

Letters sent home this week— Y4—Sealife Centre/Synagogue Trip, Y6—Titanic Film Clips, Y2—Sam Silver Book Offer, Y2—Blakesley Hall

What's on in school after half term

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Professional Development Day—no children in school	Guitar Lessons 3.05pm Football Club Y1-3 3.05pm Bubbles Club Y4-6	Woodwind Lessons 3.05pm Football Club Y1-3 3.05pm Bubbles Club Y1-3	Violin & Keyboard Lessons 3.05pm Young Engineers Club Y3-6	Cello & Drum Lessons 3.05pm Musical Theatre Y3-6 3.05pm Multi Sports Y4-6

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

REMINDER: OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP IS OPEN FOR COLLECTIONS EVERY TUESDAY AT 3 PM

Positive Behaviour – Rewarding Brilliant Children

At a time when too many schools nationally are struggling with poor pupil behaviour, we are extremely proud that behaviour in our school is recognised by OFSTED and through our own internal monitoring as 'Outstanding'.

Our children are tremendously proud to be at Birchwood and continually demonstrate this with their exceptional behaviour when out of school. Our Teachers always receive positive comments from staff who work at the settings we visit and from members of the public about our well behaved, well-mannered and how enthusiastic our children are. Our children always look extremely smart in their school uniform and are a fantastic advert for our school.

At Birchwood we receive many visitors to our school. They regularly make comments to staff and myself about the friendly and caring atmosphere our school has and how polite and happy our children are. I also have many conversations with staff from companies and organisations that do a lot of work in our school and many of them tell me that Birchwood is by far their favourite school to visit and work in. I have heard numerous times 'Don't take it for granted Mr Coleman, not all schools are like yours'. For our staff and as Headteacher, that is a really nice and positive thing to hear and something that I am always pleased to be able to share with our children.

Relationships are key to the outstanding behaviour in our school. Our staff get to know pupils and their families well, building relationships based on mutual respect and consideration. Our staff are positive role-models and often go above and beyond for our children. Children feel happy and safe in school and tell us that they would approach any member of staff, should they need help or support.

Our policy on behaviour is to focus on the positives and look to reward excellent learning behaviours and manners in school. Consideration is our one word school rule and in assemblies and circle time we talk regularly about what consideration means, looks like and feels like in our school. We also feel it is very important to put children at the forefront of their own and others behaviour and therefore we use 'Stop It Please' to support this approach.

Every opportunity possible is taken to reward the children and in as many innovative ways as possible! At Birchwood we use 'Class Dojo' to support our positive behaviour system in school. Children receive 'presentation points', rewards for 'great attendance', 'never being late' and rewards from House Captains who each week spot children being 'extra considerate'. We also enjoy sending postcards home. This activity is completed in secret and is a great delight to parents and children when it arrives on a Saturday morning. Our special skills academy time on a Friday afternoon is a lovely way to reward all those children who have been brilliant all week and have tried their best.

We celebrate our children's achievement in public through press releases, via our website, twitter feed and newsletter and through entering and winning competitions. In celebration assemblies we also love to find out what our children have been achieving outside of school and love sharing their personal achievements with the rest of the school. Our children, without doubt, are the best thing about our school and make me proud on a daily basis.

Mr N Coleman - Headteacher



Positive Playtimes

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

Road Safety Zone– Work to begin outside Birchwood

I am very pleased to inform you that on Wednesday I received confirmation from Graham Stanley, a member from Warwickshire County Council Traffic and Road Safety Team, that work is due to start on our school safety zone outside Birchwood Primary School on Monday 18th February 2019.

The proposed plans include; a new permanent timber trip rail to replace the temporary cones the school puts out every day, a new footpath to accommodate a new uncontrolled crossing point, 7 new bollards placed either side of current crossing points, 'SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR' markings on both sides of the road outside school and new concrete bollards and school signs on the mini island. Access protection markings are also planned to be installed at all vehicular accesses along Dordon Road between Birchwood Primary School and The Polesworth School.

These works are expected to take all week and I am hopeful that they will all be completed by the time the children are back in school, after their half term break, on Tuesday 26th February.

I am extremely pleased that after 6 months of discussions between school and the Traffic and Road Safety Team, work on making the roads outside our school gates safer for our children and their families, is finally underway.

Mr N Coleman - Headteacher

Fly to the line

On Wednesday, 6 children represented Birchwood Primary in the 'Fly to the Line' regional finals in Telford. Even though we didn't make it to the next stage, we had an amazing experience and learnt so much from the very knowledgeable and supportive team.



