



Executive Headteacher: Mrs Karen Millar
Head of School: Miss Sally Underwood

17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reflecting on an Incredible Year

As another school year draws to a close, it is difficult to believe just how much has happened over the last twelve months. Looking back, there is an overwhelming sense of pride in everything our children, staff, families and wider community have achieved together.

This year has been one of growth, opportunity and ambition. From the very first day in September, our children have embraced every challenge with enthusiasm, curiosity and determination. Whether developing new skills in the classroom, representing the school at sporting events, performing in front of audiences or supporting causes close to their hearts, they have continually demonstrated what it means to be part of the Burston family.

At Burston, we believe education is about so much more than academic success. Whilst we are incredibly proud of the excellent progress our children continue to make in reading, writing and mathematics, we are equally proud of the compassionate, thoughtful and resilient young people they are becoming.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

The breadth of experiences our children have enjoyed this year has been exceptional. They have explored democracy through visits from Members of Parliament and Parliament's Education Service, represented Burston in sporting competitions, developed life-saving swimming and cycling skills, taken part in Bikeability, visited the Royal Norfolk Show, performed in the Sapientia marquee, enjoyed *Gripping Yarns* theatre workshops, celebrated World Book Day, participated in Reading Cafés, explored British farming, learnt outdoors, cared for our environment and embraced countless enrichment opportunities that have brought learning to life.

These experiences help to nurture confident, curious learners who understand that education extends far beyond the classroom and equips them with the knowledge, skills and character to thrive.

Living Our MARK Values

Throughout the year, our MARK values of Motivation, Aspiration, Resilience and Kindness have been evident in every aspect of school life. We have watched children encourage one another, persevere through challenges, celebrate each other's successes and show genuine compassion for people both within and beyond our community.

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01379 741 256

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These values are not simply words displayed around school—they are lived every single day. Seeing our children develop into responsible, caring citizens who want to make a positive difference has been one of the greatest joys of this year.

Growing Together as a Community

One of Burston's greatest strengths continues to be the strong partnership between school, families and the wider community. This year has seen those relationships flourish even further.

Together we have created our Community Herb Garden and "Give & Grow" Shed, supported local charities including The Shelf, YANA and the Little Princess Trust, strengthened partnerships with our Parish Council and local organisations, and welcomed families into school through Family Cafés, community events and celebrations.

None of this would have been possible without the incredible support of our families. Your encouragement, partnership and willingness to work alongside us enables our children to thrive. Thank you for supporting reading at home, attending events, volunteering your time, fundraising, celebrating successes and trusting us with your children's education.

A heartfelt thank you must also go to our wonderful Friends of Burston Primary School. Throughout the year they have worked tirelessly behind the scenes, organising events, raising funds and providing opportunities that have enriched every child's experience. From discos and fairs to Easter treats, leavers' hoodies and educational resources, their generosity has made a lasting difference.

Our People

This has also been a significant year for Burston, with a number of staffing changes across the school. We appreciate that periods of change can sometimes feel unsettling for children and families, and we would like to thank you for the patience, understanding and trust you have shown throughout these transitions.

Whilst change has presented challenges at times, one thing has remained constant: the unwavering commitment of our staff team. Every member of staff shares the same vision of ensuring every child feels safe, valued, inspired and supported to achieve their very best. They continually go above and beyond, working collaboratively with professionalism, compassion and determination to meet the needs of every child.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a talented and caring team. Their dedication, flexibility and unwavering belief in our children have enabled Burston to continue going from strength to strength, and I would like to personally thank every member of staff for everything they have contributed this year.

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Celebrating Our Ofsted Success

A defining moment this year was welcoming Ofsted to Burston. Inspection days are always demanding, but they also gave us the opportunity to showcase the wonderful school community we are so proud to be part of.

We are delighted that the inspection recognised the significant journey Burston has been on and celebrated the high-quality education our children receive every day. The report reflects our ambitious curriculum, nurturing environment, strong relationships and unwavering commitment to helping every child flourish. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, trust, families and, most importantly, our incredible children.

Our children were exceptional throughout the inspection. They spoke with confidence, behaved impeccably and embodied our **MARK** values of **M**otivation, **A**spiration, **R**esilience and **K**indness. We would also like to thank our families for the overwhelmingly positive feedback shared with inspectors. Your partnership and support continue to be one of Burston's greatest strengths.

Whilst we are immensely proud of this achievement, we see it as a milestone rather than a destination. We will continue to reflect, innovate, be ambitious and strive for excellence, ensuring every child receives the very best education and opportunities to flourish. ***The report is not the end of our journey—it is a celebration of how far we have come together and an exciting foundation for everything that lies ahead.***

Wishing Our Year 6 Children Well

Our Year 6 children deserve particular recognition. They leave us having shown remarkable resilience, maturity and kindness. We know they are more than ready for the next stage of their education and are confident they will continue to embody everything Burston stands for.

Whilst we will miss them greatly, they leave with our very best wishes and every confidence that they will continue to make their mark on the world.

Looking Ahead

As we look towards September, we are excited to welcome new families into our school community while continuing to build on everything we have achieved together this year. We remain committed to ensuring every child receives a rich, ambitious and nurturing education where they are encouraged to dream big, believe in themselves and know that they can make a positive difference in the world.

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On behalf of Mrs Karen Millar, myself and the entire staff team, thank you once again for your continued support throughout this memorable year. Together, we have continued to build a school where children are known, valued, challenged and inspired, and we are excited to see what the future holds.

We wish all of our families a wonderful, safe and restful summer holiday and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning, friendship and opportunity.

With warmest wishes,

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