

**Letters sent home this week— All—**Grandparents Lunch, **R—**Chinese Activity Morning, **Y3—**Swimming lessons, **Y6—**DVD consent, Netball

## What's on in school next week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3.05pm Playtastic Orchestra 3.05pm Embody Dance Club	Guitar Lessons 3.05pm Football Club Y1-3 3.05pm Nerf Wars Club Y4-6	Woodwind Lessons 3.05pm Football Club Y1-3 3.05pm Nerf Wars Club Y1-3	Violin & Keyboard Lessons 3.05pm Young Engineers Club Y3-6	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 BE ENTERING THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS BEFORE 8.30 AM**

## Safer Internet Day 2019

Safer Internet Day is **celebrated globally** in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people and inspire a national conversation. Coordinated in the UK by the **UK Safer Internet Centre**, the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

At Birchwood we do not just think about staying safe on the internet on just one day. We complete regular learning and have lots of discussions and reminders to ensure that our children know how to stay safe online. But taking part in safer internet day offers us the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community.

This year we began our work in support of Safer Internet Day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February. We held a community event at Birchwood and were joined by 5 of our Community Academies Trust Primary Schools and another 8 local Primary Schools. Each of the 13 schools brought with them 4 of their digital leaders and a member of staff who leads on computing. We had organised for our friends from 'Now Press Play' and 'Animate 2 Educate' to deliver an action packed workshop to support key messages around online safety and online bullying.

During the morning all children and staff took part in two interactive and immersive Now Press Play sessions. Using wireless headphones the immersive audio resource engages children through emotion, imagination and movement as they become the main character in a story, meeting people, discovering places and solving problems on an educational adventure. In between each of the workshops Mr Bailey, from Animate 2 Educate, delivered a thought provoking session on how to behave online and reiterated our one word school rule and asked children to be considerate in the digital world as well as the real world.

The morning event was a fantastic way to bring children and staff together from lots of local schools to share the important messages of online safety in an enjoyable and memorable way. It was great to see all the staff and children in their different coloured uniforms interacting with each other and getting on so well. At Birchwood our aim is to continue to deliver excellent learning opportunities for our children, but also to have a positive impact on children from outside our own school. Hopefully all the children involved in the experience had very positive messages to take back to their own schools, to continue their learning about the safe and positive way of using digital technology.

**Mr N Coleman**  
Headteacher



## Being Considerate in the Digital World

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

## Spotlight on Excellence this week is:



**Guard of Honour at the Aston Villa Vs WBA**

**fixture at Villa Park on Saturday 16th February 2019**

Congratulations to James from Hazel 1 and Lauren from Pine 4 who were the lucky winners of our competition to be a flag bearer on the pitch before the game. Over 50 children entered our draw, with Mr Jackson pulling out one boy and one girl to represent our school. As part of the prize the children and one of their parents will also get to watch the game afterwards.

Our thanks go to Aston Villa for their continued support of our school. They deliver curriculum PE lessons in the afternoon and after school activities for all age groups.

We have had a long association with Aston Villa who in the past have also sponsored our school with a new football kit, provided match tickets, offered tours of the ground and delivered English and Maths sessions at Villa Park.

As part of our wider curriculum, we will continue to work with excellent external providers, who can support us in delivering 'Rich Opportunities and Memorable Experiences' to our children. We look forward to seeing some pictures of their day at Villa Park and hope that both children have a wonderful time.

**Mr N Coleman - Headteacher**

## Holidays during Term Time

### Ensuring children do not miss out

In September 2013 there were significant changes to the law with regards to holidays being taken during term time. In effect Headteachers were no longer permitted to grant an 'authorised holiday' in term time unless under 'exceptional circumstances' and following completion of a 'Leave of Absence Application form'.

'Exceptional circumstances' are considered to be only those which are 'rare and serious issues' and not because of parents 'work commitments' or the availability of 'cheap holidays'.

Our parents are incredibly supportive and it is now very rare indeed for any of them to request holidays during the school term. Parents understand the impact of children being away from school even for a short time and the impact on their child missing carefully planned programmes of work.

