

**Reminders:** Don't forget all uniform should be labelled with your child's name. Label order forms are available from the school office.

### What's on in school after half term

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Staff Inset Day— No children in school	Drum & Guitar Lessons 3.05 pm Multi Skills Y1-3 3.05pm Nerf Wars Y1-3	Woodwind Lessons 3.05 pm Elite Football Y1-3 3.05pm Nerf Wars Y4-6	Y3 Dudley Canal Trip 3.05 pm Football Club Y4-6 3.05 pm Young Engineers Club Y3-6	Cello Lessons 3.05 pm Top Score Multi Sports Y 4-6 3.05 pm Musical Theatre

If your child has not received their copy of these letters or the 'Bugle' please contact their class teacher or the office

Children return to school after half term on Tuesday 6th November.

## Birchwood School Council NSPCC – Chosen Charity for the Year

At Birchwood we believe that it is crucial that our children have a voice and a say in their school and how it is run. Our children are at the forefront of every decision we make in school and so who better to contribute and support those decisions than our own wonderful children.

Our School Council are given real responsibilities that have a very positive impact on school. They meet every 2 weeks and discuss all manner of school related issues from school meals, clubs and trips, school improvement and fundraising for our charity.

The qualities that a good School Councillor possess are: they are good listeners and speakers, trustworthy, helpful and committed. As well as being a good role model, they are also reliable and honest. Our school councillors work as a team, are able to share good ideas and have the ability to discuss and not argue.

Since I have been associated with Birchwood we have always had a really strong and vocal school council. This year's new school council are going to be one of the best yet! Congratulations to Arianne (Elm 1) Poppy (Hazel 1) Tyler (Juniper 2) Mya (Larch 2) Kai (Maple 3) George (Oak 3) William (Pine 4) Noah (Redwood 4) Lily (Sycamore 5) Leah (Teak 5) James (Yew 6) Emily (Willow 6).

Our new vice councilors will also help to support the work of our school council. Congratulations to Max (Elm 1) Neave (Hazel 1) Ollie (Juniper 2) Nithil (Larch 2) Lillie May (Maple 3) Sophie (Oak 3) Ben (Pine 4) Jessica (Redwood 4) George (Sycamore 5) Imogen (Teak 5) Isla (Yew 6) Joshua (Willow 6).

Last week four of our School Councillors from Years 4 and 5 went to visit Dordon and Wood End school councils to discuss working together to support a joint charity. This year we have all decided to support the fantastic work of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC). It means that each of us has a responsibility to keep childhood free from abuse, and we must do everything possible to protect children and prevent it from happening.

The three schools have set themselves an ambitious target of raising £5000 between them over the course of the academic year. They are already busy thinking up exciting ways to raise funds towards this target.

I look forward to keeping you all up to date with the work that our three school councils do this year and how they get on with reaching their target amount.

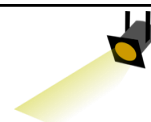
**N Coleman – Headteacher**



**School Council members from Birchwood, Dordon and Wood End meet to finalise this years chosen charity. We are pleased to support the NSPCC**

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

## Spotlight on Excellence Our focus this week is: Our Food Technology Room.



This week has seen the long awaited official opening of our brand new Food Technology Room. Now transformed from our old ICT suite, it provides a space for children from across the school to prepare and cook a range of healthy foods as part of our curriculum.

On Thursday we welcomed Valerie Meehan from the Food for Life Programme to officially open the area. She was joined by Jeanette Orrey MBE, co-founder of Food for Life and long time campaigner for improving food in schools.

Alongside our kitchen garden, children will now be able to grow ingredients, prepare and then cook with them to create their own dishes. We are thrilled to be able to offer children these fantastic facilities and we know it will have a huge impact on further developing the experiences and learning for our children in school and provide them with real life practical skills.

**Mrs Day - Associate Headteacher**

## Holidays in Term Time

Government legislation has tightened up very significantly in this area and it is now highly unlikely that holidays will be approved in term times. Apart from the fact that Government legislation is very strong in this area the school also does not support parents taking children out for holidays and missing vital lessons.

