benefit of all our visitors. Thank you!

School Twitter and News Feeds

There are several ways to get the latest news from the school website; the simplest way is to go to the website homepage and click on the 'Latest News' link, which displays all the news articles as they are posted. The website can be viewed on a traditional PC, but also works perfectly on a mobile device such as a tablet computer (such as an iPad) or any smartphone. The display reformats itself to make the best of the device you're using.

Another way to get the news is by using an RSS feed; these programs get the news as it is published and download it to your device. You can subscribe to the RSS feed by clicking on the icon (next to 'Latest News') and subscribe to it using your favourite RSS reader app.



Finally, we're posting news and event information on the school Twitter account, which links into more detailed information on the school website. You can follow us by searching for our account name:

@BurtonBorough

Hopefully these services will help parents, students and visitors keep in touch with what is going on here at Burton Borough!

Mr Attwood
ICT Department



Ribi Youth Speaks Competition

FROZEN

We had a superb range of entries for our writing competition before Christmas. Students were asked to interpret the title: 'Frozen' in whatever way they wished. Some very imaginative poetry and prose resulted, which demonstrated some great writing talent and made for entertaining reading! Mrs Prowse and Mrs Grey in the library had the difficult job of deciding the final winning line up from those we had shortlisted. A big thank you to them both for all of their help with this.

Congratulations to our winning entries: Emily Rodwell was awarded first prize, joint second place went to Mir Barge and Molly Franklin whilst Luke Burton, Myaa Powar, Iwan Armstrong, Lucy Armitage, Sabrina Bearblock and Vicki Burton were recognised as highly commended.

You are invited to read the students' writing via our webpage link. Enjoy.

Phoebe Blythin, Matthew Belfield and Alex Swindlehurst (Year 11s) are involved in the Ribi Youth Speaks Competition which being held at William Brookes School on Tuesday 10th February. The Rotary Youth Speaks competition is one of five competitions organised by Rotary International in Great Britain & Ireland for young people.



RIBI **YOUTH**
SPEAKS COMPETITION

They will be presenting a speech on 'Life in the Future.' If they are successful they will go through to Regional Finals in March and then on to National Finals held in Essex on 10th May.

A big thank you to the three students. They have managed to juggle preparation despite mock examinations and the other responsibilities of Senior Students, so well done! Their speech is fantastic; they are a great team and we wish them luck!



Girls Badminton

The under 14's girls badminton team took part in the Telford area cup finals during December and managed to beat Idsall School to progress to the Final.

In the final the girls beat Thomas Telford to become Telford Champions.

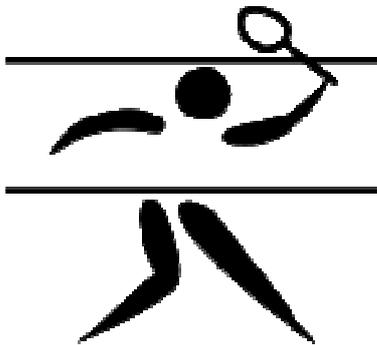
The Team:

- Ellie Ward
- Maria Benjamin
- Elizabeth Phillips
- Isabelle McMorran

This victory is even more of an achievement as three out of the four players are from Year 7.

Many Congratulations

Mr Bell
Head of PE Department



“Follow the Fish! Follow the PE Dept on Twitter: @BBSPE
We will use this to tweet information on fixtures, results, emergency messages and cancellations.



Full details can be found on our school website

<http://www.burtonborough.org.uk/>

RICOH
imagine. change.

a co-operative
council



Telford & Wrekin
COUNCIL



National Storytelling Week

EARLY FEBRUARY WAS NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK ...

and Young National Storyteller of the Year, Jake Evans, entertains Years 8 & 9 for the afternoon

English lessons were collapsed on the afternoon of 6th February and Burton Borough School were privileged to bag a performance from Jake Evans - the most recent winner of Young National Storyteller of the Year.

It was immediately obvious why Jake had won this highly contended competition. The vast majority of Year 8 and 9 had a very profound miscomprehension about the nature of storytelling. Jake soon proved that he was not going to be sitting on a battered armchair to read them a story from a book.

Jake weaves an interactive storytelling experience with an ability to tell enchanting stories, provide convincing wild goose impressions and creating of characters - good, bad and ugly. Our students were captivated by his performances - some getting involved with acting parts in his stories. Jaikob Beards-Spittall's ability to burp on demand was particularly impressive.

We hope to bring Jake in again soon - and no doubt there will be a long line of students eager to take part in his storytelling workshops if the long of students waiting to take a selfie with him afterwards is anything to go by!

