

Reminders: Following our summer break, school will re-open to children on Tuesday 4th September at 8.40am

What's on in school week commencing 3rd September 2018 ...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Professional Development Day—no children in school	Children return to school			

Letters sent home this week: If your child has not received their copy of these letters or the 'Bugle' please contact their class teacher or the office

Letters sent home this week: All - School reports



The 'Bear' necessities of Life



All photographs can be purchased for £3 per A4 colour copy. Please see the school office for details.

Happy Holidays

In our final newsletter of the school year, I wish to express my gratitude to all of the members of our school community who have made this an extremely successful year for Birchwood Primary School.

Looking back over the past academic year we have achieved a huge amount including our BEST EVER set of academic results across school. This is even more impressive taking into account the challenges for Birchwood Primary School this year including continued building work across school and increasing budget difficulties.

Our priority, as ever, is to maintain our focus on excellent teaching and learning at all levels, in a supportive and friendly environment where all of our children are valued. This continues to stand us in good stead.

Whilst our school achievements are clearly down to superb teaching and wonderfully behaved and hard-working pupils, we should also recognise the efforts of our governors, teaching assistants and all of our administrative, catering and site management staff. All of these teams achieve the highest standards on a daily basis and are vital to the success of Birchwood.

We also value the quite extraordinary support of our loyal parent body. Not only do they attend school events in large numbers, as was seen in our recent sports day, Show and Share evening and Year 6 production, but also get involved in all the curriculum events we put on during the course of the year. Team Birchwood have also excelled this year, raising over £5000 to provide 'instances of delight' for our children and enabling them to be registered as a charity.

Following a successful interview during the spring term, we have employed a new and excellent teaching member of staff who will be joining our Year 4 team. We have also managed to retain all of our outstanding teachers and support staff for next year, meaning that we will have another extremely strong, experienced and effective team again next year.

We are all looking forward to our summer break, giving us an opportunity to relax and recharge the batteries in time for September, when we look to return to teaching our wonderful children who continue to make us all very proud.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very relaxing and well deserved summer break.

Mr Coleman - Headteacher

School Crossing Patrol

Unfortunately I have some sad and at the same time some very worrying news. Tomorrow is Mrs Melia's last day as a School Crossing Patrol Officer. Mrs Melia has been a brilliant Crossing Patrol Officer outside Birchwood and The Polesworth School for over 12 years. After giving it a lot of thought, Mrs Melia has made the difficult decision to retire at the end of this school year. Mrs Melia has been a fantastic servant to the Polesworth area and has done a wonderful job in helping to keep our children safe outside school. We have invited Theresa into our Birchwood leavers assembly tomorrow, so that we have an opportunity to all thank her for everything she has done for our children and families and to wish her all the very best in her retirement.



I am very concerned that despite three months notice, the 'Traffic and Road Safety Education and Development Team' have not been able to find a replacement for Mrs Melia. Due to the resignation of the Patrol, the site was re-assessed and surveyed to assess whether the site continued to meet the criteria required to fund a crossing patrol. As the criteria was met, a vacancy for the School Crossing Patrol was advertised on 'WMJobs'. As a school we supported this process by placing an advert in our newsletter and on our school website. I have also enquired about the possibility of a pedestrian crossing outside of our school. The 'Safer Routes Team' have conducted a survey of the site, but no results have come back yet.

Therefore, on Tuesday 4th September, when our children return to school from their school holiday, there will be no crossing patrol outside of school. I will be informing children in tomorrow's assembly and will be reminding them to be extra careful when coming to and from school. We will also continue to teach our 'Road Safety' scheme of work to all our children across school next year. I also ask that parents are extra vigilant and ask that you all drive and park responsibly outside of school. The governors and myself will continue to raise our concerns until a safe solution is found.

If you are interested in the vacant position or know of anyone who might be, the advert can be found inside our school newsletter and application packs can either be downloaded from the Warwickshire Website, or collected from Birchwood School Office.

