

**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 next week...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Violin & Keyboard Lessons 3.05 pm Embody Dance Playtastic Orchestra	Drum & Guitar Lessons 3.05 pm Aston Villa Multi Skills Y1-3	Woodwind Lessons 3.05 pm Elite Football Y1-3	3.05 pm Top Score Football Club Y4-6	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

**Letters sent home this week: Y3-6—Young Engineers Club, Y1-6-Active Nerf Wars Club, Y2—Ankerwood Trip,**

## Lanchester EP visit Birchwood

Lanchester EP Primary School is very similar to Birchwood in lots of ways, but also very different. It is a good school with outstanding features and serves the community of Lanchester village, of which it is centrally located. Lanchester EP is a Church of England school with a strong Christian ethos. It has a strong link with All Saints Parish, a beautiful medieval parish church that was founded in 1147.

On Thursday and Friday we welcomed all 49 Year 6 pupils and 6 members of staff from Lanchester EP Primary School to Birchwood. In June all of our Year 5 pupils went up to Newcastle to visit our Partner School - Lanchester EP for the very first time and this week it was our turn to play host. This was the next part of the process in establishing and maintaining our very exciting and purposeful link with another Primary School in a contrasting locality.

On their way down to Birchwood the children and staff of Lanchester stopped off at Warwick Castle. This medieval castle, originally built by William the Conqueror in 1068, has been voted as one of the best castles in the world. 4 of our Year 6 House Captains and School Councillors, went to meet Lanchester pupils and spend the day with them exploring the castle and watching the live events.

After a fantastic day out, Lanchester made their way down to Birchwood Primary School. After a tour of our school, the children got to enjoy playing some sporting activities, had pizza for tea and a film night, before the staff and children all got their heads down for a cosy night's sleep in one of our school halls!

In the morning Lanchester were treated to a breakfast in school organised by Mrs Day before joining our Year 6 children in an early morning P.E lesson, an Art lesson based on Warwick Castle and an English lesson based on Cadbury World, which were led by our brilliant Year 6 staff.

Lanchester's trip down to the Midlands was topped off with a wonderful visit to Cadbury World. Again they were joined by the rest of our Year 6 House Captains and School Councillors, where we spent the day learning how confectionery is made, the history of Cadbury, the origins of chocolate and had an opportunity to sample one or two of our favourite treats.

The children from both schools had a brilliant two days, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. All the children were fantastically behaved and were a real credit to both schools. Our partnership with Lanchester EP Primary is going from strength to strength and I am really looking forward to continuing our partnership with a joint trip down to the Bett Show in London with our Digital Leaders in January and then for all of our Year 5 pupils to visit Lanchester school up in Newcastle in June.

**Neil Coleman - Headteacher**



## Building firm foundations

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

## Spotlight on the importance of being on time



The start of the school day is an important time for children, not only do they get the chance to say hello to their friends, a key social experience, but it is also a vital time for them to get into the routine of organising themselves ready for the day. (Putting away their belongings, getting themselves started on the exciting activities planned that their teachers have set for them at a calm pace). Coming in late means a rushed start and can lead to a more difficult start to the day for children, including missed learning opportunities. Teachers often give out vital information and instructions during registration, so even missing just a few minutes can really impact on children's understanding of the day.

Sometimes children find the transition from home to school challenging, in these circumstances, try talking to them about their worries, but always focus on the positive, encouraging them to come in with a smile and minimise the time you spend 'handing over' at the gate or door. In the vast majority of cases, children are absolutely fine 10 seconds after you have left, and we will always call you if needed.

**Mrs Day - Associate Headteacher**

## School Attendance

It sounds obvious but children are more likely to succeed when they attend school consistently. It is not just about the lessons that are missed, children also find it difficult to engage in the lessons when they return because they have missed the important teaching points when they were off, to allow them to successfully access the next stage of learning.

Good attendance at school is vital for pupils to achieve their full educational potential. Pupils with good attendance records benefit in the following ways:-

*Continuity of learning which makes progress and retention easier*

*Improved performance in coursework tasks*

*Enhanced performance in examinations*

*Continuity of relationships and friendships*

*Good references for further education or employment*

*Good habits are formed for later life*

Then there is the law! Children by law must attend school and all schools are required to record details of pupils' attendance and absence at school. We do so at the beginning of morning and afternoon sessions and within strict time limits. We are also required to report poor attendance.

