

Letters home this week: Big Bounce event, Times Table Rock Stars Y2-6, Boy in the Striped Pyjamas Y6, Stone Age to Iron Age Y5, Tamworth Castle Y1.

What's on in school after the Christmas Break.

| Monday 6th Jan | Tuesday 7th Jan | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Inset day. No children in school | Children return to school. | Reception - Snowdome Trip | Nasal Flu Immunisations for children who missed first session | 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 : If the weather is icy, please follow entry instruction signs when you reach school.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

Christmas is a very busy time for all, not least for those who are involved in schools. This year we are breaking up relatively late and I know that adds pressure, on all those connected, to make sure they are ready for their Christmas holiday. I do hope you are all far more prepared for the Christmas period than I am. I fear I still have a lot to do once we break up and look forward to finally relaxing on Christmas day.

In school our staff and children have been working really hard over the last couple of weeks. Our children continue to make us proud for not only their 'outstanding' behaviour, but also for their hard work and incredible enthusiasm, which was so evident in our recent Christmas performances. It was really nice to have some traditional Christmas songs in both the Lower and Upper school productions. This is something we will look to continue with in future years. The children's singing was delightful and it is great to see so many of our parents attending to support their children and our school.

Christmas time in school is very different to when I was teaching a class of my own. I remember doing Christmas activities as soon as December came around. Now with the pressures and expectations we place on our curriculum, apart from rehearsals, we stay on timetable until Thursday. It is only then when we put a day aside to create cards, calendars, decorations and if time, watch a Christmas movie. Craft Thursday and toy morning on Friday, are really important times for children in school. They get the chance to relax, enjoy each other's company and start to get even more excited about breaking up for the holidays.

Our teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, Governors, PTA and volunteers deserve our recognition and our gratitude this term. My incredibly dedicated and talented colleagues make me proud on a daily basis, and I remain eternally grateful for their amazing professionalism, hard work and their continued support for myself and the school.

Team Birchwood have also showed their thanks to staff and children by buying and presenting everyone with a new book for the winter holidays. It will be lovely to have some time off and spend some quality time reading a book. I look forward to finding out what everyone thought of their new book, when we return in January.

In this, our last newsletter of the calendar year, may I take this opportunity to wish you all, on behalf of all the children, staff and Governors of Birchwood Primary School, a very Merry Christmas and a relaxing and prosperous New Year.

Mr N Coleman
Headteacher



While Shepherd's watched their flocks by night...

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

Spotlight on Excellence this week is ...



Christmas comes to Birchwood

This week we have been treated to fantastic Christmas performances by our children in both Lower and Upper School. The school has been filled with the sound of traditional festive favourites such as Hark the Herald and Away in a Manger as well as some more modern Christmas Nativity songs. The children have sung both these modern and traditional festive songs so beautifully. It never ceases to amaze me how quickly the children learn their lines, words and actions to the songs, it only seems like 5 minutes since they started rehearsing!

We are, as always, really proud of all the children and very grateful for all the support of the people that enable the performances to happen, including parents and grandparents who we know have spent time helping to practise lines, provide costumes and props and have no doubt heard the songs a million times at home already. We hope you enjoyed hearing the final performances as much as we did. Have a lovely Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Mrs M Day
Associate Headteacher

ABSENCES—Important Reminder

Could we please remind you that if your child has been absent from school, a note is required when they return. Please include the following information:

- explain the reason for the absence.
- give the dates of absence.
- sign the note.
- provide medical evidence if applicable.

We require this note, even when you have phoned in each day. Once the note is received we are able to authorise the absence on our school system. Failure to supply a note may result in an unauthorised absence being recorded on your child's school record.

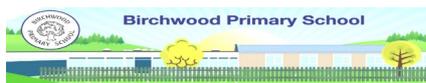
Please place the note in your child's 'From me to You' wallet. Thank you.



Illness

There is a common misconception that children should be kept off school for 48 hours in the event of any illness. In reality this advice was published for Noro virus, 'winter vomiting bug'. 48 hours absence is not required for every type of illness. In general a child should stay away from school until they have been free from symptoms for about 24 hours .

Birchwood Primary School Website



Want to know what is 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

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported this years Poppy Appeal. We have received a certificate this week to say that our school raised **£256.45**.



Flu Immunisations

For the children who missed the flu immunisations last week, the health team will be in school again on Thursday 9th January 2020 to administer these. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

Thank you.



Permanent Vacancy

Midday Supervisor, Scale band B

6.25 hours per week - 11.50am to 1.05pm

Monday to Friday - term time only (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 website. Completed applications should be returned to school no later than **Friday 10th January 2020**. Interviews will be held on Wednesday 15th January 2020.



ZELLWEGER UK.

Amount raised so far: £812.67

YR 5 SEWING

Year 5 carried out some amazing textiles and sewing artwork on Thursday 12th December. The children worked together to create an enormous wall hanging based on our British values. Many thanks to 'Crazy Mary' for her expertise and guidance - we know that end result will look amazing!



CHRISTMAS
PERFORMANCES
2019



Academic Year 2018-2019

Academic Year 2019/2020 Spring Term 2020

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Professional Development Day | Monday 6th January |
| Children Return to School | Tuesday 7th January |
| Nasal Flu Immunisations (missed) | Thursday 9th January |
| Reception Snowdome Trip | Wednesday 8th January |
| Y1 Tamworth Castle Trip | Thursday 13th January |
| Y3 Stone Age Day | Thursday 13th 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.

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.



**Squeebles
Times Tables**
Perfect fun times table practise for
5-11 year olds



TEAM BIRCHWOOD



Thank you for every single donation for the Christmas Fair and for coming along and taking part on the evening. We have the final figures and we have made a huge £2537 in profit. This brings our total for the term to £3485, which I am sure you will agree, is a great amount which will all go back into school.



All of the children have received a book this week chosen personally for them by their class teacher, which I am proud to say Team Birchwood has funded. We hope your child enjoys their gift.

We would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

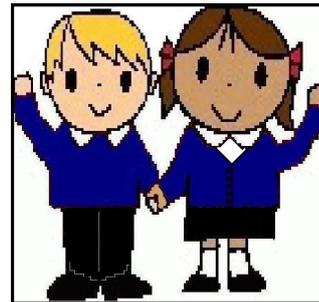
Uniform Orders

Q When can I order uniform?

A Anytime !! Simply log onto our Birchwood Primary School website at www.birchwoodprimaryschool.com and click on the "Parents" tab, then click "ParentPay" and finally click onto "Parentpay Uniform Shop"

Q When will my uniform be ready for collection?

A Uniform is ready for collection on the following Tuesday after your order has been placed. Our uniform shop is open each Tuesday from 3.05pm until 3.30pm during term time. Orders are only available to collect.



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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

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