

Letters home this week:				
What's on in school next week:				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
R - Conkers Trip Y3,4 - Embody Dance Y1,2 - Top Score Y4,5 - Keyboard Y3,4 - Painting Library - 3.05	Y3-6 - Pantomime Pine - Swimming KS2 - Choir Y1,2 - Aston Villa Y2,3 - Kapla Y5-6 - Forest Schools	Yr 3,4 - Look What I Have Made	R - Christmas Performance Y3,4 - Top Score Y6 - Ukelele Y5,6 - Cooking Club	Y1,2 - Christmas Performance Oak - Swimming Y2-6 - Musical Theatre Library - 3.05

REMINDER : Masks must be worn by all who are over 12 (unless exempt) at all school events.

Educaters - Birchwood Bistro

This week we focus on our Birchwood Bistro and the work of our 'Educaters' team.

Birchwood have had a long association with Educaters who have been supplying our children with their hot meals for as long as I have been at this school. Mrs Pardoe – Catering Manager, and her brilliant kitchen staff do a fantastic job of serving fresh, healthy, nutritious and tasty school meals to nearly 200 children every day.

Our catering team are a very important part of our school. They play a key role in making our dinner times count for our children. Their friendly, happy and smiley approach supports our positive school ethos and our one school rule of 'Consideration and Respect'. The catering team always comment on our children's excellent manners and behaviour at dinnertime. The positive relationships that have been established between our children, staff and catering team are great, making dinnertimes more enjoyable for all.

Educaters have over 60 years of experience providing food for the education sector. They are based locally in Warwickshire, employ local people and source their food from local suppliers. Our school meals are freshly prepared daily by Mrs Pardoe and her fully trained, professional kitchen staff. We have worked hard together to ensure that our children get plenty of choice and variety.

We run a 3 week rolling menu that contains 4 different options each day. Our ordering system ensures that our children always get their choice of meal. All of our children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 are entitled to a universal infant free school meal and I am pleased to say that the majority of children take up this offer. Children who receive pupil premium funding in Years 3 to 6 are also entitled to take a free school meal if they wish. Junior school children are also able to purchase a school dinner.

To enable the Catering Team to control their food orders, we do ask that meals are taken on a weekly basis, as unfortunately we do not carry the stock to enable them to be taken on individual days. The exception to this are the two advertised special meal days we have in school each year. One of these is on our Census day in October, where all children's favourites are on offer. This gives children an opportunity to try our school meals to see if they want to take them in the future. Our second special meal day is our Christmas meal which this year is on Thursday 16th December. If your child would like a Christmas meal, there is still just enough time to fill out the Microsoft form that has been sent out. I am certainly looking forward to helping serve the Christmas dinners again this year and then tucking into my own meal with our children.

Mr Coleman – Headteacher



Catering for Christmas!

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

Spotlight this week is ...

Giving and Receiving

At this time of year, our minds often turn to the festivities approaching and for many children, to the presents on their Christmas lists. This week in school, we have been thinking about the benefits for us that both giving and receiving can have.

Giving is not always about physical gifts. We can give time, support and friendship. Even something as simple as a smile can be given! Receiving any gift, as we know, can be a hugely positive experience for your wellbeing. However, giving can also be really positive. Seeing the impact of your actions on your peers and friends, and how your time and friendship can help others, also makes you feel good.

At this time of year, it is so easy to get caught up, especially for children, in thinking about what they 'want'. It is really important to reflect on how we can all be kind to each other, and remember the joy in giving and receiving friendship, time and kindness as well as the 'gifts' we may look forwards to at Christmas.

Mrs Day - Associate Headteacher



Myths and Legends.....

'The school are very strict about holidays in term time'

In actual fact THE LAW is very strict about holidays in term time and the school has no choice!! The school is inspected by OFSTED to make sure it follows the rules properly and the Attendance Compliance and Enforcement Service (ACE) has a legal responsibility to monitor school attendance on behalf of the Local Authority, ACE will inspect registers and if unhappy will prosecute parents.

Parents often think it is the school that make up the rules. This is very wrong; the school must simply follow the rules laid down by others. We hate upsetting parents who we have a great relationship with, but we often feel at the sharp end of apparently being responsible for the law.

COVENTRY BLAZE ICE HOCKEY CHRISTMAS OFFER

With festive cheer in the air, there's no better way to spend Christmas time than with the Coventry Blaze. A joyous family experience, the Blaze are offering our pupils, staff, family and friends tickets to three of their Christmas games for a very special price of:
Adults: £12
Under-16: £7
Normal adult ticket price £19 and under-16 £11 + booking fees.

