

**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:** **R**—Autumn Adventure, **Y1**—Toy Museum Trip, **Y3**—Dudley Canal Trip, **Y4**—Viking Workshop

## Team Birchwood – Parent Teacher and Friends

### Association of Birchwood Primary School

Team Birchwood (TBPS) are a committed and dedicated group of parents, carers, teachers and friends who support the school through a variety of different events that they run throughout the year. Their main objective is to run fantastic events that not only raise much needed funds to support improvement projects that have a direct impact on our children, but also at the same time provide our children with 'Rich Opportunities and Memorable Experiences'.

Last year Team Birchwood set themselves a very ambitious target of raising over £5000 in one year so that they could be registered as an official charity. I am very pleased to say that through a lot of hard work, time and determination, they managed to achieve this fantastic total. The benefits of being an official registered charity are that TBPS can now apply for grants and seek support from companies and organisations that are only able to support registered charities.

The money TBPS raise is spent directly on our children. Members of Team Birchwood attend School Council and Eco-Council meetings to talk directly with children about what they would like the money to be spent on. Recently TBPS have paid for a piece of Trim Trail equipment in our Lower School Playground and they are hoping to be able to sponsor a piece of Trim Trail equipment in our Upper School playground in the summer too. They also have plans to buy equipment, seating and canopy shelters to support the Eco-Council with the development of our wooded area.

This year Team Birchwood are hard at it again in their pursuit to raise even more funds to spend on our children. This week alone has seen TBPS invite parents and children from Reception to a Tea Party to welcome them to our school. On Thursday they also successfully ran two Movie nights, one for the Lower school and one for the Upper School. The children thoroughly enjoyed being able to watch a movie in school with their friends and tuck into a bit of cinema style food.

The next big event for TBPS is our hugely popular Christmas Fair. Preparations for this large event start in September at their Annual General Meeting and build over time right up until the day of the Fair. I am sure this year will be even better than before (if that is possible).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our wonderful volunteers from Team Birchwood for all the work, time and effort that they put into running the events they hold in school. I would also like to thank all our brilliant school staff, who help support at the events themselves, as well as giving a big thankyou to all the parents and pupils who attend. Our school really would not work without the team efforts of all!

Many thanks

**Mr N Coleman – Headteacher**



## TBPS - Our brilliant PTA

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

## Spotlight on Traffic around our school



At Birchwood we are keen to ensure we do all we can to help children learn how to stay safe on the roads, and this week saw us elect our new 'Road Safety Officers' in our Key Stage 2 classes. Their job is to help pass on safety messages to children about how to stay safe near to and when crossing roads.

We are also aware that our school is situated on a road which is very busy, especially at the start and end of the school day. Crossing and parking has become a real concern over recent months. We have been working very closely with local authorities to improve this situation and there will be work starting imminently to ensure that people park more considerably and safely outside of our school. Fencing will be erected and markings painted to clearly show the areas that must be left clear. In the longer term the road safety team from the local authority are hoping to install a puffin crossing which will improve things even further.

Please make sure you share the message with your children that being safe around the roads is important and show them how to cross the road safely at all times.

**Mrs Day - Associate Headteacher**

## Holidays in Term Time

Government legislation has tightened up very significantly in this area and it is now highly unlikely that holidays will be approved in term times. Apart from the fact that Government legislation is very strong in this area the school also does not support parents taking children out for holidays and missing vital lessons.

**Please DO NOT arrange holidays in term time**

## Food Tasting and visits in the local area

As we collect food allergy and local visit permission data as your child starts school at Birchwood, we will no longer be sending out individual letters when classes are food tasting or walking out in the local area.

If your child's circumstances change during their time at Birchwood, please contact the school and update your child's record as a matter of urgency.

## TEAM BIRCHWOOD NEWS

It was our pleasure to host the Reception Tea Party on Tuesday, we hope all the parents and children enjoyed it.

This week also saw the return of the ever popular Movie Night. We want to thank everyone for their support. We are still waiting for our final figure but we have raised in excess of £800 which is brilliant for the first event of the year!

Don't forget that by volunteering at any of the events throughout the year your child will be given FREE entrance to the End of Year Disco.

Join us at our next meeting on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 6pm in the Conference Suite. It is an informal meeting this time, we are just focusing on the Christmas Fair and getting the preparation underway! It would be great if you could join us and we would love you to get involved and share any new ideas. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to get involved please get in touch.

You can contact Team Birchwood by emailing [tbps2619@welearn365.com](mailto:tbps2619@welearn365.com)



## 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.

## School Twitter Account (@birchwoodprim)



I am delighted to announce that our school Twitter account is up and running and tweeting regularly.

