

Letters home this week: ALL - Menus, Glow Day, R - Phonics,

What's on in school next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				Glow Day

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

REMINDER : The second Home Learning stop off date is Monday 19th October

Remote Learning Offer

Where a child, class, group or small number of children need to self-isolate, or there is a local lockdown requiring children to remain at home, the DfE expects schools to be able to immediately offer them access to remote education. Schools should ensure remote education, where needed, is high-quality and aligns as closely as possible with in-school provision.

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson has said:

'The best place for children and young people to learn is in the classroom, which is why we made it a national priority to get all pupils back into schools and colleges full-time, and why I have been so pleased to see millions of them returning over the past few weeks.

We have also, as we would expect, seen small numbers of students self-isolating in line with public health advice. It's vital these students have access to high quality and consistent remote education.

At Birchwood we have a Remote Learning Contingency Plan in place to support our children in the event of isolation or lockdown.

For individual children having to self-isolate we have a remote learning offer that is accessible from children's eSchools class pages. These link directly to lessons delivered by Oak National Academy. As well as being able to access daily Maths and English lessons linked to Year Group objectives, teachers have also planned out topic lessons that link to the themes being covered in school. Each half term the lessons planned will be changed to support the new theme being covered in school. With the Maths and English lessons, we advise children to always start with the Monday lesson which is the beginning of the unit no matter what their first day of isolation. As the sessions are relatively short (30 minutes on average) children can complete more than one session a day to ensure that they cover the unit of learning. Children have all been shown in class how to access their remote learning and our Office Staff will also talk parents through this process over the phone.

Children will have the option of uploading their learning onto eSchools through the projects tab, or they can keep a copy of all the learning they have completed and bring that to share with their teacher when they are back in school. Class teachers will regularly review any work uploaded onto their class eSchools page and will happily provide feedback on any learning shared on the child's return to school. After 2 or 3 days off school, class teachers will also make a wellbeing call home to support children and parents with their remote learning. This will be followed up by a call each week after as required.



Technology Supported Learning

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

continued.....Parents are also encouraged to phone or email into school in-between time, should they require any further support.

In the event that a whole class or year group have to isolate, or that there is a local lockdown requiring children to stay at home, we have a more advanced remote learning offer that will be supported on a daily basis by class teachers. The eSchools class pages will be used by class teachers to share daily learning activities that can either be completed online or physically. Teachers will conduct three zoom briefings a day, providing guidance and instructions to parents and children, to support access to the learning tasks set. Zoom invites will be sent out to parental email addresses shared with school. The zoom morning briefing will take place at 9:00am, the late morning briefing at 11:00am and the afternoon briefing at 1:00pm.

If internet accessibility causes any issues at home, we can offer some technical support. We also have a range of published materials that we can send home to support our children's learning.

We hope that we rarely have to provide remote learning, as we know that our children learn best when they are in school with their friends and teaching staff. But, in the event that children do have to spend time away from school, we will be supporting them to continue to make good progress with their learning as part of their educational entitlement.

Mr Coleman - Headteacher

Who's Who this week ...

Ella Webb - Yr 5 Teacher

Nature watching is one of my biggest passions. I really enjoy going for walks in the countryside and spotting birds, insects and other local wildlife. My favourite spots have included a bee fly in Tatenhill near Burton, a peregrine falcon in the Malvern Hills, a grass snake in the river Severn and a hummingbird hawk moth in our back garden. My husband Stephen and I encourage wildlife in our garden by allowing areas to grow wild and putting out bird food daily.



We share our home with four friendly cats: Bergerac, Thomas, Dexter and Hades. Each has his own personality and all have been rescued. Bergerac is a stocky blue and white ball of fur who believes he is a dog, and constantly has his belly on show ready for tickles. Thomas is an escape artist who enjoys getting into trouble. Dexter does an excellent wombat and Toothless impression from the animated film 'How to train your dragon'. Finally, Hades ensures that any insects that dare enter the house are dealt with swiftly. Outside of school, I enjoy taking part in quizzes and attending the Lichfield comedy night. I have been involved in bungee jumps, sky dives and 'The Three Peaks Challenge' to raise money for charity.

Birchwood Best Practice

Science

At Birchwood we believe that a high quality science education lays the foundations for understanding the world and developing the skills to ensure success in future learning. Science is an interconnected subject that has changed our lives and is vital to the world's future prosperity.

Our overall aim is to promote and develop a sense of excitement and curiosity about natural phenomena and teach children the skills of questioning, reasoning, prediction and analysis that will help them explain their understanding. We value the rich and varied language and vocabulary within our science curriculum and promote the understanding of this with pupils as it is a key factor in developing their understanding of scientific concepts and articulating themselves clearly and precisely.

Through a combination of both discrete lessons and thematic links, children develop understanding of the nature, processes and methods of science through different types of science enquiries that help them to answer scientific questions about the world around them. - **Mrs Webb**



Applying for a Secondary School Place

Children born between **01/09/2009 and 31/08/2010** are due to start Secondary School in September 2021. **The deadline for on-time applications is 31st October 2020.**

Warwickshire residents can make an on-line application for Primary and Secondary places at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applyforschool. You can also apply by calling 01926 742037 or 01926 742047.