Wednesday 8th December vs. Belfast Giants (7.30pm)

Challenge Cup Quarter-Final First-Leg.

Sunday 12th December vs. Sheffield Steelers (5.30pm) Elite League

Includes the chance to skate with the Blaze players after the game (subject to COVID guidelines). £3 to hire skates via the Planet Ice skate hut.

Wednesday 22nd December vs. Fife Flyers (7.30pm) Elite League

Their traditional Christmas extravaganza.

All games to be played at the Skydome Arena, Croft Road, CV1 3AZ

To book tickets:

Complete the online application form by clicking on the link below:

<http://tinyurl.com/blaze-christmas>

THE BOOKING FORM WILL CLOSE AT MIDDAY ON EACH GAME DAY.

You can collect and pay for your tickets at the Promotional Ticket Desk, next to the main Arena box office ahead of the game. Tickets should please be paid for IN CASH.

Doors will open one hour before face-off.

If you have any questions, or need help, please e-mail: coventryblazehockey@gmail.com

Registering for School

Parents can now apply for Primary school places. The deadline for **Primary school applications** for reception places is **15th January 2022**.



Digital Leaders Chatter!



Happy Chatter

This half term, we have been working on sharing our online safety knowledge with our classes. We shared the SMART rules to

help everyone stay safe online. Below is a reminder of our SMART rules:

Next week, we will be visiting Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes to share some important information about staying safe online. Look out for us in your classrooms soon.



Online Safety Follow the SMART rules to help stay safe online.

- S** Stay **safe** online by not sharing your personal information.
- M** Do not **meet** anyone who you have only become friends with online.
- A** Do not **accept** messages and friend requests from people you do not know.
- R** Not everything online is **reliable**. People online are strangers and you can't always trust everything they say.
- T** Tell an adult you trust if anything happens online that you do not like.

Be careful what you share online!
Stop and think before you share information online.
Don't say or do anything that you wouldn't do in the real world!

PANTS – NSPCC Initiative to Keep Children Safe.



This week is 'T'

Talk about things that upset you.

Explain the differences between 'good' and 'bad' secrets.

Phrases like "it's our little secret" are an abuser's way of making a child feel worried, or scared to tell someone what is happening to them.

- Good secrets can be things like surprise parties or presents for other people.
- Bad secrets make you feel sad, worried or frightened.

Your child needs to feel able to speak up about secrets that worry them and be confident that saying something will not get them into trouble.

Next week 'S'

CHRISTMAS IS IN THE AIR

'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas' here at Birchwood. This week the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes enjoyed their pantomime, Little Red Riding Hood. All classes have also enjoyed making items to sell at the Christmas Fair on Friday evening.



Community Governor Vacancy



Are you interested in being a Community Governor and supporting the on-going success of a local school?

We are looking to recruit Community Governors to our School Standards Committee (formally known as the Local Governing Body) for Birchwood Primary School, part of Community Academies Trust.

We are looking for people who have the skill to act as a 'critical friend' and ask challenging questions about performance and use their skills and experience to support the school in addressing its aims. You will be involved in creating and developing a strategic plan for the school, setting and agreeing objectives, and monitoring and evaluating the schools' success by focusing on progress and outcomes - within CAT, this is known as being 'Guardians of Standards'.

This is a voluntary position. If you are aged 18 or over and are able to commit around 10 to 15 hours per term to the role, which includes School Standards Committee meetings and pre-reading of associated papers each half term, we would love to hear from you.

You do not need to be a parent of a pupil at the school.

No prior knowledge is needed - training and support is offered and available to all new and existing governors.

This is an extremely rewarding role, one which holds great importance within our schools and trust. If you feel that you have skills which could be transferred to help make a real difference to children's lives, please contact us for further information.

For further information and opportunity to discuss this role further, please don't hesitate to contact the school office at admin2619@welearn365.com or phone 01827 892913, where an appointment will be made to speak with the Chair of Governors, Mike Potts.

Nomination forms, a skills audit form, and Terms of Reference are available by email from the school office on the email above.