**Please DO NOT arrange holidays in term time**

## Food Tasting and visits in the local area

As we collect food allergy and local visit permission data as your child starts school at Birchwood, we will no longer be sending out individual letters when classes are food tasting or walking out in the local area.

If your child's circumstances change during their time at Birchwood, please contact the school and update your child's record as a matter of urgency.

## TBPS News

Christmas Fair preparation is now well under way, we would love more of you to get involved and help us. Our next meeting is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm in the Conference Room at School.



After half term we will be collecting donations weekly, we will remind you each week in the Bugle and on the notice boards in the playground of what we are collecting. Week 1 is Bottle and Tombola donations please, all donations are greatly appreciated.

We would also love help on the night! Can you help us by running a stall? This year we've decided to give our volunteers a treat by opening the fair to their families half an hour before anyone else, so they get to meet Santa before the queues and have a look at all the stalls before it gets too busy! Don't forget by helping you will also secure your child a FREE place at the End of Year Disco!

If you can help in any way, please contact Leanne on 07919431220 or email [tbps2619@welearn365.com](mailto:tbps2619@welearn365.com)



## Yellow Day for Pudsey!!



The School Council have decided to have 'A Yellow Day for Pudsey' on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November to help raise money for both Children in Need and our chosen Charity, the NSPCC.

They are hoping everyone will join in by wearing something yellow for the day. Either one item such as a t-shirt, jumper, head band or Pudsey ears, to a whole yellow outfit. The choice is yours!! **No face painting or hair colouring though please.**

One donation towards the two charities would be brilliant and the total amount will be split in half and given to each charity.

Thank you!

## Positive start to the school day

Can we please remind parents that children should not be coming onto the school site until just before 8:30am. Staff go out on duty at 8:30am and the school doors are then opened for those who arrive at the start of the morning to begin coming into school. Children then settle down in class to complete a maths morning activity.

For children in Lower school, it is parent's responsibility to walk their children down onto the playground and hand their children over to school. Parents of children in Acorn and Chestnut class should wait with their children until 8:40am when they can then enter school to complete their early morning writing activity together.

Can we please ask that parents do not let their children or younger siblings run around before or after school and that they keep them close by. We have had a number of cases this half term of children falling over and injuring themselves and we are looking to try and avoid this happening.

Thanks for your help and co-operation in this matter.

## Academic Year 2018-2019

### Autumn Term 2018

Half Term (1 week)	Monday 29th October
Professional Development Day	Monday 5th November
Children return to school	Tuesday 6th November
Nasal Flu Immunisations R,2,3,4,5	Friday 9th November
<b>TBPS Christmas Fair Meeting</b>	<b>Monday 12th November</b>
<b>Y1 Nasal Flu Immunisations</b>	<b>Weds 14th November</b>
Late Parents Evening	Weds 14th November
Early Parents Evening	Thursday 15th November
<b>Wear Yellow for Pudsey</b>	<b>Friday 16th November</b>
Year 5 Class Assemblies	Thursday 29th November
TBPS Christmas Fair	Friday 7th December
Lower School Christmas Perf.	Monday 17th December
Lower School Christmas Perf.	Tuesday 18th December
Upper School Christmas Perf.	Weds 19th December
Upper School Christmas Perf.	Thursday 20th December
Term Ends for Christmas (Early)	Friday 21st December

### Spring Term 2019

Professional Development Day	Monday 7th 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 (Early)	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.

Please note the 1 pm early finish on 21st December and 19th July. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.

## Poppy Appeal



If your child would like to purchase a traditional poppy, please send in a small donation (we suggest no less than 20p).

We also have the following items available at a fixed price.

**Rulers £1.00**

**Erasers, Pencils, Sharpeners, Reflectors £0.50**

Items will be available to purchase from 6th November 2018.



