

Letters home this week: YR1 - Polesworth Abbey, ALL - School Dinner Menu

What's on in school next week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3.05 Embody Dance Y1-6	3.05 Aston Villa Multi Skills Y1-3 Drum and Guitar Lessons	3.05 Elite Football Skills Y4-6	Clarinet Lessons 3.05 Boogie Bounce Y 4-6	3.05 Top Score Football Y1-3 Swimming Lessons - Oak 3 Cello Lessons 3.05 Musical Theatre Y2-6

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

REMINDER : Please return your Christmas Ticket order by Monday 25th November.

New Education Inspection Framework

We are very proud to be considered an 'outstanding school', recognised by OFSTED in 2014/15, but our excellent reputation in the local community means far more to us. We have several very good Primary Schools in our local area, who also have good reputations, which makes being considered the first choice for many parents even more of an achievement. At Birchwood we remain a full and very popular school.

Our whole school approach, since receiving such positive feedback from OFSTED, has always been to continue to look for improvements in our practice and to do things to the best of our ability. Recent improvements made in school include 'Home Learning', which has gone down brilliantly with children, parents and staff, BASE skills academy to support children's excellent behaviour, positive changes to lunch time arrangements and a new programme of Monitoring, Evaluation and Support to ensure the highest standards are achieved at our school. Our children are at the centre of all decisions and actions taken in school. Our children deserve the very best education and experiences and it is our job to ensure that this is what they get!

Birchwood is a much better school 5 years on from its last inspection. All of the excellent practice recognised then, has been embedded and we have developed and grown as a school since. Our staff in school are brilliant. We have managed to secure the services of all of our great Teachers and Teaching Assistants and have also made some really positive appointments across school during this period.

In September OFSTED introduced the new 'Education Inspection Framework'. The biggest change to inspections will be the focus on the real substance of education: the curriculum. Inspectors will spend less time looking at test data, and more time looking at what is taught and how it is taught. They will consider how a school has achieved their results. OFSTED want to make sure that good results come from teaching a broad, rich curriculum, that reflects real learning, not just intensive preparation for a test or to move up to the next 'stage'. Ofsted grades will reflect the areas that matter most to parents: quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, and leadership and management.

The new Education Inspection Framework now requires all areas to be judged as outstanding, for the school to receive 'outstanding' as an overall judgement. There is now also an increased focus on the quality of education, the curriculum and all foundation subjects. The latest data from OFSTED, reported



Our Birchwood Best!

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

Continued.....

that "more than half of previously outstanding schools lost their top grade at their most recent inspection" - BBC.

So how would Birchwood fair under the new inspection framework?

Under the previous inspection framework, that used a 'best fit' judgement to summarise standards, practice at Birchwood would still have been recognised as outstanding. We have a fantastic rich, broad and balanced curriculum at Birchwood and I am confident that we would still be recognised as an outstanding school, even under the raised expectations of the new framework. I expect our school will be re-inspected within the next 2 years. In the meantime, we will continue to do all we can for the children at our school on a daily basis. I can assure all parents that we never do anything just for inspection purposes. If it does not benefit and improve standards for our children, then we do not do it in our school.

Thank you all for your continued support of our brilliant school.

Mr N Coleman
Headteacher

Warwickshire Primary Mental Health Team **North Warwickshire District – 2019/2020**

The next Parent Information session will be:-

Understanding Sensory Needs in school aged children.

You will learn about sensory processing in children/young people and gain an understanding of how it affects them in their day to day life. You will learn about your child's sensory needs and how you can support them to better manage their anxiety, low mood and other common mental health difficulties. You will learn practical strategies & techniques to try at home to manage your child/young person's sensory needs and will also find out where you can access local support if you are worried about your child's emotional wellbeing. This will be held on 2nd Dec 2019, The Ratcliffe Centre, Ratcliffe Road, Atherstone, CV9 1LF.

PLEASE NOTE, these sessions are for parents/carers ONLY & booking is ESSENTIAL.

Please do NOT bring children to these sessions

Please email

risecommunityoffer@covwarkpt.nhs.uk



Spotlight on Excellence this week is

'Wellbeing hub drop in'

This week saw our very first 'Wellbeing drop in' for parents held in the Buds room on site. This event began as part of our ongoing commitment to support the wellbeing of children and families, and in response to feedback from parents. We were thrilled to be able to welcome representatives from Young Carers, MIND, COMPASS (the school health and nursing service) and our local Barnardos Children's Centre in Atherstone to the event to offer their support and advice to parents.

These informal events will continue to be offered each term, and from the feedback given by the parents and grandparents who attended the first one, they were very useful. Thank you to everyone who attended.

If you would like support in between times, please remember to come and chat to Mrs Day, Mrs Spies or Mrs Webb in school who are always happy to provide help, guidance and support. We would also draw your attention to the fact there is now also a drop in advice and support service for parents available at the Atherstone Children and Family Centre, Kings Avenue. This session runs between 12.30 and 3.30pm on a Monday.

Mrs M Day

Associate Headteacher



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.

