

Letters home this week: ALL- Reports, YR5,6- Headlice

## What's on in school next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3.05 Embody Dance Y1-6	3.05 Aston Villa Multi Skills Y1-3 Drum and Guitar Lessons	3.05 Elite Football Skills Y4-6 Late Parents Evening	Clarinet Lessons Early Parents Evening	3.05 Top Score Football Y1-3 Swimming Lessons - Oak 3 Cello Lessons 3.05 Musical Theatre Y2-6

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

REMINDER : Our newsletter is always uploaded to the front page of our website: [www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com](http://www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com)

## Teaching our children Road Safety

We are very aware of how busy the roads outside Birchwood and Polesworth School are, but we have very little control of what goes on outside of our own school gates. We do our very best to ensure children remain safe. We encourage children to wear bright and reflective coats, stop them running out of school, and tell them repeatedly not to cross between parked cars.

Over the last half term, children and staff have been working hard to recognise the importance of Road Safety. Miss Lowe met with a representative from Warwickshire Road Safety Club who was extremely impressed with the teaching and learning focused on being safe on and around the road. On Tuesday 1st October we joined in with 'Happy Shoesday' where children and staff were asked to wear their happiest shoes to encourage walking to school. We also managed to raise money towards Living Streets and our chosen charity. Our Junior Road Safety Officers have been elected, these children will play an important role in reinforcing road safety messages around school. Reception, Y2 and Y4 also had their first visit from Louise at Warwickshire Road Safety Club to teach them about the Road Safety Code, Scooter Safety and Sustainable Travel. Today is our first 'Glow Day' where children were asked to come to school in their brightest clothes to reinforce the message of 'Be Bright, Be Seen'. All classes will also have activities/competitions to complete throughout the day to reinforce this message. Moving forward we are also hoping to achieve the Bronze Road Safety Award and have the opportunity to work with companies to teach children the importance of road safety.

In February this year, new designated crossing points were created, permanent barriers were built along the road side and new H markings were painted onto roads outside the school gates. We do however need 100% support from ALL PARENTS AND VISITORS to our schools. Despite our repeated requests in our weekly newsletter, on a daily basis we see parking and driving which places our children in danger. Unfortunately, on a regular basis, we receive complaints from neighbours about parents parking over their driveways, blaming the school and demanding we take action. The school however has absolutely no jurisdiction over public roads.

Now the clocks have changed, we ask parents to be extra vigilant when walking children to and from school and for drivers to slow down and drive responsibly. Our only interest is in keeping children safe, PLEASE help us to do so by driving carefully and parking responsibly. Please support us by doing your bit. Thank you.

**Mr N Coleman - Headteacher**



## Stop, Look, Listen!

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

## Spotlight on Excellence this week is....

### Children in Need

It is that time of year again, when Pudsey has appeared and we are getting ready to raise money for BBC Children in Need. This year the school council have decided, that to mark Children in Need day and help raise funds, we are going on a 'Ramble for Pudsey'.

In return for donations for this fantastic cause we are asking children to bring their wellies and a warm waterproof coat to school (named of course!) All children will be going for a walk with their class around the Polesworth School field (or all the way around our whole school site for Reception class, or if it is raining/wet!)

If children want to wear a yellow top or Pudsey ears for the ramble then they can do so, but this is entirely optional and we don't want anyone feeling they have to rush out and buy anything special just for the day!

Thank you for your continued support and keep a look out for some photos of our ramble in the Bugle soon!

**Mrs M Day**  
**Associate Headteacher**





### Community Governor Vacancy

#### **Birchwood Primary School is looking to recruit high quality Community Governors to join the Local Governing Body.**

We are looking for members of the local community 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. Your role will also include collectively allocating and controlling the school budget as well as being influential in the appointment of staff.

If you are over 18, able to commit approximately 10-15 hours per term to the role we would be delighted to hear from you. You do not need to be a parent of a student 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 school 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 please contact:**

Mrs Sara Ferris, - Clerk to the Governors  
Birchwood Primary School  
Birchwood Avenue  
Dordon  
Tamworth  
B781QU  
Telephone: 01827 892913 or ferris.s@welearn365.com



### **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 confident that saying something will not get them into trouble.



### **Academic Year 2018-2019**

#### **Academic Year 2019/2020**

##### **Autumn Term 2019**

Y3 Dudley Canal Trip	Monday 11th November
Late Parents Evening	Weds 13th November
Early Parents Evening	Thursday 14th November
Y5 Class Assemblies	Thursday 28th November
New Intake Morning	Monday 2nd December
KS2 Pantomime trip	Weds 4th December
TBPS Christmas Fair	Friday 6th December
Nasal Flu Immunisations	Tuesday 10th December
Y1 Polesworth Abbey Trip	Weds 11th December
Lower School Christmas Perf.	Monday 16th December
Lower School Christmas Perf.	Tuesday 17th December
Upper School Christmas Perf.	Weds 18th December
Upper School Christmas Perf.	Thursday 19th December
Christmas Dinner	Friday 20th December
Term Ends for Christmas (2 weeks)	Friday 20th December

##### **Spring Term 2020**

Professional Development Day	Monday 6th January
Children Return to School	Tuesday 7th January
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 17th February
Professional Development Day	Monday 24th February
Children Return to School	Tuesday 25th February
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)	Friday 3rd April

##### **Summer Term 2020**

May Bank Holiday	Friday 8th May
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 25th May
Children return to School	Monday 1st June
Professional Development Day	Friday 19th June
Warwickshire Moving Up Day	Wednesday 8th July
Term Ends for Summer	Friday 17th 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 May Day 2020 is on a Friday 8th May to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

Please note the 1pm early finish on 20th December and 17th July. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.