Christine Owen

School Literacy Co-ordinator





L33t Squad

L33t Squad or Elite Programming Squad, is a collection of students with natural interest and skill for the world of programming. It offers a chance for these students to collaborate and learn together, and delve into the world of code. We are currently focusing on the language Python, which is a good introduction language. We hope to progress to making apps and functional programs. The IT technicians come to join us and offer expert help. The potential for the next Bill Gates or Mark Zuckerberg is here, it is just about giving the students an environment which encourages that level of ingenuity. L33t Squad

Future School Funding

School funding 5-16 year olds has been protected over the duration of the current parliament but a 'flat cash level' which has meant that the funding rate per student has remained static and has not kept pace with general inflation and pay rises. There are further and very significant rises in costs for the coming and academic year which will make it extremely difficult for all schools to retain their current level of provision. From September this year there is an increase of 2.38% in the amount that schools must pay towards the pensions of the teachers they employ. From April 2016 an increase of 3.4% in the employers' National Insurance contribution will mean schools having to find around an additional £1,100 for each teacher they employ and slightly less for each other member of staff. For us this will total around £150,000. On top of this, school will need to fund any agreed pay rises to teachers and other staff. ASCL calculates that these increases will add just over 4% to what it costs us to run a school.

I will keep you informed about the implications of this, as we plan our budgets for the next few years.



Double Touch Coaching Sessions

MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY
TO
FRIDAY 20th FEBRUARY



COACHING

9am - 3pm
2 Venues

FEBRUARY FOOTBALL SCHOOL

Join our football development course with a difference. Learn the skills to develop your game. Try new training styles.



Venue 1 Priorslee Academy School, Priorslee Avenue, Telford TF2 9RS

Venue 2 Burton Borough school, Audley avenue, Newport TF2 7DS



TO BOOK YOUR PLACE EMAIL



steve@doubletouchcoaching.co.uk

£12.50
A day

CALL STEVE WAINWRIGHT ON

£50 ALL WEEK

07713007327



Discounts available if you attend any Double Touch Development Centre or if you are a part of Newport Town FC Youth teams £10.00 a day or £45 for the week





Important news: Are you interested in training to become a Primary School or Early Years teacher ? You can with our local School Direct programme.

Our school is part of a growing number of schools that are supporting school-led teacher training. This is really important to us as a school and other schools in Telford because it means we can choose locally trained teachers to join the profession and deliver the best outcomes for all the children.

We are a partner of the local Severn Teaching School Alliance and they are presently recruiting graduates to embark on a local one year teacher training programme from September 2015. They would be very interested to hear from you if you are thinking of becoming a teacher. Our Alliance is looking for people who have (or will have) a degree, have a passion for teaching and want to inspire young people to fulfil their potential. We are particularly interested to hear from people who are considering a career change.

With a starting salary around £23,000 and financial bursaries available to support trainees during their training there might not be a better time to consider a School Direct programme.

There are a team of people who would love to hear from you and have a chat about the exciting local teacher training opportunities available. You can contact Lee Ferriday by email : lee.ferriday@telford.gov.uk or contact him by telephone on 0797 3435711.

For any further information on what becoming a teacher might involve more generally you can also visit : www.severnteachingschool.co.uk



~ Paris Easter 2015 ~



On Monday 6th April, 85 year 9 students and 9 members of staff will be leaving Burton Borough for a 5 day visit to Paris.

Following last year's successful trip to Paris, this trip was heavily over-subscribed , so names were drawn out of hat to allocate the 85 places. The trip is again organised through PGL who are specialists in educational visits.

It's going to be an action packed trip with a tour of Paris and the Eiffel Tower, Sacre Coeur, Vimy Ridge, Notre Dame, Musee d'Orsey and Disneyland. The evenings will be busy too with lots of activities including a crepe evening, disco and a scavenger hunt.

Our school website will be updated with information before and during the visit, so if you're going or you're a parent/carer please keep checking for regular updates.

Also, to keep everyone up to date with what's happening, we've created a blog and twitter account.

Blog: <http://bbsparis2015.wordpress.com>

Twitter: @bbsparis2015



Has your child grown out of their uniform?

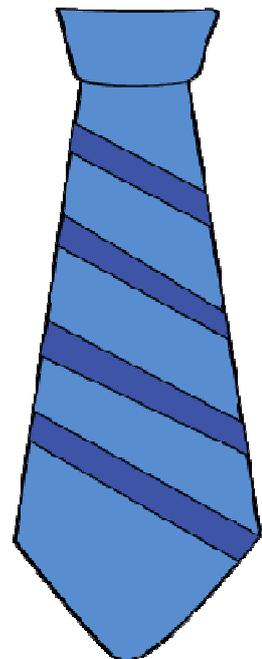
The Pastoral Team are very grateful for the uniform that is donated to them, once your child has grown out of it.

