

Letters home this week: Next Year's new classes, Year 6 Virtual Transition Day, Year 2 End Of Year Reports.

What's on in school next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

A copy of the Birchwood Bugle will be shared on the front page of our school website every Friday.

REMINDER : Please order your uniform as normal on the school website. Thank you.

Now Press Play – Transition

At Birchwood, we always strive to ensure that children have a smooth and successful transition period when moving from year 6 to year 7, preparing them for the next stage in their education. During these unprecedented times, it is of paramount importance for us to aid the transition process for our children – we have been working closely with the Polesworth School to provide virtual Q and A sessions, as well as supporting children with a sequence of lessons and discussions within the classroom.

This week, we were given the opportunity to take part in a new and innovative transition activity - in collaboration with Lanchester Primary School we were tasked by the owners at Now Press Play, an immersive educational resource that brings the curriculum to life using wireless headphones, to create a new transition experience which would help, reassure and support future year six children in their move to high school. This experience will allow others to be plunged into an immersive experience, while hearing and acting out the worries, concerns and fears of other children in their same position, before experiencing how these situations may be resolved.

We started by taking part in a Zoom conversation with Tilly from Now Press Play and the children from Lanchester School, in which we were given clear instructions for our task; this began with sharing our current fears and concerns about the transition to secondary school on Padlet, an online information sharing resource. Next, our children listened to the current Now Press Play transition experience, and critically evaluated it in order to make sure we were able to create an experience that was even better than the original! You can find our Padlet on Willow and Yew's class pages – here, you will see the worries and concerns from children at Birchwood and Lanchester, and you can also contribute yourself.

Many Zoom calls and some technical training later, we begun to use the fears and worries which were on Padlet to create and write a scene based on a potential high school experience – getting lost on our way to lessons, dealing with bullying, managing homework and making friends – to name but a few! After we decided how these could be resolved, we finalised our script and then recorded our scene.

Now Press Play then collected all of the scenes which were created by children at Birchwood and Lanchester, and turned them into a real Now Press Play experience!

This has been an incredible project whereby children have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to share experiences, worries, concerns and resolutions with others – realising that they are able to support each other in offering advice and guidance, while preparing them mentally and emotionally for the next stage in their education.

Well done everyone! **Miss Mould - Year 6 Class Teacher**



Onwards and Upwards!!

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

Spotlight on Excellence this week is ...

End of Year Reports

As the end of what has certainly been a very different academic year rapidly approaches, we are looking to the time of year we send out our annual end of year reports for all children. This year we will be sending reports home with children at different times over the next 3 weeks, starting with the Year 2 children who will be receiving theirs in their hands today. It has been lovely to welcome these children back into school for the week, and they have certainly made the most of every minute of their time back at Birchwood. I have, via my office 'work window', been able to hear some amazing descriptive writing read to me.

Next week we will be welcoming back Year 3 and I can not wait to see what they will be up to. Their reports will go home on Friday 3rd July. With Year 4 children, along with Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children's reports going home the following Friday, on the 10th July when year 4 are in school. Year 5 reports will go home on the Monday of the final week, the 13th July when we will welcome back our year 5 children who have already signed up for places into school.

Any children who are not in school will have their reports posted out to them from school on the same dates as above. We hope that all parents will enjoy celebrating their children's successes this year.

Mrs Day

Associate Headteacher

Who's Who this week ...

Mrs Ferris

Hi my name is Mrs Ferris and I am currently into my second year of working at Birchwood. I joined Birchwood as an Administrative Assistant working alongside the other lovely ladies in the school office. I currently have two children at Birchwood and one will be starting high school in September, so I have been involved with the school for quite a few years.



Having the insight from both a parents perspective and as an employee at the school has many advantages. More than anything I now realise how much hard work goes into caring for and teaching all of the amazing children here at Birchwood. Yes, amazing! We are all very proud of Birchwood's students.

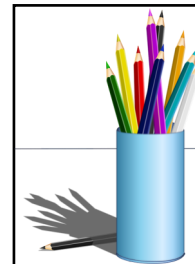
At home, having two children means we are kept very busy with activities they enjoy but I also like to squeeze in some of my own pass times when I can. I like to keep fit with various forms of exercise and sometimes enjoy a little horse riding. I love nothing more though, to snuggle up with my family and watch a good movie and relax.

I look forward to what else is to come this year at Birchwood School.

Birchwood Best Practice

Administrative Assistant.

As Administrative Assistant, I have a general role of carrying out administrative tasks for any members of staff in the school who require it. This comes in many forms and I find my days are extremely busy and varied. From photocopying, to compiling a newsletter, from liaising with visitors to data collection, there are many jobs to keep the school running smoothly.



An important main role I have though, is to be the point of contact, whether that be face to face or by telephone, for any visitors and parents at the school and we enjoy the good relationships we have with these. Our aim is to try to make any communication with the school an easy and pleasant experience and also make sure all feel welcome at Birchwood. The relationships we have with our children's parents and grown up's are important to the school, as is the good relationship we have with other regular visitors.

Another aspect of this role is having interaction with the children, which is important as they can then feel that they can approach us in the office with important tasks they may have been given to do.

I hope this has given you a small insight into my role as Administrative Assistant. - Mrs Ferris.



WARWICKSHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

FIRE SAFETY

We hope you and your children are keeping safe and well during this time of uncertainty, we understand that life, school and education looks different at the moment.

You may be staying at home more than normal and it is important to ensure that you and your children are safe from fire and accidents in the home.