We encourage children to be on time and attend by giving children lots of praise when they are 'being brave for carrying on' with minor ailments like a cold. We reward 'never lates' and 'good attendance' by giving children certificates on a termly basis, which the children are very proud of. We do however understand that children are sometimes unwell and certainly don't wish children to come into school unwell just to achieve an attendance reward, and for this reason we include children whose attendance is also slightly below 100%. Our schools always achieve better rates of attendance than schools nationally. Our children love coming to school and hate missing anything. The Government has recently set an attendance target of 95% for all schools. We are delighted that our school attendance rate is significantly above this at 97.5%.

**Well done everyone!**

### Reminder - Absence Notification

Parents are reminded that a telephone call to school is required for absence BY 8.30am letting us know the child's name, class and reason for absence. A call is then required for EACH day of absence thereafter.

**Can we please remind parents that on the child's return to school we still require a signed letter confirming the reason to enable us to authorise the absence.**

Failure to adhere to the above policy may result in an 'unauthorised absence' being recorded on official school register.

## 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	Friday 9th November
Late Parents Evening	Wednesday 14th November
Early Parents Evening	Thursday 15th November
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.	Wednesday 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.



# Open Day

**29 October 2018**  
**10.30am – 3.30pm**

**The Ratcliffe Centre, Ratcliffe Road,  
Atherstone CV9 1LF**

**Join us for:**

- ✦ The chance to meet staff and other local organisations
- ✦ Activities and ideas to support wellbeing for children and young people
- ✦ The opportunity to test the Dimensions tool
- ✦ FREE pumpkin carving and stress ball making
- ✦ Information about mental health and well-being
- ✦ Drinks and snacks!



Follow us:  
@CW\_Rise



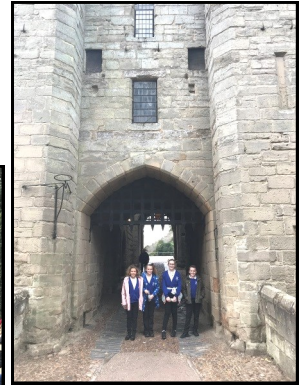









Warwick Castle was an amazing experience.  
—Emily



Visiting Warwick Castle was the best day of my life! - James



We really enjoyed learning about the history of cocoa, where it comes from and how it is made. It was nearly as good as tasting the chocolate itself!  
Holly & Isabella



## Free Milk for Children who are eligible for Free School Meals

Children across school who are eligible for free school meals are entitled to free milk at break time. If you think your child is eligible please contact the office for further details.



## Team Birchwood Primary School need your help!



Can you spare a couple of hours on Thursday 18th October to help run our Movie Night?

This is a great event and the children really enjoy it, but to make it run as smoothly as possible we need more helpers.

To say thank you for helping out, we will give your child a FREE place at the end of year school disco.

Please contact Leanne on 07919 431220 if you are able to help out.

## Permanent Vacancy

**Midday Supervisor, Scale band B**  
**6.25 hours per week - 11.50am to 1.05pm**  
**Monday to Friday - term time only (39 weeks)**  
**Actual salary £2392.56 per annum**

Birchwood is a very popular successful school recognised as 'an outstanding school' (OFSTED 2014/15). We are looking for a permanent member of staff to join our friendly, enthusiastic and committed team working with our well behaved and happy pupils.

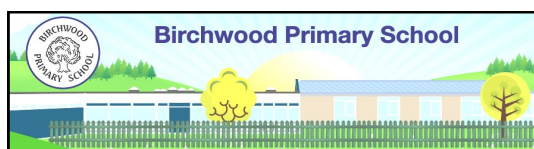
Full training will be given, as well as all the support you need. This is a great opportunity to do something really rewarding, working with wonderful children and gain some valuable extra experience for that CV! Further details and application forms are available from the school website. Completed applications should be returned to school no later than 12.00 noon on **Friday 19th October 2018**. Interviews will be held on **Thursday 25th October 2018**.

## Applying for a Secondary School Place

Children born between **01/09/2007** and **31/08/2008** are due to start Secondary School in September 2019. **The deadline for on-time applications is 31st October 2018.**



Warwickshire residents can make an on-line application for Primary and Secondary places at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applyforschool](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applyforschool). You can also apply by calling 01926 742037 or 01926 742047.



### 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!

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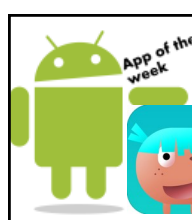
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### App of the week

**Thinkrolls 2**

An enlightening logic puzzler for children aged 3-9 years.

**This years  
chosen  
charity to be  
revealed  
soon!!**

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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