

Letters home this week: ALL - OFSTED Pilot Inspection

## What's on in school next week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y1 - Outdoor Collage Art Y2 - Running Club Y3 - Dodgeball Y4 - Embody Dance Y5 - Cooking	R - Aston Villa Y3 - Rounders Y6 - Art/Drawing	Y5 - Top Score	R - Forest School Y2 - Retro Playground Games Y3 - Gardening Y4 - Drama Y6 - Top Score	Y4 - Top Score Y6 - Ukelele

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

**REMINDER : All children are required to bring their P.E kits on the relevant days for P.E.**

## OFSTED Pilot Inspection

On Tuesday parents were notified that Birchwood had signed up to take part in a pilot inspection to support OFSTED's revised approach to inspections of schools during this pandemic.

On Tuesday we spoke to the Lead Inspector on the phone for 90 minutes to discuss standards in school, our approach to education and to make arrangements for their visit. Two Senior Her Majesties Inspectors joined us at Birchwood on Wednesday and Thursday.

As the inspection was only a pilot, no judgements on the school against standards set out in the Education Inspection Framework were shared with school.

However, I can inform you that both inspectors were full of praise and very complimentary about our school and children. As always our children were a credit to our school and yourselves.

I am really pleased that we took part in this practice inspection as it has provided external confirmation of the standards we set in school. To receive such positive feedback from two highly regarded Inspectors has provided a very welcome boost to staff morale.

It has also been invaluable in terms of supporting school in considering our next steps to improving our curriculum offer to our children. We are always looking for ways that we can make Birchwood even better for all stakeholders and this exercise has left staff enthused about the steps we want to take in the future.

We are looking forward to having a very productive summer term in school. It has been so nice to have all our children and staff back at Birchwood and long may that continue! Focusing all our time and energy on our curriculum will make a welcome change to have to deal with Covid 19 priorities. As restrictions are lifted nationally, we hope we will also be able to start to return to normal back in school.

**Mr Coleman**  
**Headteacher**



## HAPPY TO BE BACK!!

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

## Spotlight this week is ...

### on After School Clubs and Activities

This week we have been delighted to be able to have after school activities beginning again. It has been wonderful to see children being with their friends, socialising and enjoying a whole range of activities across the school. The smiles have been infectious, and we know that staff have had just as much fun as the children getting back into doing extra activities together.

This week we have had Aston Villa Football, Forest School, Outdoor Collage Art, Running, Retro playground games and chants, Dodgeball, Rounders, Gardening, Embody Dance, Drama, Top Score Multisports (3 Year groups), Cooking, Ukelele, Art and Drawing. An amazing 16 clubs for our brilliant children to enjoy and these will run for the whole of this half term.

After half term we are looking forward to another great selection of 15 activities across school; Storybox Club, Gardening, Top Score Multisports (3 year groups), Board games, Football, Embody Dance, Now Press Play, Quick Cricket, Recorders, Tennis, Ukelele, Running, and Rounders.

**Mrs Day- Associate Headteacher**

## **Birchwood Best Practice**

### **Mrs Stockton**

I have worked at Birchwood for over 10 years in many different roles. Approximately 9 years ago, after being inspired by the amazing teaching I saw at Birchwood, I chose to change career. I made the first step on a path that took me approximately 7 years to complete. Training to be a teacher gave me lots of opportunities and I returned to Stafford University to complete my Foundation degree in Early Years and my BA Degree in Education, which I was very proud to have passed with a First!! I was then very fortunate to complete my Teacher Training year at Birchwood in partnership with Warwick University through the School Direct initiative. I have spent my first 2 years teaching in Early Years, which I have thoroughly enjoyed and have been privileged to work alongside some wonderful people. This year I am now part of the Year 1 teaching team. In my spare time, I spend as much time as I can with my own children, who are growing up fast. My values for my children both at work and at home is to open as many doors for them as I can and give them wonderful opportunities to find their 'favourite thing' that they just have not tried yet!

I am also a compulsive cat lover and have two cats; Artemis and Luna, (names chosen by my children!). Being half Italian, I have a passion for cooking Italian food and keeping my Italian speaking skills fresh. I enjoy doing all things 'craft' which includes crocheting. More recently, I am trying to learn the ukulele!

Our objective at Birchwood is to achieve a safe and happy environment where children want to learn. Knowing that I have a positive involvement in a pupil's learning is what makes my work so rewarding and constantly inspires me to "never stop learning, because life never stops teaching".



## **Who's Who this week ...**

### **Religious Education**

At Birchwood, our RE curriculum, 'Love to Celebrate', focuses on the six major faiths. These are Hinduism, Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Sikhism and Islam. Each half term, as a school we focus on a specific religion and every year group learns about a tradition/celebration in connection with that particular religion. The focus of the 'Love to Celebrate' curriculum is to fully engage children with RE through fun and memorable learning experiences, for example, special RE days, trips or cooking activities.

Our broad and balanced curriculum at Birchwood promotes 'British Values' within RE. RE challenges children to be increasingly respectful and to celebrate diversity of different cultures, faiths and beliefs. The 'RE Classroom' is a democratic classroom where all children have an equal right to be heard. There is nothing more rewarding than enabling young people to question the fundamentals of human existence and explore the most basic beliefs of religion.

