

Letters home this week via email: Y6 children in school –Relationship Education

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 :Regular hand washing is vital to help stop the spread of harmful germs.

Reopening of Birchwood

On Monday 1st June we were finally able to reopen our school doors to a wider number of our children. After having been closed for ten weeks to all but our priority children, this was an important step to be able to begin our phased return from lockdown. This week we have welcomed back children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 and have also had an increase in the number of priority children in our Year 2/3 and Year 4/5 groups.

During the three weeks since the announcement from the Government about a possible reopening of Primary schools, a lot of planning and preparation has taken place to support our school to reopen as safely as possible.

The site team have worked very hard to ensure that social distancing could be maintained inside and outside of our school building. Our one way system has ensured that all of our children can be dropped off and collected from school safely. They have also updated risk assessments, ordered new resources, removed furniture that is not required, ensured that school has undergone a full deep clean and have organised for additional cleaning arrangements to be in place during this period.

Our administration team have been busy setting up new class groups and registers, they have been providing new attendance information to the DfE, Local Authority and Trust and have been communicating regularly with families via phone calls and emails.

Our Senior Leadership Team have been creating new staffing teams to support our class groups, creating new timetables for staggered start, break, dinner and closing times, held meetings and training with all staff to share key information and have revised school policies and protocol to support the reopening of school.

Our Teaching staff have also spent lots of time planning curriculum content to support children's learning both inside and outside of school. Staff have carefully planned in children's transition back into school to support their wellbeing and to recap previous learning. From next week children will be moving onto their next phase of new learning.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all staff at Birchwood for their continued support, efforts and hard work. It has been so much nicer to have more children back in school this week. At times during school closure, Birchwood has felt empty and lonely. Seeing all the children smiling and enjoying being back in school was lovely. All the positive comments shared by parents this week were also very much appreciated by all.

Mr Coleman - Headteacher



It is still Birchwood - But not as you know it

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

Spotlight on Excellence this week is ...

Our Wonderful Staff

2020 has certainly been a very different year for Birchwood and our dedicated team of staff. This week has seen us welcome back children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, into a school that has been in lots of ways very different from the school we know. However, the staff within it, remain the same. Committed to ensuring that the children in our school are safe and happy, and learning together.

Over the last few weeks, staff across our school, not just senior leaders and teaching staff working in our classrooms but also our site and cleaning teams and our administration teams, have worked tirelessly to make sure that even though we might not have been able to have children in school, we were still as much as possible learning together. This is in addition to supporting the wellbeing of families and then preparing school for reopening in an entirely new way under government guidance. Their endless enthusiasm and commitment to the children has never wavered.

You will be able to find out more about our wonderful staff from across school in the new weekly 'Who's Who' feature starting this week in our newsletter, and about the things that interest them in school. Keep an eye out to find out more about your school team!

Mrs Day - Associate Headteacher

Who's Who this week ...

Mrs Jackson

Hi, I joined Birchwood in June 2015 as Office Manager, having previously been Office Manager at Wood End Primary School. Prior to this I worked as Student Welfare Officer and Receptionist at QE Secondary School in Atherstone. Altogether, 18 year experience of working in schools and the ever changing world of education administration.

I like to get involved in all aspects of school life and love being part of the big team of Birchwood Staff. But the best bit of my job is seeing the children every day.

Outside of work, I am mum to three girls, two adult and living independently and my youngest is at home and attends The Polesworth School.

In my spare time I love to walk with my dog, enjoy gardening and reading. I love to get involved in all sorts of events going on in the community and I also support The Phantom Knights Marching Band, where my youngest daughter is a member. There is never a dull moment, as my husband says, I am always buzzing around and never sit still!

I work with a great team in the school office and together we work to support the school staff, children and parents, all making up our Birchwood family.



Birchwood Best Practice

Office Management, Finance and Human Resources

My position title is Office Manager and I oversee the day to day running of the school office and lead the office team, but my main role in school is supporting Mr Coleman with Finance and HR matters.

It is my job to ensure that all bills received at Birchwood are paid in a timely manner and Mr Coleman and I meet on a regular basis to discuss budgets and to monitor spending levels along with our Finance Support Officer from the central team. Schools do not have a vast amount of money to spend, so it is very important that we are always getting best value and sourcing reliable contractors and suppliers to get the best for our Birchwood children.

Alongside my finance role, I am responsible for all administration tasks for personnel, ensuring that all staff information is always up to date and any new starters have been cleared through all of the appropriate checks and have a contract of employment issued before they start work at school. Part of my role is also to check payroll on a monthly basis. I hope this gives you a little snapshot of my role here at Birchwood.

Thank you. Mrs Jackson.



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.
9. Rinse hands with water (warm or cold).
10. Dry thoroughly, ideally with a disposable towel.
11. Use the disposable towel to turn off the tap.



