



Birchgrove Primary School

November 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the long but thoroughly enjoyable autumn term. There is so much to look forward to in the lead up to Christmas, and it always passes in a flash.

Please ensure that the office is informed of any changes to address or contact details. This is essential in case of an emergency.

It has been a very successful start to the term with Birchgrove being recognised for their achievement in a number of areas. We were very proud to be awarded the Green Flag award for our work on environmental education.



Attendance in school is extremely important to ensure that children achieve their full potential. Each week the class with the highest attendance receives the attendance cup. Our school target for this year is to have attendance of at least 96% across the school. For the first half term the figures for each class were as follows:

RJ	96.7%
RN	96.2%
1O	95.7%
1BC	97%
2P	95.9%
2B	97.4%
3G	95.9%
3V	96.5%
4W	97.3%
4L	96.1%
5M	94.5%
5D	96.7%
6B	96.6%
6J	96.3%

CONGRATULATIONS to 2B for being at the top of the league table at the moment. It is very close though. Please follow our X (previously Twitter) feed and check the website to see the range of things that occur in school.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Morgan - Headteacher

Forthcoming Events and Further Information

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

4th November MyBnk - Yr 6

7th November Magistrates in the Community – Yr 6

15th November PTFA Movie Night

15th November Children in Need

19th November Senedd visit – Yr 6

22nd November Visit from Fire station – Yr 2+5

25th November Early numeracy talk 9am

28th November Developing numeracy talk 9am

28th November Crucial Crew trip – Yr 6

3rd December Year 5 visit Bethel Baptist for Christmas play pm

4th December Year 6 visit Bethel Baptist for Christmas play pm

5th December Year 4 visit Bethel Baptist for Christmas play pm

5th December Choir singing at Tesco am

5th December Choir singing at Coles 4pm

7th December PTFA Christmas Fayre

5th December Choir singing at Tesco am

19th December Choir singing in town in aid of City Hospice

20th December Christmas Jumper day. Cinderella Pantomime for whole school

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Reception Concert

Tuesday 10th December at 2:30pm

Thursday 12th December at 10am (adults only)

Year 1 Concert

Wednesday 11th December at 10am

Thursday 12th December at 2:30pm (adults only)

Year 2 Concert

Tuesday 10th December at 10am

Wednesday 11th December at 2:30pm (adults only)

Tickets for concerts will cost £2 each and be available from Tuesday 3rd December from the school office. There is no limit to the number of tickets each family may purchase.

Monday 16th December Yr 3+4 Christmas party

Tuesday 17th December Rec, Yr 1+2 Christmas party

Wednesday 18th December Yr 5+6 Christmas party

Wednesday 18th December – Carol Service at St Marks church. More details to follow.

Last day of autumn term **Friday 20th December**

Start of spring term **Monday 6th January 2025**

Half Term 24th – 28th February 2025

The last day of school in the summer term will be **Friday 18th July.**

Attendance and Punctuality

Please remember that it is extremely important that pupils are in school and on time each day. Learning begins at 8:50 every morning so children arriving after this time miss the start to the day. For many this is upsetting and unsettling as they miss important instructions and do not like walking into a class that is already settled and working.

Lost Property

We have a lot of lost property, jumpers, cardigans, coats, drinks bottles and lunch boxes. All items with names have been returned but still a huge pile remain!!! If your child has misplaced anything please look through the pile in the old hall. These items will be removed before the Christmas fayre. PLEASE remember to name all items so that if lost they can be returned immediately.

School Council

School council have had a very busy and successful first half term raising awareness of important issues and helping to raise money. This has included: Jeans 4 Genes day, Mental health awareness week and Show Racism the Red Card, reminding us of how we should behave to be responsible citizens.

Their next event is for Children in Need on Friday 15th November. Please look out for more communication from them shortly.

Christmas Cards

With Christmas fast approaching we would ask that pupils who wish to send cards bring a single card written to the whole class which will be displayed for everyone to enjoy.

This will dramatically reduce the number of cards sent and support our commitment to the environment and becoming an Eco school.

Parking around the school

Parking around the school site remains a problematic issue. Please may I ask for your consideration to our neighbours when collecting or dropping off children and your support in ensuring the safety of all our families.

Please also ensure that if you or your child are cycling or scooting to school you are mindful of pedestrians who are also using the pavements. There have been a number of near misses recently. Scooters and bicycles should be pushed when on the school grounds.

PTFA

Our wonderful PTFA have already been busy organising events. Many children enjoyed the discos before half term.

Please help by supporting the events to raise much needed funds to enhance the education of your children.

Next major events:

Film Night 15th November

Christmas Fayre 7th December

ADMISSION TO PRIMARY / SECONDARY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2025

Applications for transfer to high school must be submitted by 18th November 2024.

Applications for admission to reception class in September 2025 close on 13th January 2025.

Only applications received by the published closing date for receipt of preference forms will be considered in the initial round of allocation of places. Other preference forms received will be considered as late applications. Please contact the school if you need support in completing the forms.

Also, please pass this information on to anybody you know that does not currently have a child in school to ensure they do not miss the dates. Thank you.

If you know of anyone looking for a reception place for September or in any other year group please encourage them to speak to us and visit to see first hand what a wonderful school we are. We currently have spaces in all year groups apart from years 4, 5 and 6.

Parent Workshops

It has been lovely to welcome so many families to our parent workshops. This is a great way of learning more about the school and understanding how you can support your child at home. Our next workshops which start at 9am are:

25th November – Early numeracy (approx. 30 mins)

28th November – Developing numeracy – including a walk around the reception, year 1 and year 2 classes. (approx. 45 mins)

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

6B	Thursday 14 th November
6J	Friday 15 th November
5M	Thursday 23 rd January
5D	Friday 24 th January
4L	Thursday 13 th February
4W	Friday 14 th February
3G	Thursday 20 th March
3V	Friday 21 st March
2P	Thursday 27 th March
2B	Friday 28 th March
1O	Thursday 10 th April
1BC	Friday 11 th April
Rec	Thursday 19 th June
Rec	Friday 20 th June

Assemblies begin at 9am and parents, friends and family are very welcome to join us.

