



Birchgrove Primary School



April 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the summer term which is always a busy and exciting one. Although the spring term was a very short one this year we certainly packed a lot in. Following the visit from Estyn at the end of February the final report will be published on May 1st. You will be sent a copy on this day through our usual channels. I will not actually be in school that week myself as I shall be accompanying a group of children from years 4 and 5 on their visit to a school in Murcia.

Attendance in school is extremely important to ensure that children achieve their full potential. Our school target for this year is to have attendance of at least 96% across the school. For the spring term the figures for each class were as follows. Unfortunately these were very disappointing:

RC	95%
RBC	92.4%
1N	94.6%
1O	94.4%
2P	95.3%
2G	95.5%
3J	96.9%
3L	95.9%
4B	95.7%
4V	92.8%
5M	92%
5W	91.7%
6B	85.8%
6J	89.7%

CONGRATULATIONS to 3J for being at the top of the league table and the only class to exceed our school target for the term. The figure for the whole school since September is 95.4% which is below our target. Hopefully we will see a big improvement through the summer term with less illness and fewer holidays being taken.

We are still in a critical position regarding our breakfast club. To ensure that this free facility is able to continue in September we need to secure a long term solution to staffing. If you or anyone you know are interested in this role please ask them to contact the school office. If you have children who attend the school they would be able to attend breakfast club with you. Without the necessary recruitment we will once again have to consider the viability and possible restrictions on numbers for September.

Yours sincerely
Sarah Morgan - Headteacher

Forthcoming Events and Further Information

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

17th April ESOL project starts
 17th April Year 6 football tournament
 18th April Year 1 trip to St Thomas' church
 22nd April Dwr Cymru workshops for Year 6
 23rd April PTFA AGM @ 6:30pm
 w/b 29th April visit to Murcia Yr 4+5 group
 30th April Reception hearing screening
1st May Estyn Inspection report published
 2nd May Early numeracy maths talk @9am
6th May BANK HOLIDAY
7th May INSET DAY
 8th May Developing maths skills talk and walk around Rec, yr 1, 2 and 3 classes
 w/b 13th May Spanish visitors in school
 13th May Year 1 trip to Newport Wetlands
15th May Class and Leavers Photos
 21st May Year 4 trip to Ogmores for a beach clean
 21st May Music concert in aid of City Hospice 6:30pm
 27th – 31st May HALF TERM
 3rd June Year 4 trip to Royal Mint
 7th June Year 6 trip to Heath Park D Day event
 19th June New Intake Meeting
 20th June Cricket trip to see Glamorgan T20 match (evening)
 20th June Year 1 trip to RNLI Barry
 24th June+ 1st July New Intake Meet the Teacher
 4th + 6th July New Intake meet the teacher meetings
 9th July Pupils' reports out to parents
 9th + 10th July Year 6 Show
 11th July Year 6 transition day at Whitchurch High
 11th July New Reception play dates
 15th July Year 6 leavers' disco
16th July INSET DAY
 17th July Open afternoon
 18th July Presentation Evening
 19th July Last day of term

Monday 10th June KS2 Sports Day am at NIAC – Cyncoed Road
2nd July FP Sports Day am (reserve date 5th July)

25th April RC Class assembly
26th April RBC Class assembly

Email communication

Please be aware that school emails come from the following address:

birchgroveprm@cardiff.gov.uk

Please make sure you save this address as a contact to avoid important school messages going into your junk folder.

Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who completed the recent questionnaire. A summary of the results will be sent with this newsletter. School Council will consider the comments within the pupil questionnaire

New Class Immersion Day

Once again, towards the end of term, we will be having a new class immersion day which will see pupils and staff in their new classes ready for September. Pupils will assist staff with planning their new topics and getting to know their new class mates. This has proved very successful over the last few years in helping pupils to feel more settled and enthusiastic about the following year.

Eco Stars

Eco Council have been working with Joe Jones and Jeff Cole from the Cardiff Commitment Curriculum Team / One Planet Cardiff to reduce energy use in the school and help make Cardiff a carbon neutral city by 2030. They have a new Eco Award which was explained by the group during a special assembly and will be presented to the winning class each fortnight.



PTFA

Our wonderful PTFA continue to work hard to raise money for the school. The AGM will be held on Tuesday 23rd April in the school at 6:30pm. Please show your support and come along to hear what is happening and make plans for the summer term.

Music Concert

On Tuesday 21st May we will be holding a music concert in aid of City Hospice. Tickets will be only £2 each and we would like to see as many members of our community there as possible. It is sure to be a fabulous evening raising money for a super cause. We will also have a donation station at the school for the evening to enable people to donate suitable items for the City Hospice to sell in their shops.

New Term September 2023

Children will return to school on **Tuesday 3rd September**. Monday 2nd will be an Inset Day.

Year 6 Heath D Day Project

Recently Year 6 have been involved in a very interesting local project celebrating D Day. The results of their work will be on display 8th June. Watch out for more details.

Scooters

Please remember that scooters should not be used on the playground, they should be walked whilst on the school site. There are a lot of younger or older people on the playground and there have been a number of near misses recently.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Rose in Year 6 who recently came 1st in the North Cardiff Rotary Club writing competition. An amazing achievement, well done.

Cooked school dinners

As the Universal Rollout of Free School Meals continues we are serving a lot more dinners each day. Please ensure you inform us of any allergies although alternatives can only be offered to those who contact the local authority and have an appropriate doctor's letter.

Please make sure that you remember to book dinners in advance to ensure that enough meals have been prepared and food ordered. We suggest booking on a Sunday for the week after the new menu has been released.

Trip to Spain

During the week beginning 29th April 15 very lucky year 4 and 5 pupils will be representing Birchgrove on a cultural exchange to a school in Murcia. Accompanied by Mrs Morgan, Mrs B Jones and Mrs Martin they will experience life in a Spanish school and take part in a series of lessons. Look out for tweets of their adventure. Thank you to everyone who supported their Easter Egg raffle to raise additional money to fund the visit.



Leavers' Events for Year 6

Tuesday 9th July am Year 6 show
Wednesday 10th July pm Year 6 show
Thursday 11th July – Transition day at WHS
Monday 15th July – Disco 6pm
Thursday 18th July – Awards night 6pm

