

# Burnside Secondary School

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our end of Autumn 2021 newsletter. We have lots of news to share and celebrate.

Year 11 students have been working really hard to achieve well in their mock exams this week. We recognise that exams can be stressful, but know that the more we practice, the better we become.

We will be promoting reading for pleasure across the school next term and welcomed students' ideas for books that they wanted us to order. We are looking forward to the books arriving and creating time in the school week to read.

We were also delighted to have been accepted onto the National School Breakfast Club scheme, which entitles us to a free breakfast every day. Our students chose to have bagels and Shredded Wheat to start their day.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all a restful Christmas break.

Please note: We have an INSET day for staff only on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January and a parent/carer day on Wednesday morning, 5<sup>th</sup> January. The first full day of school will be Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Best wishes

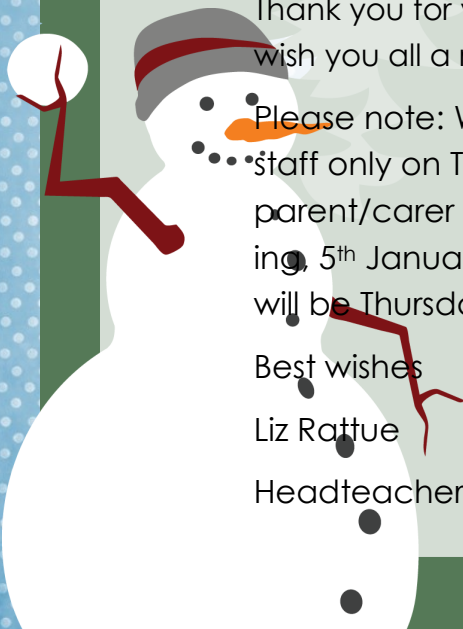
Liz Rattue

Headteacher, Burnside School



Upcoming Dates for your Diary:

- **Inset Day** on Tuesday 04th January 2022.
- **Parent / Carer day** Wednesday 05th January.
- **Students Return Back** — Thursday 06th January 2022.
- **Spring Half Term** 14th—18th February 2022
- **KS4 Mock Exams**—21st—25th March 2022.
- **Easter Holiday** - 4th—18th April 2022.
- **Parent / Carer day** on the 19th April 2022.
- **May Day Bank Holiday**—2nd May 2022.
- **May Half Term**—30th May / 3rd June 2022.





### **Spark2Life Update:**

Spark2Life is a charity based in Waltham Forest, sharing positive and relevant keys to life. We work with predominantly with disaffected young people, empowering and advocating for young offenders, and those at risk of offending. Our CEO has been working with Burnside for over 10 years. We deliver a bespoke programme consisting of; 1:1 mentoring, group mentoring and much more.

### **Boxing with Edmonton Eagles:**

Spark2Life have partnered with a local boxing academy, Edmonton Eagles, who have delivering weekly boxing sessions to our students. These non-contact sessions focus on discipline, technique, and control. Students have really enjoyed the sessions and it is often a highlight of the week. Each student has made significant progress and become more confident over the 6-week course. Coach Julian is very impressed and has highlighted particularly keen students to pursue boxing further.

### **Burnside Community Cultural Celebration:**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, students and staff at Burnside celebrated Caribbean culture by enjoying a tradition lunch, consisting of: rice and peas, jerk chicken, fried dumplings and plantain, as well as a vegan option, chickpea and kale curry. The delicious lunch was provided by a local catering company, Jerk and Juice. It was a great afternoon of community cohesion and cultural understanding, with many people experiencing the cuisine for the first time. Here's some of what the students had to say:

"The fried dumplings were so nice. I kept going up for more!"

"The food was 10/10. That was the best lunch I've had!"

"I've never tried Jamaican food before, but I really liked it. Especially the plantain, I didn't think I'd like that!"



We celebrated Black History month in October, notable for some great personal speeches in assembly from Ed-Michael. Leah and Luke also focused on the history of black music in Creative Arts, a topic that was enjoyed by all. We finished our celebration of Black History Month with a delicious Caribbean meal, organised by Rickisha.



We have also done some fundraising this term. We raised money for Children in Need in November and will be raising more money for our non-uniform /Christmas jumper day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Staff and students were also very generous in donating dried and tinned food for a local food bank.



We have offered lots of sporting activities this term, to support students' wellbeing and fitness. Our students travel to Edmonton Eagles Boxing Club in the school minibus every Thursday to take part. It is an intense workout, but our students really enjoy the session. Thanks to Rickisha and Spark2Life for making this happen. Students have also

enjoyed weekly swimming sessions at Leyton Leisure Lagoon, with some learning to swim for the first time!



We have also been playing whole school cricket every Wednesday afternoon, with both students and staff taking part, keeping fit and having fun. Thanks to Roger and our cricket coach, from Capital Cricket, for organising this opportunity.



We hope you all have a restful break and a Happy & Safe New Year. We all hope you have a good Christmas! Merry Christmas Everyone!

- Love from all the Staff at Burnside!



If you have any inquires do not hesitate to contact the School Office on:

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