We know that via your Smartphone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer that many of you are already Twitter users and we believe that a school Twitter account is an excellent way for you to stay up-to-date with what has been happening in school on a daily basis and as a way of informing you of future events.

If you access Twitter via a Smartphone and you **'Turn on mobile notifications'** you will receive a FREE text message with the details of each new Tweet that is added.

As Twitter is web-based we adopt exactly the same rules for our school Twitter account as we do for our school website. No photographs of your child will be displayed on Twitter if you have not given permission for your child's photo to be used.

Please note that the school will not respond to 'direct messages'. If you wish to contact the school, please do so via the usual methods.

We are always aiming to further improve our links between school and home and we hope that you will find this an exciting new initiative.

Please **'follow us'** and also spread the word to the wider members of the Birchwood community.



## Poppy Appeal



If your child would like to purchase a traditional poppy, please send in a small donation (we suggest no less than 20p).

We also have the following items available at a fixed price.

**Rulers £1.00**

**Erasers, Pencils, Sharpeners, Reflectors £0.50**

Items will be available to purchase from Monday 22nd October 2018.



Do you and your family enjoy  
**RUNNING, JOGGING OR WALKING**  
Come and Try

## ORIENTEERING

**Pooley Country Park**  
Pooley Lane, Polesworth  
B78 1JA  
**Saturday 20 October**  
**10am – 12noon**



# Reception Tea Party



This week saw our Reception parents enjoying refreshments and cake with their children.

Parents were welcomed into Reception to share their children's work and see all of the exciting things that the reception children have already been learning. They were even given a guided tour by the pupils.

Thank you to Team Birchwood (TBPS) for supplying the refreshments and transforming our school hall into a beautiful afternoon tea room.

If anyone would like to volunteer to support TBPS, please contact Leanne on [tbps2619@welearn365.com](mailto:tbps2619@welearn365.com)



## PANTS - The Underwear Rule

In school we teach children about how to keep safe and when they should tell adults about things that happen to them that seem wrong. The NSPCC have developed some really good rules to help children understand where and when it is wrong to be touched by another person. They call it the 'Underwear Rule' and use the word PANTS to help children understand the elements. We aim to introduce this to children shortly.



### How and when to start conversations with your child about keeping themselves safe.

The NSPCC suggest that small, open and honest conversations are the best way to introduce the 'Underwear Rule' to keep your child safe and talk about keeping safe. Inevitably your child will have questions, so listen carefully and attentively and be straightforward in your answers. You know your child best of all, so adapt the conversation and talk in a way that feels right for you both. Check out : [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) for excellent advice and resources to help keep your child safe and find out what we tell children in school.

**P**ants

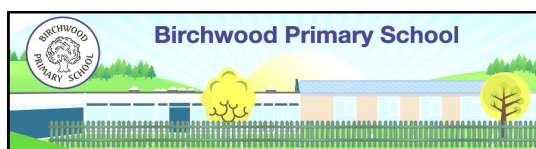


## P

### privates are private

Be clear with your child that the parts of their body covered by underwear are private. Explain to your child that no one should ask to see or touch their private parts or ask them to look at or touch anyone else's. Sometimes doctors, nurses or family members might have to. Explain that this is OK, but that those people should always explain why, and ask your child if it's OK first.

Next week **'A'**



### 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!

# Permanent Vacancy

## Admin Assistant

**Band D, Scale point 10, 15 hours a week (2 days with flexibility to cover extra time when needed)**  
**Actual Salary £5906.40**

We are seeking to appoint a dedicated, enthusiastic and knowledgeable Admin Assistant to join our office team.

Application forms and vacancy details to apply can be found on [www.wmjobs.co.uk](http://www.wmjobs.co.uk) or on our school website [www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com](http://www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com)

Deadline for applications is 12 noon on **Monday 5th November**.  
Interviews will take place on **Monday 12th November a.m.**



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

## DANCE & FITNESS CLASSES

**BALLET / TAP / MODERN /**

**COMMERCIAL JAZZ /**

**NATIONAL FOLK /**

**FLEXIBILITY /**

**ZUMBA / PILATES /**

**LBT / DANCE FIT /**

**PERFORMING ARTS**

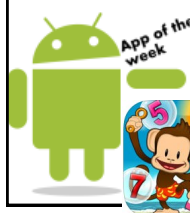
**+ GROUP & INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL TRAINING**

**07880 714532**

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

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## App of the week

### Monkey Maths

Fundamental maths skills for children aged 3-6 years

**Our  
chosen  
charity for  
2018/19 is  
NSPCC**

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.

[www.ocado.jobs](http://www.ocado.jobs)