- ☺ Make sure you have a working smoke alarm on every level of your home and test it once a week to ensure it is working correctly.
- ☺ Make sure plug sockets are not overloaded and switch off items that are not being used.
- ☺ Do not leave cooking unattended or children alone in the kitchen.
- ☺ Make sure candles and cigarettes are put out properly and never left unattended.
- ☺ Make sure your boiler is checked on an annual basis.

Smoke alarms save lives, buy it, fit it, test it

Always have an escape plan and practice this with your children. If you have any concerns regarding safety in the home, please visit our webpage for more information www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fireandrescue



Alternatively you can ring 01926 466282 to see if you qualify for a free Safe and Well check.

You can also contact our Community Fire Prevention team for advice on the above details, between the hours of 9am to 5pm.



Last day in school before we break up for Summer

-Fun and Games Morning

As previously advertised we will still be breaking up for the summer with an early finish on Friday 17th July. To ensure that we continue to do this safely under the current government guidelines for schools, this will follow the same procedure we have in place for our half day Trust school closures on Wednesdays. Therefore we ask that Reception children are collected from school between 12:00 -12:10pm. Year 1 between 12:10 -12:20pm, Year 5 and 6 between 12:20 - 12:30pm. Priority children can be collected at any time between 12:00 and 12:30pm. Packed lunches from school will be available to take home with children.

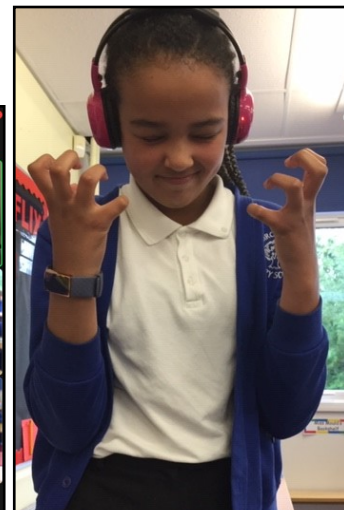
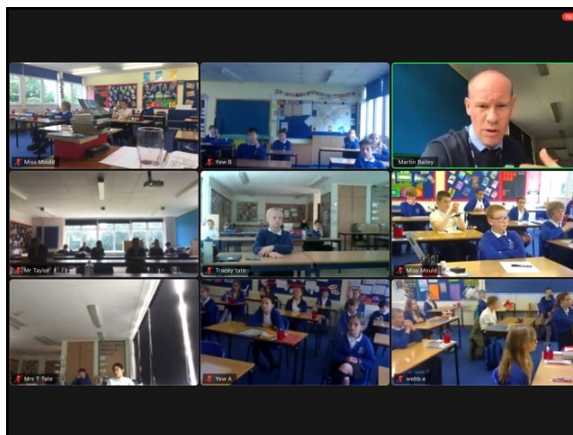
Due to current restrictions we can not hold our usual toy morning in school, as we are looking to reduce items between home and school and the sharing of items in school. Instead we are planning on holding a fun and games morning to celebrate our last day in school together before we break up for our summer holidays.



Year 6 Transition Activity



now
press
play



Academic Year 2019-2020

Term Ends for Summer Friday 17th July

Academic Year 2020-2021

(If term time back to normal)

Autumn Term 2020

Professional Development Day Tuesday 1st Sept
Children Return to School Wednesday 2nd Sept
Half Term (1 week) Monday 26th October
Professional Development Day Monday 2nd November
Children Return to School Tuesday 3rd November
Term Ends for Christmas Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2021

Professional Development Day Monday 4th January
Children Return to School Tuesday 5th January
Half Term (1 week) Monday 15th February
Professional Development Day Monday 22nd February
Children return to school Tuesday 23rd February
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks) Thursday 1st April

Summer Term 2021

Children Return to School Monday 19th April
May Day Monday 3rd May
Half Term (1 week) Monday 31st May
Professional Development Day Monday 7th June
Children return to school Tuesday 8th June
Professional Development Day Friday 18th June
Term Ends for Summer Wednesday 21st 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 1pm early finish on 17th July and 18th December. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.

Children will return to school on Thursday 2nd September 2021

New classes for 2020/21

Children's next year's classes and teaching staff have been posted onto each class page on our school website.

2019/20	Teacher	TA
Acorn	Miss Johal	Mrs Spong
Chestnut	Miss Lowe	Mrs Tweed
Elm 1	Miss Aston	Mrs Short
Hazel 1	Mrs Stockton	Mrs Stubbs
Larch 2	Mrs Clarke and Mrs Bayliss	Mrs Faultless
Juniper 2	Mrs Brelsford	Mrs Whitlock
Maple 3	Mrs Smith	Mrs Calloway
Oak 3	Mrs Atkins and Mrs Davis	Miss Dow
Redwood 4	Miss Parkes	Mrs Shaw
Pine 4	Miss Mould	Miss Richardson
Teak 5	Mr Hammersley	Mrs Fisher
Sycamore 5	Mrs Webb and Mrs Oz	Mrs Williams
Willow 6	Miss Purdy	Mrs Finch
Yew 6	Miss Chamberlain	Mrs Tucker



You can follow us on Twitter at:

@BirchwoodPrim or

The Birchwood Website:

www.birchwoodprimary.com



**Our registered charity 2020
ZELLWEGER UK.**

Amount raised so far: £862.51

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



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Fridays 4:30 – 5:30pm, The Tithe Barn, Polesworth

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Tuesdays 5:15 – 7:15, The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

Fridays 5:30 – 7:30, The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

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

Cameodance.co.uk cameodance@rocketmail.com

Facebook Charlotte Kate Cameo

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.

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