



# Burnt Tree Primary School

Hill Rd, Tividale, Oldbury, B69 2LN

Tel 0121 557 2967

'Where everyone matters'

Head Teacher Mrs. J. Bayliss



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you about an initiative we are currently exploring to further support the well-being of the children, the possible introduction of a trained therapy dog into our school community.



Research and experience from other schools suggest that therapy dogs can have a positive impact on children's emotional well-being, helping to reduce anxiety, improve confidence and support social and communication skills. Therapy dogs may also assist pupils in developing empathy, responsibility, and a sense of calm within the school environment. In some cases, they can even encourage engagement in activities such as reading.

At this stage, no final decision has been made. We are in the early stages of considering whether this would be a suitable addition to our school. Should we proceed, the dog would be fully trained through a [Therapypaws.co.uk](http://Therapypaws.co.uk) course and always supervised by a trained member of staff. The highest standards of health, safety, hygiene and animal welfare would be always maintained.

We fully understand that some children may have allergies, fears, or cultural considerations regarding dogs. If the initiative moves forward, we will ensure that all necessary measures are put in place so that every child feels safe and comfortable. Participation in any interaction with the therapy dog would always be optional.

As you can imagine this new adventure comes with a cost, therefore we are looking to fundraise in a number of ways, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

We value your views and if you have any concerns then please contact school to discuss these further.

Kindest regards

Miss J Gamwell

Family Support Worker

