



Emails/Letters home this week: All—World Book Day, Full School Opening

What's on in school next week?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

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

REMINDER : Parents please use birchwoodparents@welearn365.com when emailing school.

Our Brilliant Birchwood Children

We were all really pleased to hear the latest announcement this week regarding the details and associated dates of our road map out of this pandemic, starting with all children returning to schools on Monday 8th March. We are all really looking forward to reopening our school fully and welcoming back all our children to Birchwood.

Since the decision to close all schools on 5th January, all of our children have continued their education remotely. Two thirds of our children have accessed this from home and the other third from inside school. Remote learning has been challenging for everyone! Staff at Birchwood have done their very best to provide a platform and structure to support children at home and in school, our parents have had the difficult job of juggling the demands of supporting their children with their learning at the same time as dealing with their own home and work life commitments, and our children have had to try and engage in their learning in a way that no other children have ever had to do before.

I think all of our children deserve huge credit for the positive way they have approached the last 2 months. Each and every one of them have been brilliant and I am really proud of all of them. Our staff in school cannot wait to see them all in person and tell them to their face how brilliant we think they have all been.

Every child in school has continued to engage fully in their education. Over the last 7 weeks we have had on average 94% of our children join in with each of the live lessons every day and over 90% of them sharing their follow up learning with their class teachers at the end of each day. For our other children, they have been supported with learning through printed materials and workbooks that have been shared with families weekly from school.

We will be taking a very positive approach to supporting our children when they return to school. It really disappoints me to hear all the negative perceptions that are thrown about in the media. Terms like 'Lost generation', 'Catch up', 'Gaps in Learning' and 'Falling behind' are hardly ways of congratulating the children for all the effort, commitment and resilience they have shown.

When children return, we want to spend some time initially supporting our children to re-establish friendships and relationships in school and provide opportunities to cover things that they have generally missed out on like after school clubs and activities. These will be planned and organised over the next few weeks so that they can all start up again straight after Easter.

Thanks again to everyone for all your support, effort and commitment.

Mr Coleman - Headteacher



Friendships and Relationships!

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

Spotlight this week is on...

.... Lilith on Mars



You will no doubt have seen the news coverage of the successful landing of NASA's Mars Perseverance Rover on Mars which has seen incredible footage sent back to Earth while the rover begins its mission to collect samples from the 'Red Planet'. However what you probably did not know, is that also on Mars is the name of one of Birchwood's own pupils. Lilith Hollowood, in Hazel 1, has her name stencilled onto the rover. She signed up as part of NASA's 'Send your name to Mars' campaign and was lucky enough to have her name added and sent into space, and on the 18th February touch down in the Jezero Crater. She received a fantastic boarding pass from NASA which you can see above.

Lilith was delighted when the rover successfully landed last week, and we can safely say that she is the first of our pupils to make it to Mars! As you can see, superhero inspired Lilith is already aiming for the stars, so maybe one of our pupils will be in space in person in the future.

Mrs Day - Associate Headteacher

Academic Year 2020-2021

Spring Term 2021

Children Return to school **Monday 8th March**
World Book Day **Friday 12th March**
 Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks) **Thursday 1st April**

Summer Term 2021

Children Return to School **Monday 19th April**
 May Day **Monday 3rd May**
 Half Term (1 week) **Monday 31st May**
 Professional Development Day **Monday 7th June**
 Professional Development Day **Friday 18th June**
 Term Ends for Summer **Wednesday 21st July**
 Children Return to School **Monday 6th September**

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 early finish on 21st July. If this will cause you any

Who's Who this week ...

Mrs Calloway

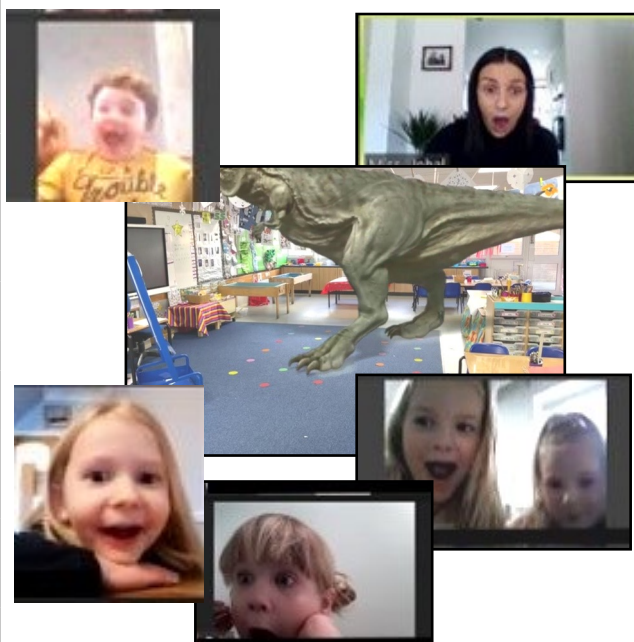


Hello, my name is Mrs Calloway, you will find me in Maple 3 class in a morning. I have been part of the Birchwood Team for about 20 years, when my own 2 girls attended the school.

In the afternoons, I cover classes for PPA. This is a privilege for me, as this allows me an opportunity to interact with different aged children, in both Key Stages. When I am not at school, you will find me cooking at home (usually baking cakes). I enjoy reading, going to the cinema, walking, mindful colouring or shopping. My girls call me the "Bargain Queen," as I love a bargain.

Working at Birchwood is a real pleasure, I really love seeing the children thrive and mature, through their 'journey' at Birchwood school.

T-Rex Visits Reception



Our Reception children watched video footage of a dinosaur in their classroom this week and as you can see they were very shocked.

Birchwood Best Practice

Themes and Topics

At Birchwood, throughout the academic year, children immerse their learning in a variety of themes and topics.



This can be achieved by dressing up as a Viking, or a pirate, or a Victorian child or even a passenger boarding the SS Titanic. They learn about Stone Age, WW2, Space, Blue Abyss, the list goes on...

Children get the chance to research in books, leaflets, on the internet and interview visitors, to explore the theme they are learning about. The Maths, English, Guided Reading, Science and all the curriculum subjects, link to the theme that they are doing, overlapping and embedding their learning.

I love seeing the children engaged in their learning. They never fail to amaze me with the facts they can recall about what they have learned or found out!

Mrs Calloway.



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The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

Tuesdays & Fridays 5:30 – 7:30

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Math Kids

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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.