



Birkwood Primary School

www.birkwood.org.uk

Newsletter 36: Friday, 9th July 2021



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Dear Parents and Carers,



BIRKWOOD'S GOT TALENT ~ RESULTS

Mrs Porter I spent a long time last week going through each individual performance; there were 82 children who entered, which is exceptional. Each child who took part received a special medal, they were all wonderful and so brave. The winners received a medal and a trophy. Thank you to Mrs Porter and Mrs Sutton for still making sure BGT happened and to Mr Summerfield for filming. Many congratulations to our winners:

Overall Birkwood's Got Talent Winner 2021

John Young

Singing

1st Place ~ Jackson Szczyrbowki-Lodge

2nd Place ~ Hannah Percival

3rd Place ~ Russell Moore

Dance and Entertainment

1st Place ~ Rosie Roberts, Gracie Mae Tarmey and Kyra Jones

Joint 2nd Place ~ Isabella Boid and Lacie Bannister

3rd Place ~ Pippa Malloy-Hill

Music

1st Place ~ Blake Coward

2nd Place ~ Ella Stewart, Connie Dyson, Daysi Dyson and Chloe Sanderson

Joint 3rd Place ~ Eleanor Ogden and Max Myers

Music for the future ~ We offer tuition in Brass, keyboard, piano, clarinet, flute, guitar and percussion. Please see Mrs Sutton before the end of term if your child is interested in taking up lessons in September (some instruments are very popular and there is occasionally a waiting list).

It would really help Mrs Sutton if children who are already learning an instrument can confirm that they would like to continue with lessons (so that their place is reserved) or otherwise. From September lessons will be £52.50 per term and £15 instrument hire where Barnsley Music Service provide the instrument. For those who are eligible for Scheme of Aid, the cost of lessons with instrument hire is £17.50.

End of Year Reports ~ If your child/ren are in the Sunflowers, Daffodils, Caterpillars or Ladybirds, they will have received their School Report last Friday. The rest of school will receive their reports today. Could I encourage you to take the time to make a comment on your child/ren's progress throughout the year please, it is always good for the teacher and support staff who have worked so hard with them all year to receive positive feedback. For our current Year 4 and 5 children we have to re-organise classes for September. The reason for this is the Year 6 Tigers will be leaving us in July which is 14 children, then we need to upfill the top of end of school by re-organising the classes below.

The September numbers in year groups are:

Year 1 ~ 40

Year 2 ~ 49

Year 3 ~ 42

Year 4 ~ 48

Year 5 ~ 47

Year 6 ~ 45

We have 9 classrooms throughout school excluding Foundation Stage ~ they are organised into Year 1, Year 1/2 and Year 2; Year 3, Year 3/4 and Year 4; Year 5, Year 5/6 and Year 6. The good news is a

large extension programme is planned so that our school will move to a 2-Form Entry school hopefully from September 2022.

School Council Afternoon Tea was held on Monday with Mrs Allen to celebrate their time as School Councillors; thank you to Mrs Tracey White for organising and Poppies of Cudworth for providing the lovely food. Thank you and well done to:

Abigail Campbell and Harry Guy ~ Year 2
Rayah-Mae Wombwell and James Peacock ~ Year 3 Foxes
Layla Lewing and Isaac Webster ~ Year 3/4 Badgers
Lexie Lyman and Reece Lewington ~ Year 4 Hedgehogs
Lacey Jewkes and Billy Grain ~ Year 5 Robins
Ella Stewart and Joshua Whittaker ~ Year 5/6 Tigers
Nicole Iacobescu and Caden Frost - Year 6 Leopards

14 children were undertaking Music Exams this week ~ We will let you know how they got on, I'm sure there will be good news!

FS2 to Year 1 Transition Day on Tuesday ~ Some of the children were a bit nervous at the beginning of the day, but by the end they were really happy to be with their new teachers and are looking forward to September. They looked so grown up!

We have made the difficult decision **not** to have the 'Moving Up' morning next Wednesday due to the number of positive cases locally and in Barnsley. Instead, we will have a 'Reading a Story' session with the new staff in their class which will be timetabled throughout the day. We have to continue to keep each other safe as I'm sure you will agree.

The video for the new Foundation Stage starters for September is now on the school website under the tab Parent Zone / Curriculum Support for Parents / Sunflowers and Daffodils.

Year 3 Foxes and Badgers ~ As you know, we have had to close our Year 3 bubble due to a child testing positive for Covid-19. We will send reports home with their brothers/sisters and I am going to try and visit everyone to say Goodbye and deliver reports with Mr Summerfield on Monday.

Special Assembly on Wednesday ~ What an emotional roller coaster! I absolutely loved every minute and I was humbled and delighted by everything that was shared and said. Guest appearances by Birkwood Brass, Roger Webster, Michael Dodd and Davey Webster ... and then, a special message from Chris Martin from Cold Play ... were wonderful (thank you to Lexie Lyman for writing the letter to him from the children). Everything was perfect, even though it couldn't be as we would normally, due to the restrictions.

Mrs Allen's Leaving Garden Party on Thursday ~ I thought Wednesday was amazing, but Thursday afternoon was absolutely exceptional and you could see clearly why Birkwood is an outstanding school. The children's performances in all year groups were just beautiful, I loved seeing every child performing with their bubble a song from The Lion King. The music, dance, drama and the singing was just so wonderful ~ I cried the whole afternoon. I am only sad that our Year 3 children and staff couldn't be with us and our community ~ but we did our best. Thank you to all of the incredible Birkwood children and all of the staff. Special THANK YOUS to Mr Froggatt, Mrs Birch, Mrs Sutton, Mrs Porter, Mr Sandwith and all of the amazing Birkwood Staff for making it so special for me and my family (Elsa loved it too 😊)

Year 6 'Eveningover' last night was really enjoyed by all of our Year 6 children. They had pizza, enjoyed playing traditional games for the evening and just enjoying being together. Thank you to Mr Sandwith, Mrs Birch, Mr Summerfield, Mr Wattam and Mr Davis.

Euro 2020 Finals, Sunday ~ We hope everyone enjoys the game and remembers to stay safe. Barnsley Council's Public Health Team have sent the following message:

“In light of England getting to the final of the Euros can we just remind anyone who is currently isolating of their responsibilities. The current rates of COVID in Barnsley are high and is having a large impact on schools, to stop the spread we need all people that are isolating to follow the below guidance.

Please remember schools act as Track and Trace and therefore if you have been asked to isolate by your school you must:

- *Self-isolate immediately*
- *Do not leave your home for any reason*
- *Do not have visitors in your home*
- *Try to avoid contact with anyone you live with*
- *People in your household do not need to isolate unless you have symptoms or have had a positive test”*

We know those of you who are having to isolate will continue to follow the guidance. Thank you.

Last week of the Summer Term:

- **Birkwood Brass Performance** (details to follow) ~ Saturday, 10th July at 2pm
- **Year 6 Leavers' Assembly**
- **Moving Up Morning on Wednesday** ~ We have made the difficult decision **not** to have the 'Moving Up' morning next Wednesday due to the number of positive cases locally and in Barnsley. In September, the children will spend time with their teacher getting to know each other to help them settle in. We have to continue to keep each other safe, as I'm sure you will agree.
- **End of Year Celebration Assembly (outside)** ~ 9.30am **Thursday**, 15th July
- **Year 6 Leavers' Day** ~ Friday, 16th July

Please see attached letter about the **Barnsley Libraries Summer Reading Challenge**, thank you.

With kind regards and many thanks for your continued support,
Mrs Julie Allen MBE, Headteacher