

Letters sent home this week— Y5 & Y6—Author Visit

## What's on in school next week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3.05pm Playtastic Orchestra 3.05pm Y6 Netball Club 3.05pm Embody Dance Club Y1-6	Guitar Lessons 3.05pm Football Club Y1-3 3.05pm Bubbles Club Y4-6	Woodwind Lessons 3.05pm Football Club Y1-3 3.05pm Bubbles Club Y1-3	Violin & Keyboard Lessons	Comic Relief Day Cello & Drum Lessons 3.05pm Musical Theatre Y3-6 3.05pm Multi Sports Y4-6

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

**REMINDER: Children should not enter the school playgrounds before 8.30 a.m.**

## Sharing information at Birchwood

Birchwood is a very busy and vibrant school, just as we like it, with lots of interesting and exciting things going on. Ensuring we keep everyone informed and up to date with 'All Things Birchwood', is a constant challenge, but a challenge that we rise to. To support us with this we have devised many methods of communicating with stakeholders and use these in different ways, depending upon what information we are trying to share and whom we are sharing it with.

Face to face communication with parents and children is very important to us. All of our staff try to make themselves as available as possible to talk to parents. As I am sure you can appreciate, this is more difficult to do during school hours, but we always encourage parents to arrange meetings with staff if they need to speak with them, or to leave a telephone message, so that staff can ring them back after school has finished. We also encourage regular communication between home and school via 'Me to You', school letters, school text messages, reading diaries, and medical forms.

Throughout the year we timetable regular opportunities to report to parents regarding progress children are making in school. We send out interim reports in the Autumn and Spring terms and follow these up with Parents Evening appointments. We also write a full end of year report and invite parents into school for a 'Show and Share' event, to celebrate children's learning and all that they have achieved.

Our school newsletter 'The Birchwood Bugle' is sent home weekly to all parents in the form of a paper copy, but is also available digitally, on our school website. This provides up to date information about school and events that are running, as well as showcasing some of the excellent work completed in school. To support our newsletter, each year group also sends out regular tweets using our twitter page, sharing some of our 'Rich Opportunities and Memorable Experiences'.

We are constantly looking for new ways to share information with stakeholders. This year we have been busy compiling a new look 'Prospectus' ready for the start of next Academic Year 2019/20. We have also produced a new 'Parent Handbook' for new parents and their children who start in Reception, or for any children who join us mid-year from another school. This contains lots of information about our school and all the new starter forms we require from parents. Today we have sent home with children a copy of a new booklet we have produced called our **Parent Information Directory**. This will normally go out to all parents at the start of each academic year to provide parents with information about your child's year in school and the curriculum themes they will be following. All of these new documents will also be made available on our school website.

We look forward to continuing to share with you all the new and exciting things that we get up to at Birchwood.

**Mr N Coleman - Headteacher**



## 'Teaching the Head'

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

## Spotlight on Excellence this week is: Reading in School



Sharing and enjoying a good book is not only a great way to develop reading, but also a fun way to escape to different places and even be a completely different character without ever leaving the comfort of your chair.

This week has seen World Book Day take place and the children have, as ever, enthusiastically shown us the whole range of characters and books they enjoy reading. Our older children have shared books with those in younger classes and Year 6 have even tried their hand at being authors of young children's fiction, adapting their writing style and vocabulary to the needs of a younger reader.

Reading for pleasure is something we are always keen to develop in school through opportunities to share books. We have our reading 'tea parties' when classes have had all children meet their reading targets at home, we share books in classes and assemblies, and staff across school share their current reading books with children. These occasions are all chances for children to build their social skills, starting and maintaining conversations about books, sharing a story and simply reading together for pleasure.

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



**SCHOLASTIC**  
COME TO OUR  
**BOOK FAIR!**  
Your Ticket to Read!

## ALL BOOKS HALF PRICE

Our book fair will be open from Monday 25th March to Thursday 28th March after school in the library. Children who would like to visit our book fair must be accompanied by their adult.

**NB. Our school library will NOT be open during Book Fair week after school but will re-open the following week.**

## Coming into school late... 'It doesn't matter if my child is late for school'

Not what the children would say! They absolutely hate being late. They arrive after all of their friends are already sat down in school and enter a classroom of 30 others looking at them. At the start of the day teachers take registers, explain to the children what they will be doing for the day and all sorts of other important instructions about what will be happening around school. Apart from this, being late is NOT an authorised absence. Persistent lateness will often result in contact from Education Social Workers who inspect our registers and will prosecute for persistent cases.