The closing date for receipt of nomination forms is midday, **Monday 31st January 2022.**

Academic Year 2021-2022

R Winter Wonderland, Conkers	Monday 6th December
Y3-Y6 Pantomime	Tuesday 7th December
EYFS Christmas Performance	Thursday 9th December
Y1 & Y2 Christmas Performance	Friday 10th December
Y3 & Y4 Christmas Performance	Monday 13th December
Y5 & Y6 Christmas Performance	Tuesday 14th December
Y6 V.E Day Celebrations	Wed 15th December
Christmas Dinner	Thursday 16th December
Non School Uniform and	Friday 17th December
Christmas Jumper Day	
Term Ends for Christmas 1 pm	Friday 17th December

Spring Term 2022

Staff Inset Day	Tuesday 4th January
Children Return to School	Wednesday 5th January
Y4 Assembly	Thursday 20th January
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 21st February
Professional Development Day	Monday 28th February
Parents Evening	Tuesday 8th March
Parents Evening	Wednesday 9th March
Y3 Assembly	Thursday 17th March
Grandparents Lunch	Friday 18th March
Easter Hats/Eggs	Friday 8th April
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)	Friday 8th April

Summer Term 2022

May Day	Monday 2nd May
Y1 Assembly	Thursday 12th May
Class Photographs	Monday 16th May
Sponsored Walk	Friday 27th May
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 30th May
Y2 Assembly	Thursday 16th June
EYFS Sports Day	Monday 20th June
Y 1/2 Sports Day	Tuesday 21st June
Y 3/4 Sports Day	Wednesday 22nd June
Y 5/6 Sports Day	Thursday 23rd June
Professional Developments Day	Friday 24th June
Grandparents Lunch	Friday 1st July
Farmers Market	Friday 1st July
Warwickshire Moving Up Day	Wednesday 6th July
Show and Share Evening	Thursday 14th July
Y6 Leavers Disco and BBQ	Tuesday 19th July
Term Ends for Summer	Thursday 21st July

These dates may be subject to change if necessary.
Details and times to be confirmed nearer each event.

Please note the early finish on 17th December 2021 and 21st July 2022. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.

<https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk/>



M42 Closure

The M42 will be closed between Junction 9 and 10 (northbound and southbound) for 7 days.

This will take place from 9pm Friday 24th December to 9pm Friday 31st December. This is to facilitate BBV to complete works that will enable the Marston Box bridge to be moved into position in winter 2022. This is for the HS2 railway. A clearly signed diversion route will be in place over this period with advance signage in place to help remind motorists of the closure. You can still get to where you need to go but you will need to follow the diversion, plan ahead and leave more time for journeys. For more information please visit www.hs2.org.uk/marston-box or click on the link below:

M42 Junction 9-10 closure
From December 2021

Diversion in place
Please plan ahead



<https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/local-community-webpages/hs2-in-warwickshire/marston-box-rail-bridge-crossing-over-the-m42/>

Children's Weekly Spelling Challenge:

Vowel Spotlight

Write your words using one colour for the vowels and another colour for the consonants.

(vowels: a, e, i, o, u)



We have currently raised £385.35 for our chosen charity
Coventry and Warwickshire Mind



Parking

Bearing in mind our one school rule of 'Consideration and Respect' please may we remind parents/carers to park courteously on the roads surrounding school. Thank you.



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.

YOUTH CLUB

Sports activities
Dance classes

Pool Table
Xbox
Food and Drink
Milkshake Bar

Wednesdays
Under 12years
5:30pm - 7:30pm

The Dordon Club
Long Street
Dordon
B78 1PZ

£4 PER SESSION

For More Information contact:
Richard: 07826516579
Toni: twellings@premier-education.com

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THE DORDON CLUB
LONG ST.
B78 1PZ

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07880 714532

www.TJHDANCEANDFITNESS.CO.UK

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FUN CHILDRENS DANCE CLASSES HELD IN POLESWORTH

Little Dancers from age 2 ½, Tuesdays & Fridays
4:30 – 5:30pm The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

Juniors from age 7, 5:30 – 7:30pm
The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

Tuesdays & Fridays 5:30 – 7:30

Classes include Ballet, Tap, Acrobatics, Modern plus lots more **FIRST TRIAL CLASS IS FREE!**

Call Liz **07443421867**

Cameo is a great place to build confidence, develop dance skills, and make good friends whilst working towards our annual show weekend, with no pressure

Cameodance.co.uk * cameodance@rocketmail.com

Facebook Cameo Dance or search Cameo Dance Polesworth

Covid-19 Secure * See Facebook for up to date opening information