



# 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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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

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

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

**25<sup>th</sup> April RC Class assembly**  
**26<sup>th</sup> April RBC Class assembly**

#### **Email communication**

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

[birchgroveprm@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto: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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> September**. Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> July am Year 6 show  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July pm Year 6 show  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Transition day at WHS  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July – Disco 6pm  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Awards night 6pm