Going Green at Birchwood

Our mission is to make Birchwood a much greener place! We have already started by ordering new bins from a company that will take away our food waste and turn it into bioenergy. This means that instead of our waste food from break and lunch times being taken to landfill, it will now be used to create power for the national grid.



Our school will receive regular reports on how much energy has been created with the waste and we will share this with the children in assemblies and with you on our newsletter when we receive it.



This year we have also decided to purchase a rooted 4ft Christmas Tree, which we will have in our foyer during December, as we have done in previous years. Our plan is to then plant the tree in the school garden alongside the conference room, so that it can flourish and grow (we are informed that each year the tree should grow approximately 1ft taller.) Each

year going forward, we will adorn the tree with outdoor lights every December, for all to enjoy.

JARS



We are collecting jars for craft projects in preparation for the Christmas Fair. If you have any empty jars that you could donate, please can you bring them into school by Friday 29th November.

It is safe to re-use glass jam jars occasionally as long as the jars are properly washed. If jam jars are re-used, they should be free from chips and cracks, and should be sterilised prior to each use. Well-fitting lids will also minimise any hygiene risks to the food in the jars. The school will also make sure that all jars are sterilised before use.

The regulations on food contact materials, which may limit the re-use of jam jars, apply to businesses.

These regulations are highly unlikely to apply to the use of jam jars for occasional community and charity food provision. If you have any concerns about the re-use of jam jars, contact your **[local authority food safety team](#)**

RAMBLE FOR PUDSEY



Birchwood children braved the cold and wet last Friday to raise £348.09 for Children in Need on their Ramble for Pudsey.

"I really liked connecting with my friends by having a chat on the way round." - William

"I enjoyed it when I noticed a Magpie going back to it's nest up in a tree." - Lucy

"It was great fun but I got quite hot in my coat, so if I go rambling again I would wear a different coat." - Archie



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.

YOUNG CARERS

We recently had the pleasure of welcoming Amy Agnew into school from Young Carers Warwickshire. She was here to present Birchwood with the Silver Schools Award for our high standard of provision and support for the young carers in our school.



Everyone has a mental health

For some, the mere mention of the word mental health conjures up negative images and many people do not believe it is a relevant term for them. At Birchwood, we are working hard to dispel the myth that mental health is irrelevant for most people.

With the children, we explain that our overall well-being is made up of our physical health (how well our body works) and our mental health (how we feel about ourselves and manage our emotions), and that both are equally important. To look after our physical health, we brush our teeth twice daily, eat a balanced diet, and try to get in 30 minutes of exercise a day and much more. To look after our mental health, we try to include the following 5 activities over the day: connect with people (through games, phone calls and learning), be active (physical activity that raises our heart rate), give (by helping others), learn (try new experiences and persevere to accomplish a target) and notice (taking time for quiet activities such as self-reflection, nature spotting, listening to music).

Just like with our bodies, sometimes we need to ask for help when something goes wrong. If we developed an illness such as anaemia or had an accident which resulted in a broken leg, we would go to the doctors and would let people know we needed help. The same is true for mental health. If adverse life experiences such as family break up, the loss of a loved one or other traumatic experiences occur, people need to feel able reach out for support until they are able to manage on their own again. If people are not allowed to talk about their difficult feelings and thoughts, they often end up struggling alone which can lead to the feeling of being overwhelmed. At this point, more severe problems can occur because the original problem was not dealt with. For lots of people, the opportunity to talk and ask questions will be enough to get them through these difficult times. However, sometimes additional support is required.

At Birchwood, we ensure that all staff receive relevant training and know the importance of mental health. We also continually source new training and services to support our pupils and families. Many of these contacts and the service they offer can be found on the school's website under the wellbeing tab. If you would like to talk about any of the subjects raised in this article, please feel free to contact either myself (Mrs Webb- Deputy SENDCo), Mrs Day (SENDCo and Deputy Head) or Mrs Spies (Pastoral Support Assistant) via the school office.

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

Y5 Class Assemblies	Thursday 28th November
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



Monster Numbers

A cool maths game that combines fun and education.



**BASED AT
THE DORDON CLUB
LONG ST.
B78 1PZ**

DANCE & FITNESS CLASSES

BALLET / TAP / MODERN /

COMMERCIAL JAZZ /

NATIONAL FOLK /

FLEXIBILITY /

ZUMBA / PILATES /

LBT / DANCE FIT /

PERFORMING ARTS



GROUP & INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL TRAINING

07880 714532

www.TJHDANCEANDFITNESS.CO.UK

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.

TEAM BIRCHWOOD



Once again thank you for all of your kind donations.

If you have forgotten to bring anything in and would still like to, we are happy to receive more donations of bottles and chocolates.



We are looking for Christmas cracker donations next week. (Full sized ones not mini please.) Santa's Grotto ticket's are on sale every day next week after school in the Conference Room, priced at £3 per child.

Please contact us or speak to the office if you are unable to purchase these after school.

If you would like to help at our Fair, it is not too late to get involved, please contact us at tbps2619@welearn365.com.

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

<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.