### **YR1 CANNOCK CHASE TOY MUSEUM**

Year 1 had a fun-filled day at Cannock Chase Toy Museum. We made some traditional peg dolls, danced like toys, laughed along to a hilarious Punch and Judy show and enjoyed playing with a variety of Victorian toys.



### **Team Birchwood News**

We just wanted to let you know Movie Night raised a total of £852, which is a great start to our fundraising this year.

Thank you for the donations this week, for the General and Bottle Tombola stalls at the Christmas Fair. Week 2 is Chocolate donations so please bring in what you can: boxes, bars, bags or tubs! Just make sure it is in date and sealed.

We would really love local businesses to help us with our Fair's raffle prizes. If you can ask your employer or your own business, please let us know if you can help.

Christmas card orders have now been placed and we hope to have them back by the beginning of December.



## THE START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

An ordered and prompt start to the school day is extremely important for primary aged pupils. At Birchwood we encourage children to enter school 10 minutes before the official start of the school day to socialise with friends and be ready to go into school as soon as the bell goes.

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are asked to be accompanied on the Lower School playground by their parents until they enter their classes. Until the school day starts **parents are responsible** for their children's behaviour and well-being. We ask parents to stand with their children and if possible hold their hands.

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 are able to make their own way onto the Upper School Playground. We ask that pupils do not arrive on the playground until 8:30am. Parents are welcome to accompany their children if they wish, but they do not have to. Children are asked not to play ball games in the morning or leave their school bags and coats unattended on the floor.

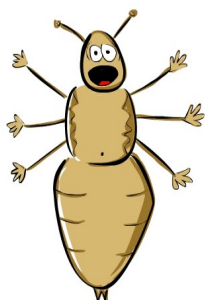
The start of our school day is a very calm and orderly affair, but a great deal goes on and every single minute is optimised. As soon as the bell goes children enter school, hang their coats and bags up and place lunch boxes into trolleys.

Children then enter the classroom and will often have a warm up activity on the whiteboard, or at their desk, which they start without further instruction from their teachers. These activities range from a mental maths puzzle, or a short piece of writing, or some reading and responding to feedback. Sometimes these activities consist of children improving a piece of work from the previous day or even answering a direct question from the teacher's marking. Whilst the children do this, we take an attendance register and find out their lunch choice for the day.

Before 9.00am office staff will have followed up most unexplained absences, hence the great importance of parents informing the school of any absence by 8.30am using the answer phone. In the classroom the teacher will have explained the work for the day, discussed groups and allocated children to teaching assistants. Children's lateness is extremely rare, but when it occurs it makes life difficult for the school and for the child. Apart from the difficulty caused by needing to open up registers, re-explain the tasks for the day (all of which stops staff from working with other children), the 'late child' also starts the day feeling 'left out' and 'out of sorts'. Being late for school means children are disadvantaged for the remainder of the day.

Our school day starts at 8:40am. Children may enter the school site from 8:30am.

## HEADLICE



We would like to remind you that it is advisable to regularly check your children for headlice. Schools are not allowed to check children's hair and also no longer receive visits from the Health Authority to examine for lice. It is therefore essential that parents complete a thorough examination of hair on a **regular basis**.

## RAMBLE FOR PUDSEY

For our 'Ramble for Pudsey' on Friday 15th November children will go for a short walk around the field or school site so will require:

- Wellington boots/ spare shoes
- A warm waterproof coat
- A plastic bag
- Their donation (suggested £1)

Children can also wear a yellow top or Pudsey ears for our ramble but this is entirely optional. Thank you for your continued support.



## ALDI COMPETITION

We would like to thank everyone who has brought in their ALDI stickers to school, helping us collect over 1200 stickers in total. Can we just remind you that the last day to bring your stickers in will be Monday 11th November.



## Parking



Please may we remind parents/carers that parking is not permitted in the schools car park. Please park courteously on the roads surrounding school. It is also important to ensure that driveways and pavements are not obstructed as this can prove dangerous for other road users, pedestrians and be frustrating for our neighbours.

## **This ANTI-BULLYING WEEK**

**CHANGE  
STARTS  
WITH**



**#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK**

**FROM MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> - FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>  
NOVEMBER 2019**

If you're worried about bullying and/or would like to be involved in Anti-Bullying Week this year, please contact



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## PHANTOM KNIGHTS & BIRCHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

A partnership in its second year to provide an education of music on the move and a personal confidence that will last a child's lifetime.

The Phantom Knights are now recruiting new members into their organisation.

>> Percussion – Brass – Keyboards – Guard (dance with equipment) <<

Tuesdays 6.30 – 8pm @ Racemeadow Academy, Atherstone with a trial period for free.

You don't need to be experienced, why not come along and sample for yourself the fun, excitement and the formula that make this group of people something very special.

*And the reason to join is easy.....*

*Everyone wants to be a winner in life.*



To book a place or need more information.

No problem, email [carl@phantom-knights.com](mailto:carl@phantom-knights.com) or call 01827 713919 and ask for Carl.



### Monkey Maths

Fundamental maths skills for children aged 3-6 years



## CAMEO DANCE EST.2003

### FUN CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES HELD IN POLESWORTH

#### Little Dancers from age 2 ½

Tuesdays 4:30 – 5:30pm, The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

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

#### Juniors from age 7

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

Facebook Charlotte Kate Cameo



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### ZELLWEGER UK.

Amount raised so far: £130

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

jobcentreplus

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.