RE provides opportunities for children to reflect, analyse, discuss and debate. They explore and discover and most importantly, children enjoy learning more about the world in which they live in.



## **NATIONAL WALKING MONTH 2021**

Warwickshire School Health & Wellbeing Service have put together this resource to get the whole family walking through a range of fun activities.

Benefits of walking

- ◆ Improves mood
- ◆ Reduces stress and anxiety
- ◆ Helps you sleep
- ◆ Increases energy levels
- ◆ Helps you to maintain a healthy weight
- ◆ Keeps your muscles and bones strong
- ◆ Increases your cardiovascular fitness
- ◆ Starts conversation.
- ◆ Reduces the risk of depression

To discover the benefits of walking, try out walking activities for all ages, and make your walks even more magical with some family friendly nature activities visit <https://www.compass-uk.org/national-walking-month-family-materials>



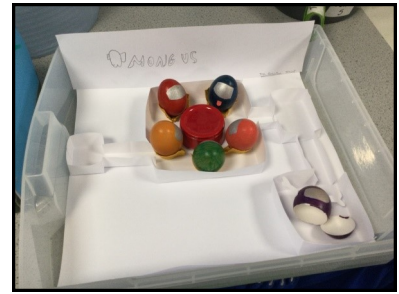
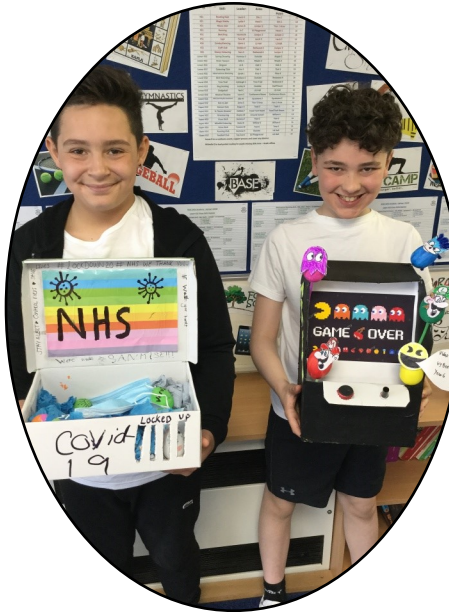
## **ATTENDANCE**



As part of our commitment to improving the attainment of our pupils we monitor attendance on a regular basis. During our regular monitoring, we identify any pupil whose attendance causes concern.

We would like to work in partnership with parents to reduce the amount of regularly late children, therefore ensuring that their education does not suffer. If you need help or support with any attendance issues you may have, please do not hesitate to contact us.





# EASTER AT BIRCHWOOD





## Academic Year 2020-2021

### Spring Term 2021

May Day	Monday 3rd May
Late Parent's Consultations	Wednesday 5th May
Early Parent's Consultations	Thursday 6th May
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 31st May
Professional Development Day	Monday 7th June
Professional Development Day	Friday 18th June
Term Ends for Summer	Wednesday 21st July

## Academic Year 2021-2022

### Autumn Term 2021

Children Return to School	Monday 6th September
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 25th October
Term Ends for Christmas	Friday 17th December

### Spring Term 2022

Staff Inset Day	Tuesday 4th January '22
Children Return to School	Wednesday 5th January
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 21st February
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)	Friday 8th April

### Summer Term 2022

May Day	Monday 2nd May
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 30th May
Term Ends for Summer	Friday 22nd 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 early finish on 21st July 2021. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.

### 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.

## Birchwood Primary School Website



[www.birchwoodprimarieschool.com](http://www.birchwoodprimarieschool.com)  
Twitter : @BirchwoodPrim



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

## 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. It is important to ensure that driveways and pavements are not obstructed as this can prove dangerous for other road users, pedestrians and can be frustrating for our neighbours. Thank you for your support and co-operation.



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## My School Fund

### Join the My School Fund initiative!

**Birchwood Primary** is part of the My School Fund initiative. This innovative scheme allows for us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help.

**How does it work?** - You can sign up to the scheme for free and start earning cashback on the things you buy in participating retail stores, including Sainsbury's and Argos. As you spend you will receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website, we will also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

**How to get involved** – Visit [myschoolfund.org](http://myschoolfund.org) to register for free and link Birchwood Primary School to boost our budget, plus your own!

Visit [myschoolfund.org](http://myschoolfund.org) and register for free today!



**CAMEO DANCE** EST.2003

### 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](http://Cameodance.co.uk) \* [cameodance@rocketmail.com](mailto:cameodance@rocketmail.com)

Facebook Cameo Dance or search Cameo Dance Polesworth

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



BASED AT  
THE DORDON CLUB  
LONG ST.  
B78 1PZ

### DANCE & FITNESS CLASSES

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COMMERCIAL JAZZ /

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ZUMBA / PILATES /

LBT / DANCE FIT /

PERFORMING ARTS

GROUP & INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL TRAINING

07880 714532

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

Our registered charity  
2020/21 ZELLWEGER  
UK. Amount raised so  
far: £1750.14



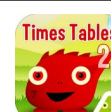
<https://www.jobcentrejobs.co.uk/>

jobcentreplus



### Squeebles Times Tables

Perfect fun times table practise for 5-11 year olds



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.