Polesworth Village Support Group

LOGO COMPETITION

Over 65 local villagers came together to form the Polesworth Village Support Group, initially to help those shielding, vulnerable and elderly with their prescriptions and shopping, however, this group and the support it is offering has grown and developed.

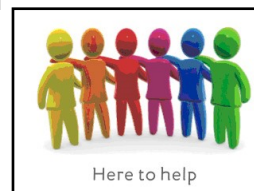
Currently they are offering services for vulnerable families and those who are unable to leave the village such as collecting medicines and shopping; a mother and toddler group as well as practical support from organising burst water pipes to be fixed to mowing the lawn of elderly residents.

In addition, to date over 3400 people have been fed from their weekly food hub held at the Tithe Barn, and weekly over 60 persons are receiving a freshly cooked Saturday evening dinner through their meal on wheels service.

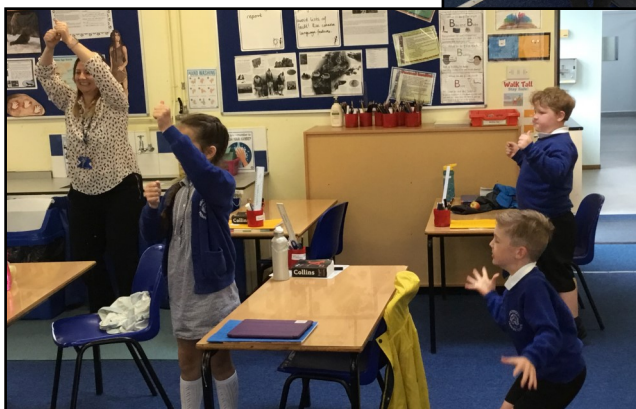
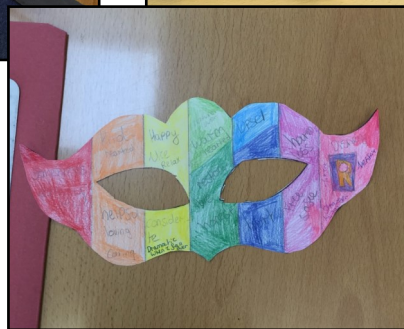
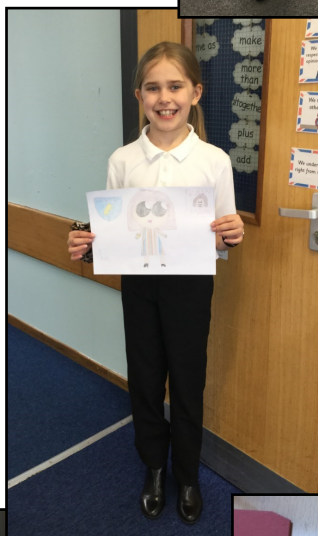
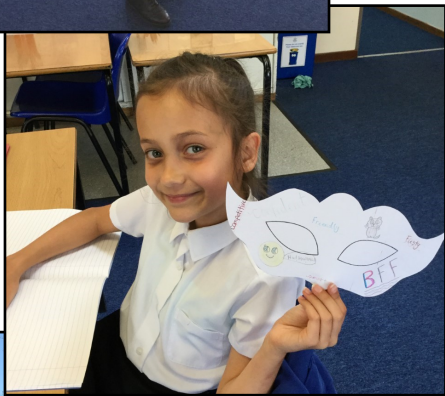
As we move forward, the group has been formalised in order to support more families in Polesworth. We are therefore running a competition for our younger residents.

We would like them to design a logo which we could use in our correspondences, banners, volunteer t-shirts etc.

- The parent's will need to upload a photo of the child's logo entry onto our group Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/661850417924063/> with their first name, age and school (but no photo of the child).
- The winner will be announced on Friday 19th June and the winner will be invited to join us on our Superhero themed Donation Drive on Saturday 27th June.



BIRCHWOOD BUBBLES





Our registered charity 2020
ZELLWEGER UK.
Amount raised so far: £862.51

Academic Year 2019-2020

Term Ends for Summer Friday 17th July
 Children planned return to school Wednesday 2nd Sept
 If term time is back to normal

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 17th July. If this will cause you any problems, please speak to a member of staff.



You can follow us on Twitter at:
@BirchwoodPrim or
The Birchwood Website



Let's do Mental Maths !
 Practise mental maths skills against the clock



Parking

Please may we remind parents/carers that parking is not permitted in the school's 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.



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

jobcentreplus

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

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.

PROTECT YOUR BUBBLE

One fun way that has been introduced to ensure children maintain social distance is the concept of 'the bubble'. The idea being that children are all in their own bubble, they must protect their bubble, if someone is too close then their bubble will pop! Children are to use the phrase 'Watch my bubble please' when children know others are too close.

Be a Bubble Protector

Stand 6 foot steps away from your friends.
 And if a friend comes too close, say:
"Watch my bubble, please."



This new idea has been shared with children and re-enforced regularly through the school day, but it is a fantastic way for children, whether back in school or not, to visualise social distancing so that they can help protect themselves.



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