# World Book Day

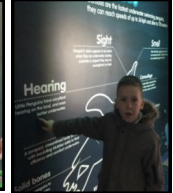
Our children arrived at school yesterday dressed as their favourite book characters. We think they all looked lovely and there were some amazing outfits; even a giant inflatable dinosaur! Below are a few pictures from World Book Day. Watch out for more pictures in The Tamworth Herald.



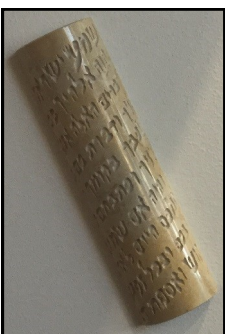
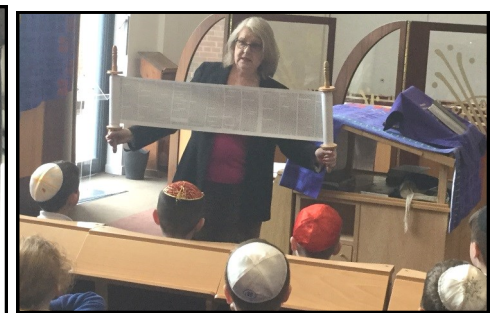


# Year 4 Out and About

Year 4 explored the blue abyss in a more interactive way this week by visiting Birmingham's Sea Life Centre. Activities included, touching star fish, feeding rays and discovering the wealth of weird and wacky wild life found in oceans around the world. The 4-D cinema was a real treat but could not top the experience of walking through the glass tunnel as black-tipped reef sharks and giant turtles swam over our heads. We were sad to hear that many of these creatures are in decline because of human actions and have vowed to do something about it upon our return to school. Watch this space!



Year 4 also had the privilege of being allowed inside a synagogue. One of the ladies who used the synagogue as her place of worship, kindly explained the many features and traditions of the building and her religion. We learned about mezuzahs, which were special boxes with prayers inside them. These were placed at the openings to the main room. We also discovered that many of the Jewish traditions and stories are found in Christianity, because the old testament section of the Bible is based on the Jewish holy book, the Torah.



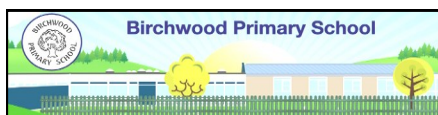


**Comic Relief - Red Nose Day**  
**Friday 15th March 2019**

We have arranged a non-uniform day on Friday 15th March 2019, to support Comic Relief. We would like all children to wear as much red clothing as possible and bring in a small donation for the charity.

Please do not dye hair or use face paints and remember to wear sensible shoes and bring a warm coat for break and lunchtimes outside.

Thank you for your support  
**The School Council**



**Birchwood Primary School Website**

Want to know what's happening in school? Go to **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.

Click on the parent tab to open the ParentPay shop, where you can order school uniform, book bags and water bottles.



You can also follow us on twitter: @BirchwoodPrim



**Free Chess App**

Improve your techniques or learn how to play chess!!

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.



**Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.**

NSPCC fundraising so far this year is :  
**£1300.75**

Thank you very much for all of your support.

**CAMEO DANCE EST.2003**

**FUN CHILDRENS 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 cameodance@rocketmail.com  
Facebook Charlotte Kate Cameo

**Academic Year 2018-2019**

**Spring Term 2019**

**Singing Playgrounds**

**Red Nose Day**

Year 2 Trip Blakesley Hall  
Kirkpatrick Cup at Twycross  
Swimming Gala  
Year 3 Class Assemblies  
Scholastic Book Fair (1 week)  
Year 5/6 Author Visit  
Year 3 Botanical Gardens Trip  
Year 1 & Year 5 Fire Safety  
Year R & Year 1 Dental Survey  
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)  
Payment due for Manor Adventure

**Friday 15th March**

**Friday 15th March**

Tuesday 19th March  
Tuesday 19th March  
Wednesday 20th March  
Thursday 21st March  
Monday 25th March  
Friday 29th March  
Monday 1st April  
Friday 5th April  
Friday 5th April  
Friday 12th April  
Friday 12th April

**Summer Term 2019**

**Manor Adventure Trip**

**Children return to school**

**May Day Bank Holiday**

**Half Term (1 Week)**

**Children return to school**

**Professional Development Day**

**Term ends for Summer (Early)**

Friday 7th June to Monday  
10th June

Monday 29th April

Monday 6th May

Monday 27th May

Monday 3rd June

Friday 21st June

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 1pm early finish on 19th July. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.



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