

Reminders: Children should bring their PE kit to school on a Monday morning and take it home on a Friday.

What's on in school next week...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Violin & Keyboard Lessons	Y4 Viking Experience Day Drum & Guitar Lessons	Woodwind Lessons Y6 Boys Football	Acton Shield Football Tournament	

Letters sent home this week: If your child has not received their copy of these letters or the 'Bugle' please contact their class teacher or the office

Letters sent home this week: Oak—Swimming lessons, Y4 –Viking Visit, All—Leave of absence information, After school clubs, Road safety

Welcome back to the new academic year 2018/19

I would like to wish everyone a warm welcome back to school in what is sure to be another extremely exciting and successful year for all involved at Birchwood Primary. I hope you all had a fantastic summer, managed to catch up with friends and family and made the most of the lovely weather that we have experienced over the last few months. I have really enjoyed hearing some of the children's favourite places visited, things they have seen and activities that they have done. It was also really nice to see so many of our children with smiles on their faces, happy to be back at school. Some of our parents also seemed very happy that school was open again.

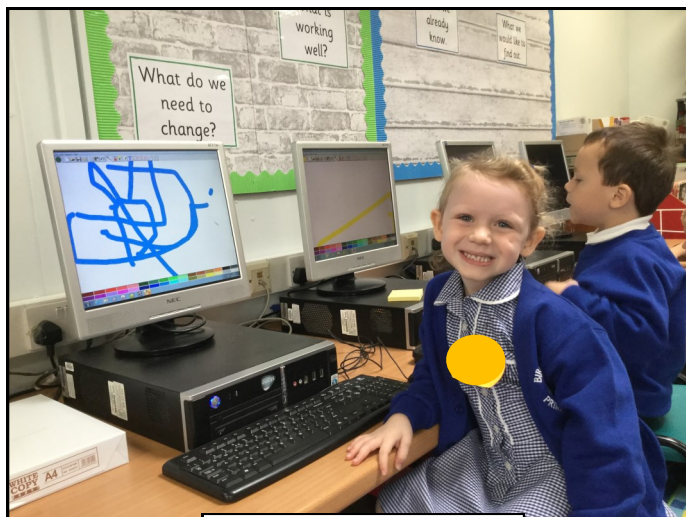
We have again had a very busy summer at school. There have been a lot of contractors on site carrying out a variety of work inside and outside our school, ensuring that it is a fantastic place for our children to learn. Apart from being 'deep cleaned' throughout, our school has had a number of building projects take place. The lower school playground has had a new trim trail installed and already some of our children have enjoyed exploring this area at play and dinner time. We now have a fantastic new Food Technology room installed in school. This has replaced our old ICT suite which is now part of our Conference room. The Food Technology room will be used as an extension to our Year 6 provision in the mornings, but will be timetabled out for whole class cooking and food preparation in the afternoons. We are also hoping to run some after school cooking clubs for families and parents later on in the year. We have also made small improvements to our staffroom area and have had our Upper School Hall floor sanded and resealed.

During the Summer our staff have also been extremely busy preparing and setting up their classrooms in readiness for this school year. Our staff have spent many days preparing engaging learning environments, colourful resources, planning exciting lessons and making their classrooms look great for the return of our children. Our site management staff have also spent time 'deep cleaning' and it is fair to say that our school looks fantastic. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Oak our Caretaker, for co-ordinating and supporting all of our contractors on site during the holiday. Mr Smith our Relief Caretaker, for opening and locking up at all hours and weekends. Mrs Jackson our Office Manager, for dealing with a number of requests and issues and to Mrs Haskell our Senior Midday Supervisor, for organising and distributing all of our new resources and class books around school.

It is great to be back at school after our long break. We genuinely miss the children during the holiday period and we always look forward to seeing all of them again and hearing their exciting news. It is very evident that parents have made a huge effort with uniform as the children returned all looking incredibly smart. We are extremely grateful for your efforts and very much appreciate all you have done to support our schools.

After 6 weeks off it is only natural that children are a little apprehensive about returning to school in a new year group, in a new classroom, with a new teacher and teaching assistant. Even our teaching staff get slightly nervous and hope that they have not somehow forgotten how to teach! But for all involved after our first morning back, it quickly feels like we have never been away. We enjoy sharing our holiday experiences but also really look forward to all the exciting opportunities and wonderful experiences our new school year will bring!

Mr Coleman—Headteacher



First day at school

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

Spotlight on our new Food Technology Room

As always over the summer we have been hard at work improving our already fantastic school and this year has seen the arrival of our long awaited Food Technology room. Cooking now has an increased importance in the national curriculum and as such we wanted to ensure that our children had a fantastic space to learn and practice their skills.

Hands on, real life skills, as ever, are at the heart of our thematic curriculum. We are always keen for children to have hands on experience as they learn, which is exactly what the new learning space is all about. Children from across the school will be able to use the newly kitted out room with its four cooking stations as well as a demonstration area to prepare and cook a range of foods.

This builds on our Food for Life work across school over the last year and enables children to both grow, prepare and then cook with their own produce, something every child will have the opportunity to do over the course of the year. We are now working towards our silver award, something the new food technology room will support us in achieving.