If you have any uniform that you are not able to use, please can you bring it in to school for the team to use when necessary.

Clean , undamaged uniform would be gratefully received

Many thanks

Mrs Pickering
Senior Student Support Manager





Mobile Device Consequences & Agreement

Mobile devices can be brought into school, but must not be used on site. If they are used, they will be confiscated. There is a “ratchet” of consequences which are:

1st confiscation: handed back to student at the end of the day. Letter sent home to parents/carer and a lunchtime Behaviour Intervention given.

2nd confiscation: available for parent/carer to collect from Helpdesk at the end of the following day after confiscation. Parent/carer to sign the confiscation form to confirm they understand the implications of further confiscations. SLT Community Service (one hour) given.

3rd confiscation: mobile device confiscated for up to 3 weeks. Parent/carer to sign the confiscation form to confirm that they understand the implications of further confiscations. SLT Community Service (one hour) given.

4th confiscation: mobile device confiscated for a period specified by the Headteacher. Parent/carer to sign the confiscation form to confirm that they understand these implications. SLT Community Service (1 hour) given.

Furthermore, should the device be confiscated again, there may be additional consequences as deemed by the Headteacher.

Please note: We do not wish to confiscate mobile devices for any length of time, but have no choice if the policy is being flaunted. We recognise the difficulties this creates at home, but will not make exceptions. If a student cannot be trusted, then simply don't bring the device to school.

We are very fortunate that we have (almost) universal support from parents/carers regarding such issues. This is vital if we are to send clear messages to the students.



Whitsun 2015

As you will be aware, our new building will be completed at this time. We will, therefore, need to move into our new accommodation. However, we will also have to temporarily vacate almost all of our current buildings so that they can be refurbished prior to September 2015.

This reorganisation is going to be unavoidably disruptive. It will not have an impact on students in Year 11 who will be either sitting exams or continuing with their lessons. We have brought forward the “Work Experience” fortnight for students in Year 10 so that this will run from Monday 1st June until Friday 12th June, which means that there will be no overall impact on students in either Year 10 or Year 11 during their GCSEs.

Given the challenges of moving into our building, the Governors requested a closure for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 which was agreed by Telford and Wrekin. This means that we will be closed to all students on Friday 22nd May (the day before half term) and for the week Monday 1st June until Friday 5th June. We will reopen in our new building at the normal time on Monday 8th June

Moving an entire school during a school year is far from ideal, and has forced us into this additional closure. All schools in Telford and Wrekin with similar (or larger) building projects have also been forced into making equivalent decisions.

We recognise that this situation will create some challenges, which is why we hope that giving you this information in advance will help with your planning.

We would also like to remind you that this partial closure only applies to students in Years 7, 8 and 9 at Burton Borough. All of our local infant/Junior/Primary schools will be fully open during this week.

Whilst this disruption is unwelcome, it is a sign that our new building will soon be used by our students. After nine years of planning, we are nearly there.

D.M.Hill
Headteacher

P.Broomhead
Chair of Governors



Burton Borough School Frames



Made From 6mm Thick Bevelled Glass

There is a huge difference between a normal Photo Frame and a Burton Borough School Frame made from thick glass. Only by physically seeing and holding this magnificent product in your hands, will you actually understand this.

School days are some of the most important days of your child's life. All photos capture a special moment but as the years pass-by it's easy to forget exactly when and where our loved ones were at the time. The Burton Borough School Frames create a lasting memory of the highest quality that will last a life time.

All customers are totally amazed when they receive this product. Just seeing this on a computer screen simply cannot convey how fantastic these frames are. We promise you that you will not be disappointed.

Burton Borough School Frames are hand crafted to create a lasting memory of the highest quality that will last a life time.

Why not show off their achievements in the best possible way with these fantastic official personalised engraved photo frames.

Type your message and see the text as you are writing it in real-time (e.g. the text appears as you type it).

To upload your photo press **"Start My Frame"** link above and see how simple it is to create your own personal message!

With a choice of sizes offered these frames are available in portrait and landscape to suit your photo. These frames can be wall mounted or used with the fitted stand on a desk or table.

See How It Looks With Your Photo & Personal Message

✓ **Free Engraved Message**

✓ **High Quality Glass Frames**

✓ **All Prices inc VAT**



Personalised Frame...

Your Personal message can be engraved next to the school logo. Try it out now to see how it looks with your photo and personal message in real time..

[More Info](#)



Premium Logo Frame...

Our premium photo frames have the school logo engraved into the front of the frame. Available in various sizes to suit your photo.

[More Info](#)

Personalise Photo Frames...

You Can Personalise our Photo Frames in real time and see how the Photo Frame will look with your photo and personal message. Try it now

[Try It Now](#)



We Can Print Your Photo...

