

Letters home this week: Y1 - Victorian Day, Y1-3 - Aston Villa, Y1-6 - Embody Dance, Y3-4 - Circus Skills, Y4-6 - Top Score, Y5-6 - Bake Off

What's on in school next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Open morning for new intake. 3.05 Embody Dance Y1-6	3.05 Aston Villa Multi Skills Y1-3 Drum and Guitar Lessons	KS2 Pantomime Trip 3.05 Elite Football Skills Y4-6	Clarinet Lessons 3.05 Boogie Bounce Y 4-6 3.05 p.m. Book Fair	Swimming Lessons - Oak 3 Cello Lessons TBPS Christmas Fair

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

REMINDER : Christmas Performance tickets have been sent home this week. Please check your child's bag!

Communicating and Celebrating our Achievements

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. Over the last couple of weeks we have sent out this term's reports and held our first parent's evening of this school year. We were overwhelmed by the positive comments and thanks from parents. These are always very much appreciated and well received.

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 also regularly feature in the Tamworth Herald.

We are constantly looking for new ways to share information with stakeholders. 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. Each year we also send home our Parent Information Directory. This provides parents with information about your child's year in school and the curriculum themes they will be following. These documents are also available on our school website.

We will continue to do our best to communicate effectively with all stakeholders at school and to share all the exciting things that we get up to at Birchwood. We are proud of our school and all that our children achieve.

Mr N Coleman - Headteacher



Cooking Up Success!

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

Spotlight on Excellence this week is

The importance of handwashing

This week we have been reminding children in school about the importance of hand washing and how to keep their hands clean. At this time of year, especially with colds, coughs and Norovirus so prevalent, it is important for everyone to remember to wash their hands well, particularly when we are about to eat or if we have had a sneezing or coughing episode.

On Monday, we shared these important messages with children in assembly, as well as reminding and modelling to them that washing your hands is far more than a quick rinse under a cold tap! To support this vital message, all our toilets in school have also had new handwashing posters to remind all our children to wash their hands after visiting the toilet.

With these simple ongoing reminders, both at home and school, we hope that the incidence of illnesses such as colds, flu, worms and Norovirus can be reduced in school, meaning that children will remain healthy and well throughout this time of year and beyond.

Mrs M Day - Associate Headteacher

Parking

Please may we remind parents/carers, that parking is not permitted in the schools car park. Please park courteously on the roads surrounding school. It is also important to ensure that driveways and pavements are not obstructed as this can prove dangerous for other road users, pedestrians and be frustrating for our neighbours.

Thank you for your support and co-operation.



Hand Washing.

Good hand washing hygiene is essential in school to help stop nasty bugs spreading amongst the pupils and staff.

Washing your hands properly should take about as long as singing "Happy Birthday" twice (around 20 seconds). Use the following steps from the World Health Organization while you hum:

1. Wet your hands with water (warm or cold).
2. Apply enough soap to cover all over your hands. You can use alcohol-based handrub if you do not have immediate access to soap and water.
3. Rub hands palm to palm.
4. Rub the back of your left hand with your right palm with interlaced fingers. Repeat with the other hand.
5. Rub your palms together with fingers interlaced.
6. Rub the backs of your fingers against your palms with fingers interlocked.
7. Clasp your left thumb with your right hand and rub in rotation. Repeat with your left hand and right thumb.
8. Rub the tips of your fingers in the other palm in a circular motion, going backwards and forwards. Repeat with the other hand.



Myths and Legends.....

'The school are very strict about holidays in term time'

In actual fact THE LAW is very strict about holidays in term time and the school has no choice!! The school is inspected by OFSTED to make sure it follows the rules properly and the Warwickshire Attendance Service (WAS) has a legal responsibility to monitor school attendance on behalf of the Local Authority, WAS will inspect registers and if unhappy will prosecute parents.

Parents often think it is the school that make up the rules, this is very wrong; the school must simply follow the rules laid down by others. We hate upsetting parents who we have a great relationship with, but we often feel at the sharp end of apparently being responsible for the law.

Birchwood Primary School Website



Want to know what is 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



Going Green at Birchwood

We are pleased to say that our new food waste recycling bins have now arrived and we have started to use them.

Our Christmas Tree also arrived this week. This will be up in school from next week. Each year our tree is given a name, last year it was Trudy, the year before it was Trevor..... Watch this space for the name this year!

We promised last week that our next recycling item would be about batteries. Today each child has been sent home with a 'Big Battery Hunt' collection box for used batteries. The box contains instructions on what to do and also contains important safety instructions. Please ensure you follow the instructions given to avoid any risk of harm. The box is to recycle AAA, AA, C and D batteries. Once the box is full this can be returned to school and emptied into the main battery recycling box. There is a mini puzzle on the box and the box can be coloured in by children if they wish to.