You can support your child at home in developing these key skills for life by encouraging them to get involved in helping prepare and cook some of the meals at home. Showing your child how to wash fruit and vegetables, right up to showing them how to chop them safely, and then different ways to incorporate them into tasty and nutritious meals is all key to helping them understand how to keep themselves healthy when they grow up!

We will keep you posted on a date for the 'official opening' of our new Food Technology area in future newsletters.

Mrs Day—Associate Headteacher

Academic Year 2018-2019

Autumn Term 2018

Half Term (1 week)	Monday 29th October
Professional Development Day	Monday 5th November
Children return to school	Tuesday 6th November
Term Ends for Christmas (2 wks)	Friday 21st December

Spring Term 2019

Professional Development Day	Monday 7th January
Children return to school	Tuesday 8th January
Half Term (1 Week)	Monday 18th February
Professional Development Day	Monday 25th February
Children return to school	Tuesday 26th February
Term Ends for Easter (2 weeks)	Friday 12th April

Summer Term 2019

Children return to school	Monday 29th April
May Day	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	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.



School Crossing Patrol Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a School Crossing Patrol Operative outside of Birchwood School. Times are to be confirmed, but the position will require morning and afternoon

cover, at the busiest times of the school day. Usually shifts are around 30 minutes each. The position is for Monday to Friday term time only (38 weeks per year spread across 12 monthly payments.) Pay for this position is £8.61 per hour plus holiday enhancements. A uniform and full training will be provided.

If you are interested in applying for this role, please contact the School Crossing Patrol Service for more details, on 01926 412661 or email scp@warwickshire.gov.uk.

Application packs can be downloaded at <https://warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolcrossingpatrols> or collected from the school office.



Tuck Shop

Tuck is provided on a daily basis by our own Birchwood Bistro and is available to children in KS2 during break time.

Children may purchase the following items:

Milkshake— 45p
Fruit Drinks—35p
Sultanas—30p
Toast—20p



There is fruit available to KS1 children on a daily basis.

Cross Country Trials

Next week, children in years 3, 4 and 5 will be taking part in cross country trials. Please ensure that children have their PE kit in school all week.



Missing School PE kit

There are still a number of school PE kits missing. Please could you check at home and if you find any return them to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Mrs Atkins—PE Subject Leader

Vikings of Middle England— re-enactment



Polesworth Abbey are hosting a FREE heritage weekend, with a re-enactment of the Polesworth Viking story, based on research done as part of the recent Archaeological investigations.

The event takes place on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th September from 2—4 p.m. each day.

Visit the Saxon village, take part in Viking activities, discover the inside of the Abbey and new for this year 'Abbey in a box' - help reconstruct the medieval Abbey and Cloisters.

At 2.30 pm The Vikings arrive with a re-enactment of the first raid on Polesworth Abbey in 874 and the skirmish with the local people. The Abbey recovers a Viking raider and takes him to the Abbey infirmary.

At 3.30 pm The big battle takes place. The Vikings return to the destroy the Abbey and take our treasure away.

Everyone is welcome to come along to this FREE event. We look forward to seeing you there.

Reminder - Absence Notification

Parents are reminded that a telephone call to school is required for absence **BY 8.30am** letting us know the child's name, class and reason for absence. A call is then required for EACH day of absence thereafter.

Can we please remind parents that on the child's return to school we still require a signed letter confirming the reason to enable us to authorise the absence.

Failure to adhere to the above policy may result in an 'unauthorised absence' being recorded on official school register.

Free Milk

**for Children who are eligible for
Free School Meals**

Children across school who are eligible for free school meals are entitled to free milk at break time. If you think your child is eligible please contact the office for further details.





First Days at School



Lots of smiles from our new Reception children, who were very excited about their first day at Birchwood.



Leave of absence during term time

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire Primary School pupils recorded **29,703** half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring term during the academic year 2017/18. This is an increase of 6,256 on the previous year.

Warwickshire Rise FREE Information Coffee Mornings



Understanding and supporting children 3-11 years with anxiety—8th October 9.30am-11am at St Peters Church, Mancetter Road, Mancetter, CV9 1NH.

Understanding and supporting healthy emotional development for children aged 3-11 years - 10th December at The Ratcliffe Centre, Ratcliffe Road, Atherstone, CV9 1LF.

1:1 Consultations with a mental health clinician

At the Ratcliffe Centre, Ratcliffe Road, Atherstone, CV91LF

17/09/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
24/09/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
01/10/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
15/10/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
22/10/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
12/11/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
19/11/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
03/12/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00
17/12/2018 – 09:00 – 13:00

To book your place on any of the sessions above or coffee mornings please email

risecommunityoffer@covwarkpt.nhs.uk.

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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.



App of the week

METEOR MATHS

Practise your maths skills and the app automatically levels up/down depending on correct answers!

Young Carers'
Project

Final
Total
raised

£1363.94

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.

Cameo Dance est. 2003

Fun Children's Dance Classes held in Polesworth

Little Dancers 2 ½ - 6yrs 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Friday evenings in The Tithe Barn, Polesworth
Tuesday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

Juniors 6 ½ - 10yrs 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Friday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

NEW Juniors 6 ½ - 8yrs 5:15pm - 7:15pm

(From 6th Feb 2018)

Tuesday evenings in The Memorial Hall, Polesworth

www.cameodance.co.uk * Call 07443421867

Facebook Charlotte Kate Cameo

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www.ocado.jobs