Mr Coleman - Headteacher

Academic Year 2018-2019

Autumn Term 2018

Professional Development Day	Monday 3rd September
Children return to school	Tuesday 4th September
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 29th October
Professional Development Day	Monday 5th November
Children return to school	Tuesday 6th November
Term Ends for Christmas (2 wks)	Friday 21st December

Spring Term 2019

Professional Development Day	Monday 7th January
Children return to school	Tuesday 8th January
Half Term (1 Week)	Monday 18th February
Professional Development Day	Monday 25th February
Children return to school	Tuesday 26th February
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)	Friday 12th April

Summer Term 2019

Children return to school	Monday 29th April
May Day	Monday 6th May
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 27th May
Children return to school	Monday 3rd June
Professional Development Day	Friday 21st June
Term Ends for Summer	Friday 19th July

These dates may be subject to change if necessary.

New and amended dates shown in bold.

Details and times to be confirmed nearer each event.



School Crossing Patrol Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a School Crossing Patrol Operative outside of Birchwood School. Times are to be confirmed, but the position will require morning and afternoon

cover, at the busiest times of the school day. Usually shifts are around 30 minutes each. The position is for Monday to Friday term time only (38 weeks per year spread across 12 monthly payments.) Pay for this position is £8.61 per hour plus holiday enhancements. A uniform and full training will be provided.

If you are interested in applying for this role, please contact the School Crossing Patrol Service for more details, on 01926 412661 or email scp@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Application packs can be downloaded at <https://warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolcrossingpatrols> or collected from the school office.



Polesworth Fire Station OPEN DAY

Saturday 11th August 2018
10.30am to 3.00pm

Fire Engines, Funfair Rides, Bouncy Castles,
Wildlife Sanctuary, Facepainter,
plus much more!

Sponsored by:



This week's spotlight is Our Leaver's Production



This week saw our fantastic year 6 leaver's production of The Jungle Book. This classic fun filled musical tale of Mowgli's journey back to the 'Man Village' alongside Baloo and Bagheera was brilliantly brought to life by our very talented year 6 children. Their singing was beautiful, and perfectly in tune and there were some stunning dance routines performed on stage, who knew you could actually bring a snake to life on stage using more than 10 children! I was very impressed by the acting of all the children (I always knew some of them were actually monkeys!) The costumes, props and scenery were incredible and simply added to the magic, so a huge thank you and well done to the team of children, teachers, teaching assistants and I know parents who have all helped to make it so fantastic. I am sure that parents were just as proud of the children as we were as a school, and the whole production was a lovely final outcome for their time at Birchwood. Well done Year 6 - you were superb!

Mrs Day - Associate Headteacher

THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

MISCHIEF MAKERS

IT'S FUN!
IT'S FREE!
IT'S LOCAL!

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2018

★ Any Warwickshire Library

★ Saturday 14th July until Friday 7th September

★ mischief-makers.org.uk ★

Beano © DC Thomson Ltd (2018) Photos © Dale Cherry for The Reading Agency with thanks to Idea Store Watney Market

Top tips for dog owners

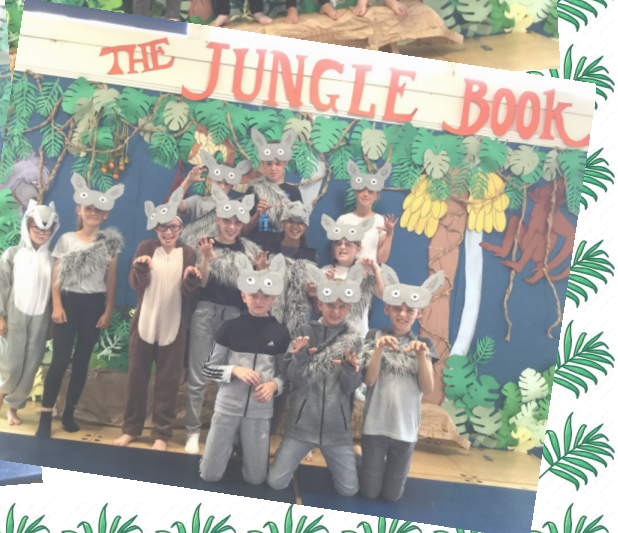
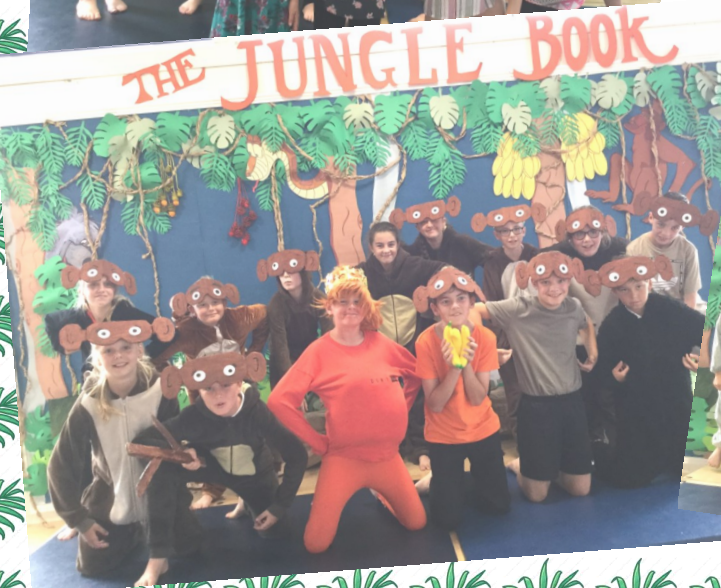


