



# Birkwood Primary School

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Newsletter 39: Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017



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Dear Parents and Carers,

This is the final Newsletter of the year and what another great year it's been ~ thank you to each and every one of you for all your support, it is only by us working together that we can achieve all that we do.

Thank you to all of our wonderful staff and governors who work tirelessly for our children, we are all ready for a rest now!

**Wear it Pink in Memory of little Isabelle, James Cullen's sister** ~ raised £185.59. James, Lewis, Kyle and I took the money to Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice on Thursday. Thank you so much for your support.

During Friday's Special Assembly **Elizabeth Iacobescu** decided to have her very long hair cut off to support **the Little Princess Trust** to help children who have lost their own hair due to cancer treatment or other illnesses. What very special children we have at our school.

**Sports Day on Monday** was a great success and it was wonderful to see so many families supporting the children. Some parents and children were saying that it's their favourite day of the year, we were very lucky with the weather too! The children tried so hard and we definitely have some sporting stars of the future! The winning **House Teams** were announced during the Sports Presentation Assembly on Tuesday:

**Team Water (Blue) and Team Earth (Green)**

**The 50/50 Prize was £88.50 and was won by Vicky Goodyear Congratulations!**

**Parents' Evening on Monday** was well supported with 61% of our parents attending overall. Thank you.

**Sports Presentations** ~ on Tuesday afternoon. Well done to all of the children who received certificates and awards and to all who have taken part throughout the year. The children have many opportunities to receive awards and certificates each day and week in school, so the Sports Presentation is for competition winners.

Thank you to Mrs Porter and Mr Campbell for providing our children with such a wide range of opportunities, to Mr Sabin and all the enthusiastic parents who have supported them.

**Attendance Awards**~ the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards were presented on Wednesday and Thursday to those children who have achieved:

- 95.5 - 97.9% (with no lates) ~ **Bronze Award 77 children received a Freddo Bar**
- 98 - 99.9% (with no lates) ~ **Silver Award 80 children received a Curly Wurly**
- 100% attendance (with no lates) ~ **Gold Award 45 children received a bag of Haribos**

The 4 lucky winners of the £25 prizes will be drawn in Assembly today ~ Thank you to Mrs Booth for organising the prizes. There was also a Parent's Award of a child with 100% attendance, the £50 hamper is kindly sponsored by Provide Education.

**Year 6 Leavers' Assemblies** ~ on Wednesday and Thursday were a real celebration of their time at Birkwood; there were tears and many proud people. Congratulations to all the children and thank you to Miss Hayward, Mr Sandwith, Mrs Birch, Mrs Page and Mrs Faulkner who have worked so hard with them this year. They all really enjoyed their Leaver's Day on Monday too.

**Year 6 Goodbyes** ~ Sadly, it's time to say goodbye to our very special Year 6 children, some of whom have been with us for 7 years. We all wish you the very best for the future and I will just repeat what I said in this morning's End of Year Assembly:

*We've seen you grow up, change and develop as learners and also as young people.*

*We are very proud of you and know that you are now ready to move on.*

*We hope that throughout your time here, we have instilled in you the importance of trying your best in all that you do, aim high and be the best that you can be. You will always have a special place in our hearts.*

**End of Year Celebration Assembly** ~ Congratulations to all of the certificate and award winners for this year ~ we are very proud of all your achievements. The following children received special awards:

- **Courage and Determination Awards** ~ James Cullen and Callum Fletcher
- **Citizenship Awards** ~ Poppy Heap and Josie Smith
- **Outstanding Achievement in English** ~ Jodie-Rose Sanderson and Rhianna Preece
- **Outstanding Achievement in Maths** ~ Bobbie-Louise Morrison and Davey Webster
- **Handwriting Award** ~ Millie Eastwood
- **Musical Star Awards** ~ Josie Smith and Davey Webster
- **Sports Awards** ~ C Jaie Jagger and Emily Thompson (Year 6RH) Regan Percival and Lexus Brailsford (Year 6 NS)
- **The best attending class is the Year 2 Woodpeckers with average attendance of 98%!**

The children also appreciated their gifts of: the visit to The Lion King, a personalised teddy and bookmark.

**Friends of Birkwood** ~ Thank you for all your support throughout the year and the tireless work of Mr and Mrs White, their family and staff in school ~ **£7,682.34 has been raised towards School Funds!** This is amazing and is very much appreciated, as you know, we always give this money back to the children in the form of subsidised visits and trips and it has also gone a long way towards the cost of the Reading Bus.

**Staffing News and arrangements for September** ~ Mrs Louise Wilkie has been appointed as a teacher from September, we are delighted that she will be joining our team; she has worked really well with Mr Markham and we have all been impressed. Mrs Lawson will reduce to 2 days and will support children in Year 1 and 2. Miss Kelly Jenkins will also return to us in September after her adventures. Congratulations to Miss Rachel Hayward who will be getting married to Darren in the summer, so will be Mrs Rachel Rennison in September. Also, Mrs Lynda Gyll will be joining us as a new Teaching Assistant with Miss Betts in September and Miss Laura Hayward who will be working alongside Mrs Sutton. I'm sure you will join me in making them very welcome.

**'Animal Agents' Summer Reading Challenge** ~ The children can take part in a Summer Reading Challenge at Cudworth Library with lots of rewards for taking part.

**INSET days for September ~ we will have 1 INSET day**  
after we return from the summer holidays.

**The children will return to school on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September.**

Have a great summer and thank you for all your kind and generous wishes, gifts and presents for me and the staff, they are very much appreciated.

With very best wishes, Mrs Julie Allen, Headteacher