

ALWAYS GIVE SCHOOL 1000% ATTENDANCE



Featuring...

- Message from Headteacher
- Message from Deputy Headteacher
- Burnside Live!
- Sporting Events
- Uniform Provision
- Academic Year 2017/2018 Key Dates





Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parent/Carer,

Attendance: We would like to thank parents for supporting the school in our drive to improve attendance. You will be aware that this was a key issue from our OfSTED inspection in October and so we are pleased to report that attendance improved by 0.5% across the whole school in term 2 to move attendance for the year to 94% - closer to the national average of 95%.

I would particularly like to thank parents of children in years 7 & 8. Very good attitudes to attendance in these year groups mean that the proportions of students with persistent absence (below 90% attendance) are now better than the national averages for students of the same age.

In order to support this school priority governors have recently reviewed our attendance policy, the updated policy can now be found on our website. Just a reminder to parents that the policy states that: "The school does not authorise leave of absence during term time for holidays." Thank you again for your support in building good attitudes to attendance in the school.

Behaviour: We constantly strive for the highest standards of behaviour at Burnside. In lessons this means students always trying their hardest and facing challenge without giving up. Around school this means showing respect and courtesy for the school and other members of the school community. We are delighted to announce a sharp fall in the number of fixed term exclusions in term 2 below the average rate nationally. This is a clear indication (along with other behaviour data) of the improving attitudes to learning in the school.

Governors recently appointed Mrs Charlotte Jenkins as Deputy Headteacher for Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare in order to lead our continued drive on improving standards in this area.

Parent Governors: We currently have vacancies for three parent governors on our governing body. This is a great opportunity to be part of the strategic decision making in the school and provide valued input in how to continue to improve our school. The time commitments for this role are flexible. If any parents / carers would like further information or an informal chat about this opportunity please contact Mrs Linda Heide at: l.heide@burnsidecollege.org.uk.

Mr D Jamieson
Headteacher



Message from the Deputy Headteacher



Dear Parent/Carer,

At Burnside we are always working together to ensure the climate is focused around learning, progress and success and we do this by ensuring that all students and staff follow some basic expectations which enable students to feel safe, happy and ready to learn. We recently participated in a review of the work we completed to 'Poverty Proof' our school day. This was to ensure that all students are respected for their talents and abilities and that students are less likely to be bullied because of the clothes they wear or possessions they keep.

The removal of mobile phone access during the school day has had a huge impact on reducing bullying and increased students' participation in learning in the classroom. In addition it has been recognised that we work hard to ensure that our uniform is affordable and that we offer support should families require it. We are really proud of our school climate and the pride that our students show in their school community.

To ensure that we are all working together to maintain this climate we are reminding all staff and students of some of the ways they can positively contribute. It has been recognised by external partners that our policies are good and there have been no changes since September 2017. However, sometimes we all need timely reminders. In particular we are keen to ensure that all of our uniform and mobile phone policies are followed to ensure fairness and equality. Our policies are available on the website and we welcome you to review these through the college website should you require clarification. We simply invite you to support us in ensuring our students are as smart and ready to learn as they can be by supporting us in ensuring consistency with these issues.

As the summer term approaches we have had many queries in regard to our uniform policy for next year and in particular the use of school issue bags for our current year 7 students. I can confirm that we share your frustrations with the quality of the bags and are investigating how we ensure that we have a better quality product. We look forward to contacting you in the near future with an update on progress and plans for September 2018 however we anticipate no significant changes in our current uniform policy.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs C Jenkins
Deputy Headteacher: Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare



Burnside Live!

On the 28th of March, Burnside's music students put on a Live Gig for an audience of over 200 people! The show was an utter success and over £400 was made, and it's all down to the students.

The students involved had about 6 weeks to rehearse, organise and plan Burnside Live. Food, lighting, sound systems, equipment, refreshments, tickets, programmes, performances, outfits, everything! Meetings in lesson time and in their own time determined who would be responsible for what. This was extremely important as everyone needed to contribute in order to put on a great show and to pass the course!

The performances were truly amazing! Some highlights of the night were Dylan's samba drum solo, Gavin, Liam, Jason and Mia's cover of 'Seven Nation Army', Nicole's cover of 'Youth', Lewis, Mikey and Lewis's original instrumental song, the year 10 band Aglet and their original songs, Danniella and her band's cover of 'Back to Black' and Cameron's cover of the late George Michael's 'Careless Whisper'. The students each put their heart and souls into their performances and you could really tell. The real love and passion for music shone throughout the students all night.