If you are having trouble completing your application, please contact the school.



PUMPKIN TRAIL



The Polesworth Pumpkin Trail has been set up by people who live locally and is a coloured, zoned and numbered trail around the village. The idea is for families to download a trail sheet from the Facebook group and spot the pumpkins around the village. It will run from Friday 23rd October and end on Saturday 31st October. It is a non-contact event and can be completed over a number of days. Families can contact the group, The Polesworth Pumpkin Trail, on Facebook to obtain a number and have their own pumpkin if they wish.

The Parish Council are creating an extra special pumpkin display at the Tithe Barn, and children will be able to collect a sweetie prize for completing the pumpkin trail by visiting the Tithe Barn on Saturday 31st October between 3pm and 7pm.



Birchwood Primary School Website



Want to know what is happening in school? Go to **www.birchwoodprimarieschool.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**



Being Late for school

'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.

Healthy Lunchboxes

Top Tips.....

- Keep children fuller for longer - Base the lunchbox on foods like bread, rice, pasta and potatoes. Choose wholegrain where you can.
- Always add veg - Cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, celery and peppers all count towards their 5 A DAY.
- Swap the sweets - Swap cakes, chocolate, cereal bars and biscuits for malt loaf, fruited teacakes, fruit breads or fruit (fresh, dried or tinned – in juice not syrup).
- Get them involved - Get your kids involved in preparing and choosing what goes into their lunchbox. They are more likely to eat it if they helped make it.



Spotlight this week is ...

Communicating with parents

We are always looking for ways to improve how we work with parents especially improving our channels of communication which are so important. To support this we are launching a dedicated email address birchwoodparents@welearn365.com specifically for parents to communicate with school.

This email address is now the place for you to email in absence letters when your child has been away from school, copies of medical or dental appointment cards and letters, updates to any medical conditions for your children, changes to contact and address details, or changes to collection arrangements for children. In fact this is now the one place for you as parents to email in with any queries regarding your children and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Mrs Day

Associate Headteacher

FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

Aston Villa are pleased to announce that they will be back in Tamworth during Half Term for their October 2020 Soccer School. It will run for three days and will be filled with lots of activities, shooting practices, tournaments and ending in a presentation with certificates, medals and trophies.



Venue: Tamworth Enterprise College (4G)

Dates: Monday 26th - Wednesday 28th October 2020

Ages: 5-12 year olds

Please use the following pre booking link to book your place:

[https://tickets.avfc.co.uk/en-GB/events/tamworth%20soccer%20school%20-%20tamworth%20enterprise%20college%20\(october%20half%20term%202020\)/2020-10-26 9.30/soccer%20schools?hallmap](https://tickets.avfc.co.uk/en-GB/events/tamworth%20soccer%20school%20-%20tamworth%20enterprise%20college%20(october%20half%20term%202020)/2020-10-26%209.30/soccer%20schools?hallmap)

BIRCHWOOD LEARNING



REMINDER

Due to food orders, we ask children choose dinners or packed lunch for the whole week. Please could your child not switch their options during the week. Thank you.

GLOW DAY



To support the work we do in school on road safety, we are holding a 'Glow Day' on Friday 23rd October, to support the message of 'Be Bright Be Seen'. Children can wear their brightest clothes at school for a small donation towards our chosen charity which can be paid via Parent Pay or cash if necessary.

Throughout the day the children will be participating in a variety of road safety activities and competitions.



Academic Year 2020-2021

Autumn Term 2020

Glow Day	Friday 23rd October
Half Term (1 week)	Monday 26th October
Professional Development day	Monday 2nd November
Children Return to School	Tuesday 3rd November
Term Ends for Christmas (2 weeks)	Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2021

Professional Development Day	Monday 4th January
Children Return to School	Tuesday 5th January
Half Term	Monday 15th February
Professional Development day	Monday 22nd February
Children Return to School	Tuesday 23rd February
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

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 18th December & 21st July.
If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.

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.

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



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

Information leaflets and adverts sent or published by Birchwood Primary School

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.

Our registered charity 2020
ZELLWEGER UK.
Amount raised so far: £1060.46



School Uniform Reminder

Parents, please help us to maintain our smart school uniform at Birchwood. Children should come to school wearing black school shoes. Not only do these look smarter than trainers, but they are also better for your child's feet. Many school shoes nowadays are made of softer water proof materials that are plain, but look quite trainer looking. These are fine to be worn in school. Please do not buy trainers for your child to wear in school.

If your child is not able to wear school shoes for any reason, please can you let the class teacher know via the 'Me to You'. We understand that sometimes shoes get wet, or it takes time to replace them with a new pair.

Thank you for your continued support.



Jolly Phonic Letter Sounds

Helping children to read.



School Photographs

Your child's official school photographs are now available for you to view and order by using the website details and code brought home by your child on the day.



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