We can print and fit your photo into your chosen Personalised Photo Frame and send it to the recipient.

[More Info](#)



See How It Works...

It's simple to personalise Photo Frames, on the website in real time so you can see exactly how it will look before you buy. For more info and to see how it works click below.

[More Info](#)



We Accept all Major Credit Cards

www.burtonboroughschoolframes.org.uk



The Safeguarding Team



Miss C.Owen

Literacy Co-Ordinator

chrstine.owen2@taw.org.uk



Mr K.Hill

Assistant Head

karl.hill@taw.org.uk



Mr B.Morgan

Deputy Head

ben.morgan@taw.org.uk



Mrs P.Pickering

Senior Student Support Manager

philippa.pickering@taw.org.uk



Parking on Audley Avenue

Since September, the number of parents dropping off and picking up students directly outside school has increased considerably. This obviously causes concern for the safety of all students around the school main entrance and in Audley Avenue. It also causes a number of knock on issues with our resident neighbours, deliveries to school and other businesses in Audley Avenue.

Can we politely ask, if you bring your child to school to drop them a little way away from school and encourage them to walk some of the way to school.

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE



101

**IN AN EMERGENCY
ALWAYS CALL 999**



As part of an initiative to increase pedestrian safety outside local schools, Safer Neighbourhood policing teams are to take a preventative course of action in the hope of raising awareness to drivers, parents or guardians to the well being of children, thereby promoting road safety to reduce road casualties.

We would like to remind you of the following to prevent unnecessary obstruction of the road or entrance to your son/daughter's school which benefits all parties:-

You must keep the 'School keep Clear' Zigzags free from vehicles. These markings mean that YOU MUST NOT STOP, even to drop off or pick up.

Park so that you do not cause any inconvenience to anyone else.

Do not park illegally – fines start at £30.

Do not drive or park on the pavement – children are taught the pavement is a safe place to be.

Do not park on single yellow lines if restrictions are in place which will be clearly visible on street furniture such as lamp posts.

Do not park on double yellow lines, these protect the junctions and allow motorists the visibility they need.

Do not park in designated Bus Stop Bays where it is marked on the road in yellow and signed.

Park away from road features such as traffic islands so that other road users including large vehicles, lorries, fire engines, coaches can get through

Dropped kerbs are there to assist pushchair and wheelchair users to cross the road, do not park so that you block them.

Never park so as to stop a resident or trader from getting on or off their property and if you are doing this you must move by law when asked to do so.

Do not park on verges, as you may damage them, or any utilities underneath. The local authority can charge you for the cost of the repair.

Drive slowly at school times, children may suddenly step out into the road, this allows you time to stop safely.

Vehicles identified causing any of the above offences may be subject to prosecution



F2GO

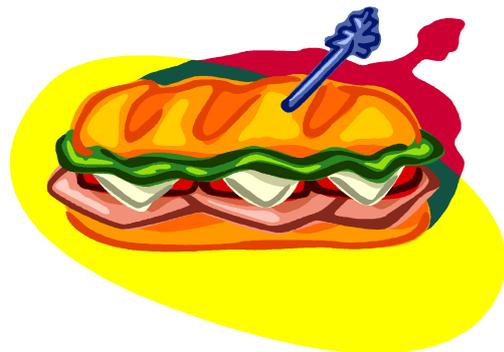
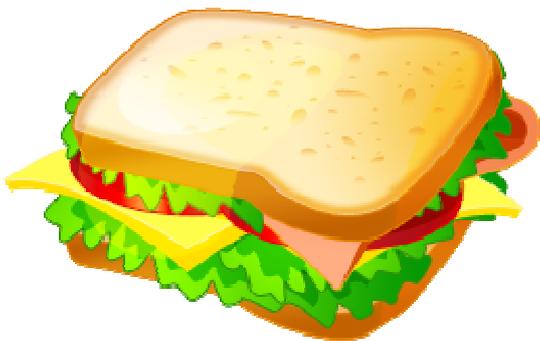
food to go!

Food At Burton Borough

As you may know, this is the second year that we have run our own catering service. It has enabled us to improve the quality of our food, whilst also keeping prices fixed for the second year running.

A full meal costs just £2.20, which is also the cost of the “deli offer”. There is also a new range of sandwiches available.

Give it a try.....



2014 - 2015 School Calendar

SEPTEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S

OCTOBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S

NOVEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S

DECEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S

JANUARY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S

FEBRUARY						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH						
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30	31					

APRIL						
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27	28	29	30			

MAY						
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JUNE						
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29	30					

JULY						
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27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

 School Closed/Holidays

 Public Holidays

 PD Day

 In-Lieu PD Day
CLOSED TO STUDENTS

 Period of School Closure - BSF Pack/Move
 Y10 Work Experience 1st to 12th June 2015