During the interval, we managed to get some quick interviews with the audience to see what they thought of the night.

"Absolutely brilliant!"

"It's great to see so many young people so interested in music."

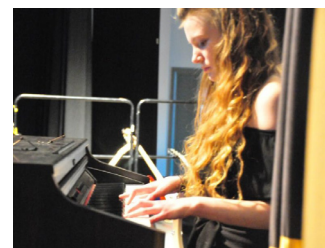
"Such a great atmosphere"

"The students really seem to have enjoyed themselves, and that's great to see"

"I was so surprised there was so much talent in Burnside!"

The performances went down really well, the audience was hugely supportive and involved. Even students who had the odd technical difficulty or issue, the audience were great and totally supportive! (Big thanks to everyone who was there!)

The music students have a real challenge on their hands putting on a bigger and better show next year, they've set the bar high! Burnside Live was a great night and thanks to everyone who came down to watch, and all of the music staff who helped organise and set up Burnside Live! (The students couldn't have done it without you).





Sporting Events

On Wednesday 25th April 90 of our Feeder Primary Year 1 & 2 Students from Richardson Dees, Redesdale and Carville took part in a Multi Skills Athletics event hosted at Burnside.

The aim of the event was to increase participation in Athletics and participants took part in 20 throwing, running and jumping events.

All the students had a great time and Burnside Leaders did a great job of scoring, leading and encouraging the primary school students.

Well done and thanks to all staff and students involved!!



Last week Key Stage Three students in PE completed a Fitness Week in their lessons. This consisted of a 'Bush Tucker' Fitness Circuit where the girls had to earn meals for their groups. In their second lesson of the week students completed a Just Dance lesson with pedometers counting their steps.

All staff and students had a great time and worked incredibly hard all week! Well done!!



On Monday 12th March the Y10 Netball Team were lucky enough to have Team Northumbria Netballer Tasmin Moala come to training. She delivered an exciting session for the girls, looking at passing, moving onto the ball and some tactical gameplay skills.

The girls all really enjoyed the chance to be coached by Tasmin and we hope that we will have the opportunity for her to come to Burnside again next year.

Well done to all students who have attended netball club since September!!





Uniform Provision

We were aware that some parents/carers encountered problems last summer purchasing school uniform from our supplier Emblematic. We carried out a survey to identify the problems and have used the findings to work with parents/carers and Emblematic to improve the service.

Firstly, there were some concerns about the quality of both polo and sweatshirts. We ran a trial using tops produced by a different uniform manufacturer provided free by Emblematic. The pilot involved parents/carers who had responded to the survey and ran from January until February half term. The response from parents/carers has been extremely positive, with regards to quality/ 'washability' / colouring of the sweatshirts and the polo shirts. The two products were described as 'much thicker and far superior'.

Other concerns indicated that the Emblematic shop did not have sufficient stock of the sizes required. We have assured Emblematic that there will be no change to uniform that they supply. We have also informed Emblematic of the number of students, per year group for the coming year, thus giving them the confidence to build up an adequate stock of Burnside uniform.

Parents/carers commented on problems in accessing the Emblematic shop at busy times. We have agreed that Emblematic will be present in the College during the New Intake Parents Evening on 3 July 2018 to sell uniform and to take orders for either collection or delivery.

Emblematic have also informed us of the improvements that have been made to their shop /unit increasing its size, number of tills and staff to enable them to cope with demand at the busiest times.

Further information supplied by Emblematic about development of their service is available on the college website.

<http://www.burnsidecollege.org.uk/emblematic/>

Academic Year 2017/2018 Key Dates

14 May 2018	External Exams begin
22 May 2018	Year 7 Parents Evening
25 May 2018	Year 13 Final Day
18 June 2018	Year 10 Mock Exams begin
22 June 2018	External GCSE Exams end
25 June 2018	Year 12 Mock Exams begin / Year 12 Final Exams begin
26 June 2018	External GCE Exams end
29 June 2018	Year 10 & Year 12 Mock Exams end
2 July 2018	KS3 Year 7 & Year 8 Mock Exams begin / Year 12 Progression Week begins
3 July 2018	New Intake Parents Evening (Emblematic on site for uniform orders/purchases)
4/5 July 2018	Year 6 Induction days
9 July 2018	Year 12 Work Experience Week begins
13 July 2018	KS3 Year 7 & Year 8 Mock Exams end