We occasionally hear 'my child will catch up'. Unfortunately, this is wrong. We do not have the opportunity to reteach planned lessons and our clear evidence is that missing school causes problems which ripple through a child's education career. Our policy, which matches the law exactly, is repeated regularly in our newsletters. The school does NOT approve of any holidays being taken during the term time. The simple reason for this is that we wish the best for the children and understand with complete certainty that missing school impacts significantly on progress.

There is a common myth that 'I will not be caught'. The large fines levied at those deciding to ignore the rules would suggest otherwise! Unfortunately, a child returning tanned, talking about the wonderful time they have had, as well as the ability of the schools 'attendance software' to recognise unusual attendance patterns, often results in an unwelcome letter from the Local Authority 'Enforcement Service' and a 'fixed penalty notice'. Last year the local authority introduced an initiative which allows them to take 'retrospective action' when it comes to light that absences have been for holidays. This has unfortunately resulted in action against a very small minority who have been less than honest about school absence.

The local authority state: '**there are 180 days a year when children are NOT at school**'. Holidays for children should be taken during the school holidays.

## Permanent Vacancy

**Midday Supervisor, Scale band B**  
**6.25 hours per week - 11.50am to 1.05pm**  
**Monday to Friday - term time only + training time (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 office. Completed applications should be returned to school no later than 12.00 noon on **Friday 1st March 2019**. Interviews will be held on **Wednesday 6th March 2019**.



## Year 3 & Year 4 Cross Country Trials

Next week, children in Y3 and Y4 will be taking part in Cross Country Trials during the day on either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, depending on the weather.

The trials will involve children running on the field. Please would you ensure that your child has their PE kit with them (including spare socks) all week.

Thank you. Mrs Atkins

## Uniform Orders



### Q When can I order uniform?

**A** Anytime !! Simply log onto our Birchwood Primary School website at [www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com](http://www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com) and click on the "Parents" tab, then click "ParentPay" and finally click onto "Parentpay Uniform Shop"

### Q When will my uniform be ready for collection?

**A** Uniform is ready for collection on the following Tuesday after your order has been placed. Our uniform shop is open each Tuesday from 3.05pm until 3.30pm.

### Q Can I collect at any other time?

**A** If you are unable to collect on a Tuesday, between 3.05pm and 3.30pm, please contact our office and we will do our best to make alternative arrangements.

### Q Can my child bring a uniform order home?

**A** We prefer to avoid this option, as uniform can easily be lost this way. We would not be able to replace any orders that are lost.

### Q Is home delivery available?

**A** Unfortunately we do not have this option available. Orders are only available to collect.

## 'Together for a Better Internet'



This week we have celebrated Safer Internet Day, an annual worldwide event to encourage us all to work together to create a better internet. This day is an opportunity for millions of people worldwide to come together to inspire positive change and raise awareness about the importance of online safety.

The theme for 2019 is: 'Together for a Better Internet', which means that children have been collaborating together to try and make the internet a safer place. We have been taking part in lessons and activities throughout school, completing entries for the national online safety competition and discussing our learning within assemblies.

To discover how you can support your child more effectively with their online activity, please see:

[www.saferinternetday.org](http://www.saferinternetday.org)

or ask for Birchwood's guide to Online Safety for Parents from the school office.



# Safer Internet Day 2019







## 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.

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

### Robot Day - Coventry

Free Admission  
CV22 7FR

Enjoy Lots Of Hands-On Activities, Workshops and Presentations For Young and Old

**Saturday, 9th. March**

The Transport Museum, Coventry - Open 10am - 4pm



### Comic Life

Turn your images into a comic to create projects, flyers or story boards.

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.

# NSPCC

**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

Grandparents Lunch	Friday 15th February
Half Term (1 Week)	Monday 18th February
Professional Development Day	Monday 25th February
Children return to school	Tuesday 26th February
Late Parents Evening	Weds 6th March
Early Parents Evening	Thursday 7th March
Year 3 Class Assemblies	Thursday 21st March
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)	Friday 12th April
Payment due for Manor Adventure	Friday 12th April

### Summer Term 2019

Manor Adventure Trip	Friday 7th June to Monday 10th June
Children return to school	Monday 29th April
May Day Bank Holiday	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 1pm early finish on 19th July. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.

## BASED AT THE DORDON CLUB LONG ST. B78 1PZ

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

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