



Birkwood Primary School

www.birkwood.org.uk

Newsletter 2: Friday, 11th September 2020



twitter.com/BirkwoodPrimary

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please be reminded the main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back and temperature is over **37.8 degrees Celsius** when tested
- **a new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

PLEASE NOTE: Should any child have one of the above symptoms, parents/carers should book a test and all of the household should isolate until the results are returned including any siblings even if they have no symptoms. Thank you for your support in keeping our community safe.

Just a reminder about **Holiday Requests:**

Please note, following Government regulations, **all holidays will be classed as unauthorised; we will not grant any leave of absence during term time.** If you go ahead with the holiday when unauthorised, each application will be referred to the Education Welfare Service and a Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued. **Per child, this will be £60 if paid within 21 days; payment after this time but within 28 days is £120.** If parents/carers do not inform us, then a visit will be made to the home by the Education Welfare Officer to establish the reason for absence. The fine will go ahead if the house is unoccupied, unless the parents/carers have dated medical evidence for the period of absence.

Parents/carers are requested to seriously consider the effect that taking children out of school has on their education, especially when they have missed so much school already. **Any requests to take children on holiday at times, other than during school holidays, must be made in writing (via a Leave of Absence Request Form, available from Reception).**

Attendance prizes ~ To reward excellent attendance and coming to school on time, Mrs Booth has been shopping again and we have 20, £5 prizes for those children who achieve 100% attendance and no lates. All those children will go into a Draw for the end of the Autumn Term. The class who wins the Attendance Award each week are announced in our new Virtual Celebration Assembly on Fridays, they receive a bag of sweeties each, the trophy for the week and it is included on the Newsletter below. These prizes are kindly sponsored by Provide Education. If you need any support with attendance, or if you're not sure whether to bring your child/ren to school, please ring school. Thank you.

To find out what is happening in school, as well as our wonderful website, you can also follow us on **Twitter @BirkwoodPrimary**. It's really easy, just to go the website on the right hand side: Our News / Our Twitter Feed and click on the link above any of the images and follow.

New Virtual Assemblies ~ Assemblies are an important part of life in school, however, we are not allowed to meet in the Hall together at the moment. So, assemblies have gone virtual! Mr Sandwith has been recording my messages and then broadcasting to each class via Vimeo, I have had very positive feedback from the children! We will be including a new tab on the website so you can share news at home too.

You should have received an envelope with lots of information relating to **eSafety, Data Collection, Home School Agreement, Visits in our local area, Keeping Children Safe in School, Media Permissions** and a copy

of the **School Meals Policy** - Please return requested forms to school asap, thank you for your support. In addition, Curriculum Newsletters giving you an overview of what your child/ren will be learning over the following term. We hope you find the information helpful.

Staffing News ~ Just to make you aware that Mrs Donna White on Reception has been successful in a promotion to Office Manager at an Academy Trust in Wakefield. We wish her many congratulations although we will miss her, her last day at Birkwood will be Friday, 2nd October.

Parents' Evening ~ We are intending to hold 'over the phone' meetings by appointment, for all year groups at the end of half term (details to follow).

PE Kit: Please ensure that your child/ren has their PE kit on the following days:

Class	Days PE kit needed
F2 Daffodils	Tuesday Am
F2 Sunflowers	Tuesday Am
Year 1 Caterpillars	Friday Am
Year 1/2 Ladybirds	Monday Am
Year 2 Butterflies	Thursday Pm
Year 3 Foxes	Tuesday Pm
Year 3/4 Badgers	Wednesday Pm
Year 4 Hedgehogs	Thursday Am
Year 5 Robins	Wednesday Am
Year 5/6 Tigers	*Thurs Pm / Fri Pm
Year 6 Leopards	Monday Pm

*Year 5/6 Tigers - Thursday Outdoor PE, Friday Indoor PE

Indoor PE kit:

- Girls** Black leotard or house t shirt (provided by school) and black shorts/skirt
- Boys** House t shirt (provided by school) and black shorts

Bare feet or black plimsolls whilst working in the Hall

Outdoor PE kit: Clothing as above, with extra jumper/tracksuit. We will be doing outdoor PE as much as possible at the moment, which is advised by the Department for Education. During winter months, please be aware that clothing may become muddy. Trainers / football boots are allowed.

Jewellery ~ Please could the children only wear stud earrings to school and if they wish and a watch; all other jewellery should be kept safe at home, thank you.



The proud winner of the Superstar Award this week is:
Elise Newton-Jones in the Year 1 Caterpillars

For our new Parents/carers: The Superstar Award is given to a child from Foundation Stage to Year 6 that the staff have identified as doing exceptional work, having an outstanding attitude, kindness, bravery or other reason; but have really stood out. The trophy and certificate are awarded in our Virtual Celebration Assembly on Friday afternoon, their photograph is taken by Mr Markham and put onto Twitter.



The proud winners of the Attendance Award last week were:
Everyone!!
For coming to school and being so wonderful - Well done everyone 😊

With many thanks for your continued support.
Mrs Julie Allen MBE
Headteacher