Even the most lovable dog can be a danger to postal staff. Dogs are territorial by nature and if they feel they need to protect their family, they can become unpredictable.

Here are some ideas to help your postman deliver your post in safety:

- Ensure your dog is out of the way before the postman or woman arrives. Place your pet in the back garden or a faraway room.
- If you have a back garden, please close off the access, in case your dog could get round to the front when the postman calls.
- Dog attacks can happen when you've opened the door to sign for an item. Please keep your dog in another room before answering the door and make sure children don't open the door, as dogs can push by them and attack.
- Give your dog some food or a toy to occupy them while your mail is being delivered.
- Wait 10 minutes after your mail has arrived to let your pet back into your hallway. Keep everything as calm and low-key as possible.
- If your dog likes to attack your mail consider installing a wire letter receptacle. It will protect your post, and your postman's fingers.
- If it's not practical for you to keep your dog away from a postman delivering your mail, please consider fitting a secure mailbox on the edge of your property.
- Please ensure your dog is microchipped, wearing a collar and tag and that your contact details on the tag and microchip are up to date.

The Jungle Book



Where in the World have Birchwood Been?



This year for our holiday project, children are being asked to send a postcard to their new class teacher from a place they have been to over the holiday period. Children will be given blank postcards today, which they may wish to decorate or draw on. They may write a message and either post it back to our school address or bring it with them on their first day back.

Important Information Support During the Summer Holiday

Are you registered for Free School Meals? If so, the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme can support with the cost of food for your children through the summer holiday - applications will be taken from Monday 23rd July to Friday 31st August.

Contact Number - 0800 408 1448 / 01926 359182

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of Platt v Isle of Wight Council which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, Headteachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Headteacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s). All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996. Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Cameo Dance est. 2003

Fun Children's Dance Classes held in Polesworth

Little Dancers 2 1/2 - 6yrs 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Friday evenings in The Tithe Barn, Polesworth
Tuesday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

Juniors 6 1/2 - 10yrs 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Friday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

NEW Juniors 6 1/2 - 8yrs 5:15pm - 7:15pm
(From 6th Feb 2018)

Tuesday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

www.cameodance.co.uk * Call 07443421867

Facebook Charlotte Kate Cameo

First Trial Class FREE! Classes include many different dance styles!

Information leaflets and adverts sent or published by Birchwood Primary School
Birchwood Primary does not endorse any of the services, or products advertised and does not give any representation or warranty about any of the organisations. Birchwood Primary School is not an agent for any of these organisations and any enquiry concerning their services and/or products should be referred directly to them.



Making business flow

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Birch Coppice Business Park, Dordon, Tamworth, B78 1SZ
Tel: 01827 891100

www.cevalogistics.com



Birchwood Primary School



Birchwood Primary School Website

Want to know what's happening in school? Go to www.birchwoodprimaryschool.co.uk there is so much information for you from; school policies, newsletters, copies of letters sent home, curriculum pages, photos and much more.



App of the week

METEOR MATHS

Practise your maths skills and the app automatically levels up/ down depending on correct answers!

Warwickshire
Young Carers'

Project

Total raised so far
£1187.04

Please note that although we check the suitability of Applications, they can be changed without notice. Parents should therefore check the Application BEFORE children go on to them.

www.ocado.jobs

