

Letters home this week:

## What's on in school next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2.20 pm Lower School Christmas Performance	2.20 pm Lower School Christmas Performance	2.15 pm Upper School Christmas Performance	2.15 pm Upper School Christmas Performance	Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day Early Finish 1pm

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

REMINDER : There are no music lessons or after school clubs next week!!

## Birchwood and British Values

Birchwood is a caring and nurturing environment, where children love to learn with each other. We are very proud of the ethos we have created and are determined to make sure that we continue to build on this, providing a school where all children can thrive. We value highly the importance of focusing on the social, emotional and educational needs of all of our children.

At Birchwood, we aim to instil in all children the core values of Modern Britain. It is important that we nurture these through all aspects of school life from the classroom, to the dining room and to the playground. Our one school rule – **CONSIDERATION AND RESPECT** – lies at the heart of all we value. We look for children to live and breathe these values throughout their time at Birchwood. It is not about a display or a poster, but about the lived experiences of children in our care.

'British Values' were identified by the government as part of its Prevent Strategy, and we reinforce these regularly in the following ways:

**Democracy:** Children have their voices heard through our School Council, Eco Council, Digital Leaders, House Captains, through Pupil questionnaires and classroom discussion.

**The Rule of Law:** The importance of Law are consistently reinforced through our school assemblies. Children are taught the value and reasons behind laws that govern and protect us. Children are rewarded for great behaviour and positive learning attitudes with dojos, certificates and postcards home. At the end of each week they earn their BASE skills time if they have been at their Birchwood best all week!

**Individual Liberty:** Children are encouraged and given freedom to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. Children know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms through our Online Safety and PSHE and circle time.

**Mutual Respect:** Our school ethos and positive behaviour policy revolves around 'Consideration and Respect'- our 'one school rule'. Assemblies and classroom learning rules reiterate positive messages.

**Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:** We offer opportunities to experience diversity through visits to places of worship and links to other schools in areas which are different to our own, enhancing children's understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.

When people visit Birchwood, they always talk about the 'positive atmosphere and feel of the place'. This is British Values in action – mutual consideration, respect and a supportive inclusive environment where all individuals are able to flourish. Each member of staff and child at our school are a key piece to our Birchwood jigsaw puzzle. Without any one of them, our school would just not be complete!

Mr N Coleman - Headteacher



## Consideration and Respect

All photographs can be purchased for £3 per A4 colour copy.

## Spotlight on Excellence this week is ...

### Science Day

This week saw our latest whole school 'Science Day' focused on heat and fire. Children from across school spent Monday busily investigating a whole range of scientific questions from topics as varied as how to keep heat in, to how long candles would burn and even the impact of the sun on their own shadows.

It has been amazing to see the wide range of types of investigation and ways of recording the children have been using, from their careful observation skills, to making accurate measurements using a whole variety of equipment and even creating line graphs of their findings. Some children have even been predicting what might happen if they did another investigation next Science Day based on what they now know!

I know that the children thoroughly enjoyed expanding their scientific knowledge and trying out their science skills in new ways and I can not wait to see what they get up to in their next science investigations!

Mrs M Day - Associate Headteacher

## ABSENCES—Important Reminder

Could we please remind you that if your child has been absent from school, a note is required when they return. Please include the following information:

- explain the reason for the absence.
- give the dates of absence.
- sign the note.
- provide medical evidence if applicable.

We require this note, even when you have phoned in each day. Once the note is received we are able to authorise the absence on our school system. Failure to supply a note may result in an unauthorised absence being recorded on your child's school record.

Please place the note in your child's 'From me to You' wallet. Thank you.



## 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 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.

## Going Green at Birchwood

We promised two weeks ago that we would reveal the name of our 'Fir Ever' living Christmas Tree. We are pleased to announce that we are calling him 'Tiny Tim' - inspired by the Charles Dickens Novel 'A Christmas Carol' written in 1843. We are hoping that once Tiny Tim is planted in our garden, he will grow to be strong and tall. Thank you Mrs Williams for this suggestion. We love it!



## Birchwood Primary School Website



Want to know what is 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

## DODGEBALL COMPETITION

On Tuesday 10th December the children in the Birchwood dodgeball team represented our school fantastically at the North Warwickshire Finals. They played really well, worked well as a team, and showed respect and consideration towards their opponents. They played 6 games over the course of the morning, winning two and drawing one to come 4th out of 7 teams overall.

We are really proud of how much they have improved following their first tournament, and the effort and co-operation they showed as a team.

Well done Birchwood!



CHILDREN  
& FAMILY  
SUPPORT



CHILDREN  
& FAMILY  
CENTRE

## Drop in for support and advice

For families, children and young people 0-19 years old, or 0-25 years with additional needs

When:

Wednesday 8th January 2020

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

Wednesday 5th February 2020

From: 1.30pm – 3.30pm

At: Buds Building Birchwood  
Primary School, Birchwood  
Avenue, Dordon B78 1QU

For all families in  
North Warwickshire



Warwickshire  
County Council

The Early Help and  
Targeted Support Team



# 12 Smartphone Online Safety Tips

## FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

The Christmas season has finally arrived and soon many of you will be opening your presents in the hope that Santa has listened to your request for the latest mobile phone or smart device.