## School Photographs



We hope parents have been pleased with the new system of ordering school photographs this year. We have received positive feedback from a lot of people. Orders may be placed online, where you will see all of the pictures that were taken of your child, not just the one on the proof card sent home. If you do not wish to order them online, you can return the proof card with payment to school. The deadline for ordering this way is:

**Tuesday 6th November**



# Enjoying African themed workshops



This week Red Panda Performance group visited us at school.



Djembe drumming was great fun for all!



We enjoyed recognising Black History week.



We learnt Capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian Martial Art using dance, acrobatics and music.



African Dancing to the Djembe rhythms





## Illnesses and absences

We certainly do not want children to come in unwell, but in reality children often do not need to stay off for 48 hours if they are sick. Children can be ill for all sorts of reasons and often not because of a bug. We recommend that children do not return to school until **24 hrs** after the last episode of sickness, unless it has been diagnosed as "Norovirus" in which case we recommend that children stay off for 48 hours.

### Procedures if your child is absent from school:

1. **Telephone** – PLEASE report absences by 8.30am on the day of absence by telephoning the school office leaving a message on the answerphone if necessary, giving the date, your child's class and reason for absence.

A telephone call is required **each** day of your child's absence. If we do not hear from you we need to PROTECT CHILDREN by calling parents to make sure that a child has not left home and then not appeared in school.

2. **Absence Note** - A note should be provided with a written explanation for a child's absence, which is signed and dated and should be sent into school on the first day of your child's return.

## PANTS



NSPCC Initiative to keep children safe.

This week is **'A'**

**Always remember your body belongs to you.**

Let your child know their body belongs to them, and no one else. No one has the right to make them do anything that makes them feel uncomfortable. And if anyone tries, tell your child they have the right to say no.

**Remind your child that they can always talk to you** about anything which worries or upsets them.

Next week **'N'**



### Birchwood Primary School Website

Want to know what's happening in school? Go to [www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com](http://www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com) there is so much information for you from; school policies, newsletters, copies of letters sent home, curriculum pages, photos and much more.

## Cameo Dance est. 2003

### Fun Children's Dance Classes held in Polesworth

**Little Dancers 2 ½ - 6yrs 4:30pm - 5:30pm**

Friday evenings in The Tithe Barn, Polesworth

Tuesday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

**Juniors 6 ½ - 10yrs 5:30pm - 7:30pm**

Friday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

**NEW Juniors 6 ½ - 8yrs 5:15pm - 7:15pm**

(From 6th Feb 2018)

Tuesday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

[www.cameodance.co.uk](http://www.cameodance.co.uk) \* Call 07443421867

Facebook Charlotte Kate Cameo

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

# Permanent Vacancy

## Admin Assistant

**Band D, Scale point 10, 15 hours a week (2 days with flexibility to cover extra time when needed)**  
**Actual Salary £5906.40**

We are seeking to appoint a dedicated, enthusiastic and knowledgeable Admin Assistant to join our office team.

Application forms and vacancy details to apply can be found on [www.wmjobs.co.uk](http://www.wmjobs.co.uk) or on our school website [www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com](http://www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com)

Deadline for applications is 12 noon on **Monday 5th November**.  
Interviews will take place on **Monday 12th November a.m.**



**BASED AT  
THE DORDON CLUB  
LONG ST.  
B78 1PZ**

## DANCE & FITNESS CLASSES

**BALLET / TAP / MODERN /**

**COMMERCIAL JAZZ /**

**NATIONAL FOLK /**

**FLEXIBILITY /**

**ZUMBA / PILATES /**

**LBT / DANCE FIT /**

**PERFORMING ARTS**

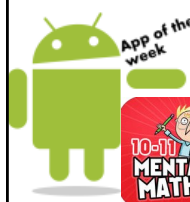
**+ GROUP & INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL TRAINING**

**07880 714532**

[www.TJHDANCEANDFITNESS.CO.UK](http://www.TJHDANCEANDFITNESS.CO.UK)

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## App of the week

**Lets do Mental Maths !!**

Practise mental maths skills against the clock

**Our  
chosen  
charity for  
2018/19 is  
NSPCC**

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](http://www.ocado.jobs)