Thank you for a great day.

@RAFMUSEUM
#FTTLUK



Author Skype

Our year 2 children have been reading the book 'Sam Silver Undercover Pirate Skeleton Island'. They were lucky enough to hold a Skype conversation with the two authors, Jan Burchett and Sara Vogler.

The authors asked the children to guess what was in the pirate sack by giving them clues. The children were able to ask the authors questions and finally they were treated to an extract of the book, read by the authors themselves!

Year 2 loved the experience and now cannot wait to write more stories using all of the tips they have learnt.

Permanent Vacancy

Midday Supervisor, Scale band B
6.25 hours per week - 11.50am to 1.05pm
Monday to Friday - term time only + training time (39 weeks)

Actual salary £2392.56 per annum

Birchwood is a very popular successful school recognised as 'an outstanding school' (OFSTED 2014/15). We are looking for a permanent member of staff to join our friendly, enthusiastic and committed team working with our well behaved and happy pupils.

Full training will be given, as well as all the support you need. This is a great opportunity to do something really rewarding, working with wonderful children and gain some valuable extra experience for that CV! Further details and application forms are available from the school office.

Completed applications should be returned to school no later than 12.00 noon on **Friday 1st March 2019**. Interviews will be held on **Wednesday 6th March 2019**.

Spotlight on Excellence this week is:

Technology in Action

This week I was lucky enough to be in the hall when year 2 had the exciting opportunity to take part in a skype call with Jan Burchett and Sara Vogler, the authors of the fantastic Sam Silver book series. Children were totally hooked and loved being able to ask the authors their own questions about the books they had been reading in their pirate theme. Clearly the authors enjoyed their conversation as the event featured on their blog that day too!

Using technology to enhance learning and engage children in this way is an important part of our ever evolving curriculum at Birchwood. We are always looking to build on the excellent practice we already have such as our trips out and visitors into school. However, technology such as skype or indeed immersive experiences such as Now>Press>Play can provide opportunities which would otherwise not be available and add a tremendous amount to the rich and varied learning experience of children.

Mrs M Day
Associate Headteacher

BLACK COUNTRY LIVING MUSEUM



On Thursday 7th February 2019, Year 5 went to visit 'The Black Country Museum' as part of their learning about 'The Victorians'.

Each group followed the trail of either Samuel Webb or Lillian Hodgkiss, two individuals who were born during the Victorian Era. Pupils followed a map, finding the different buildings that linked to these Victorians. These included the Toll House, Pawn Brokers, Shoe-repairers and Chain-makers.

Pupils also experienced what school life was like during the Victorian times. Year 5 attended a session with a very strict headmaster inside a real Victorian school. Boys and girls sat separately and recited their times tables. They used chalk and slate to write and had to say "Yes Sir," after each time the head master spoke.

It was a fabulous day and all the children enjoyed it! We had some lovely comments from members of the public and the staff at the museum, that complimented our pupils on their excellent behaviour and good manners.



Myths and Legends..

'Keep them off for 48 hours if they are sick'

We certainly don't want children to come in unwell, but in reality children often do not need to stay off for 48 hours if they are sick. Children can be ill for all sorts of reasons and often not because of a bug. In reality it is parents who are the best judge and for them to decide that it is OK to come back early. However if Norovirus ('winter vomiting bug') is diagnosed, we certainly recommend that children stay off for 48 hours.

Reminder—Absence Notification

Can we please remind **all** parents that on your child's return to school following an absence, we still require a **signed letter** confirming the reason. This should be a separate note and not on the 'Me to You'. Failure to adhere to the above policy may result in an "unauthorised absence" being recorded on official school registers.

Birchwood Primary School Website

Want to know what's 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



Busy Things
Another great
problem solver app for younger children

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.

NSPCC

Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

NSPCC fundraising so far this year is :
£1300.75

Thank you very much for all of your support.

CAMEO DANCE EST.2003

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Little Dancers from age 2 ½

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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

Spring Term 2019

Half Term (1 Week)	Monday 18th February
Professional Development Day	Monday 25th February
Children return to school	Tuesday 26th February
Late Parents Evening	Weds 6th March
Early Parents Evening	Thursday 7th March
Year 3 Class Assemblies	Thursday 21st March
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)	Friday 12th April
Payment due for Manor Adventure	Friday 12th April

Summer Term 2019

Manor Adventure Trip	Friday 7th June to Monday 10th June
Children return to school	Monday 29th April
May Day Bank Holiday	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 1pm early finish on 19th July. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.



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