We look forward to seeing how many batteries we can collect over the next few months.



CHILDREN
& FAMILY
SUPPORT



CHILDREN
& FAMILY
CENTRE

Drop in for support and advice

For all families
in Warwickshire

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

Mondays: 12.30-3.30pm

At: Atherstone Children & Family Centre.

**Kings Avenue, Atherstone,
CV9 1JZ**



**The Early Help and Targeted
Support Team**



North Warwickshire Early Help & Targeted Support Team

Family Support Worker-Duty Line Telephone Number

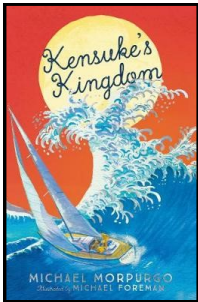
01926 412412

9am - 4pm Monday - Friday

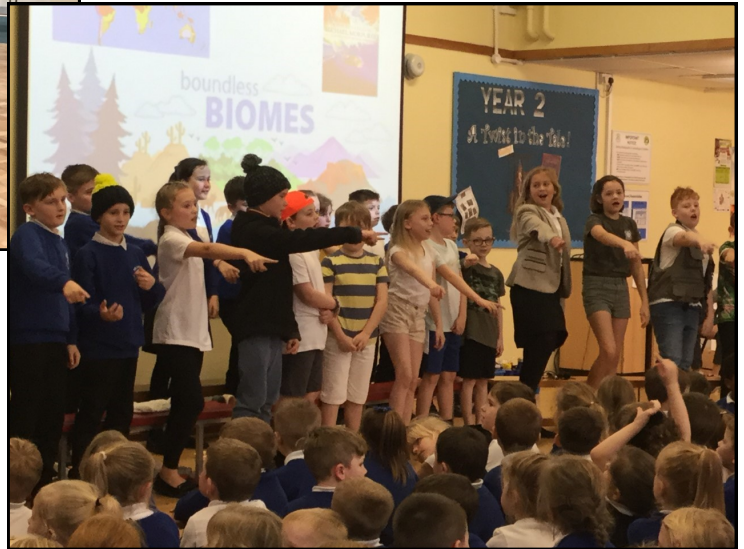
Year 5 Class Assemblies



Year 5 celebrated the works of Sir Michael Morpurgo with an assembly to parents inspired by the book 'Kensuke's Kingdom'. Parents were treated to a rousing rendition of Status Quo's 'Rocking all over the World' and an education poem about Savannas.

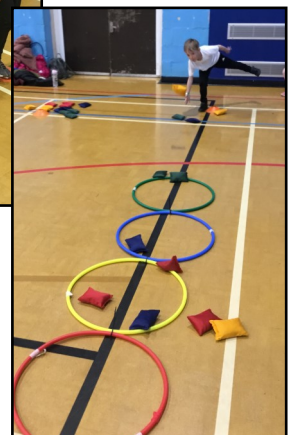


The pupils used their assembly as a vehicle to learning about the different biomes of the world.



Year 2 Infant Agility

On Tuesday 26th November the Year 2 Infant Agility Team took part in North Warwickshire Finals alongside Warton, Shustoke and St Edwards. Birchwood were fantastic! They won the Final and all received a gold medal. Birchwood have now progressed through to the next stage of the competition, competing against schools from Nuneaton and Bedworth. Year 2 cannot wait for the next competition.



CAMEO DANCE EST.2003

FUN CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASSES HELD IN POLESWORTH

Little Dancers from age 2 1/2

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

Academic Year 2019/2020

Autumn Term 2019

New Intake Morning	Monday 2nd December
KS2 Pantomime trip	Weds 4th December
TBPS Christmas Fair	Friday 6th December
Nasal Flu Immunisations	Tuesday 10th December
Y1 Polesworth Abbey Trip	Weds 11th December
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
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.



ZELLWEGER UK.

Amount raised so far: £467.96



Busy Things

Another great problem solver app for younger children from busy things.



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Birchwood Primary does not endorse any of the services, or products advertised and does not give any representation or warranty about any of the organisations. Birchwood Primary School is not an agent for any of these organisations and any enquiry concerning their services and/or products should be referred directly to them.

SCHOLASTIC

COME TO OUR
BOOK FAIR!
Your Ticket to Read!

ALL BOOKS HALF PRICE

Our Christmas book fair will be open on Thursday 5th December after school in the library.

The book fair will also be open during our Christmas Fair on Friday 6th December and again after school on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th December.

Children who would like to visit our book fair must be accompanied by their adult.

FAMILY SUPPORT

For parents who would like to speak to a Family Support Worker for advice, please contact:

North Warwickshire Early Help & Targeted Support Team

Family Support Worker Duty Line Telephone Number

01926 412412

9am - 4pm Monday to Friday

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

jobcentreplus

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.