Owning a mobile phone can be fun, but it's important to use it safely and responsibly. By following our safety tips below, you can make sure that you set up your phone securely, keep your personal information private and enjoy using your phone in the healthiest way possible.

### 1 ALWAYS SECURE YOUR PHONE WITH A PASSWORD

This will help to keep your private information safe and won't allow others to access your phone without your permission. Make sure your password is memorable and personal to you but something which other people can't guess, and always share it with your parents just in case you forget it.

### 2 DISABLE LOCATION SETTINGS

This can usually be done from the device's privacy control settings. Disabling location settings means that your phone can't be tracked by others and strangers can't tell where you are when you're using it. It also helps to save battery.

### 3 ALWAYS USE A SECURE WIFI NETWORK

When you use your WIFI at home usually it is a secure network that only you and your family know the password to. Public networks, like those in coffee shops, can be accessed by anyone which means that people could potentially hack into your device and access your personal information without you realising.

### 4 ONLY PAIR WITH BLUETOOTH DEVICES YOU KNOW

A Bluetooth connection with another device means that you can send and receive data wirelessly. For example, you could listen to music wirelessly or receive pictures and videos from your friends. However, pairing your phone with a device you don't know means that you could be sharing personal information with a stranger or could leave your device open to receiving viruses.

### 5 ONLY USE APPS WHICH YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO USE

Before downloading any new apps, always check the age-rating of the app. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain things that aren't safe for you to see.

### 6 BEWARE OF BECOMING ADDICTED TO YOUR PHONE

Your phone can be fun to use and it's easy to become too attached, whether it's keeping in touch with friends, discovering new features or downloading the latest apps. Remember it's always good to talk in person, go out and have fun and get regular exercise. This will keep you fit and healthy and make you appreciate there's more to life than just your mobile phone.

### 7 LIMIT YOUR SCREEN TIME

Using your phone for too long, particularly in the evenings, can make you feel tired at school, affect your concentration and make you lose interest in other things in life. Only use your phone at certain times of the day and don't use it close to bedtime. You can set a 'screen time limit' via the settings on your phone. This will help you stay fit and healthy and means that you will still be able to focus and perform well at school.

### 8 THINK OF OTHERS WHEN TAKING PHOTOS

Don't take embarrassing photos of other people on your phone. If other people get access to the photo and share it with more people, it could make that person really upset and treated as a form of bullying. Always be mindful of the photos you take using your camera and who you share them with.

### 9 MAKE SURE YOUR PARENTS SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This means that you will be able to use your phone safely and securely and won't accidentally do things you shouldn't do. The best time to do this is when you get a new phone or device so that you're protected from the very beginning.

### 10 ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR PARENTS IF YOU DON'T FEEL SAFE

Sometimes, even though your phone is really secure, you might see something you don't like, or someone might contact you who you don't know. If this happens, always tell your trusted adult like your parents, carers, other adult family members or a teacher, all of whom will be able to support you and advise you on what you should do next.

### 11 DON'T TEXT AND WALK

This might seem like a strange thing to say but it can be dangerous to stare at your mobile phone whilst walking outside alongside busy roads or bicycle paths. In some cases, children have been knocked over by cars or cyclists because they haven't been aware of their surroundings whilst texting or playing games on their mobile devices.

### 12 DON'T SHARE YOUR NUMBER OR YOUR DEVICE WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW.

Never feel pressured into sharing your phone number with people you don't know and don't lend your phone to strangers or keep it where others could get hold of it. Look after your device and always keep it hidden from sight to avoid it being stolen or broken into.



## TEAM BIRCHWOOD

Thank you to everyone who helped out at, donated to and visited the Christmas Fair. We hope that you all enjoyed it. We still have some figures to work out but we have raised over £2000, which is a great amount of money for the school.

We are pleased to announce that we have just funded a new stage for the school, which will arrive in time for the Christmas performances next week.

Photos taken in Santa's Grotto are currently being printed and will be sent home with children next week.

Thank you again for your continued support of Team Birchwood.



## Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance. Let us keep this service flying.

Are you planning on having a clear out of your wardrobe? If so, we have a collection point on site for any clothing, bedding, paired shoes, belts and bags if you would like to support our local air ambulance service. Look for the big yellow collection box to the right of the main school drive. This is emptied on a regular basis and the Air Ambulance Service appreciate all of the donations made. Thank you.

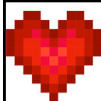


Please note that although we check the suitability of Applications, they can be changed without notice. Parents should therefore check the Application BEFORE children go on to them.



### Sandbox

Colour by numbers. Teach your children number recognition and work on fine motor skills.



## Academic Year 2018-2019

### Academic Year 2019/2020

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
<b>Reception Snowdome Trip</b>	<b>Wednesday 8th January</b>
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.

## 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 cameodance@rocketmail.com

Facebook Charlotte Kate Cameo

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

jobcentreplus



BASED AT  
THE DORDON CLUB  
LONG ST.  
B78 1PZ

### DANCE & FITNESS CLASSES

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07880 714532

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

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**ZELLWEGER UK.**  
Amount raised so far: £467.96