

BIRCHENSAL MIDDLE SCHOOL



17TH NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

ATTENDANCE

Our best attending year group this week is year 5. Well done year 5!

Well done to our best attending form classes this week are 5ROU and 5SJO who each had 97% or better attendance.

There is an attendance competition running next week. Children who have 100% attendance between Monday 20/11/23 and Friday 24/11/23, will receive a cinema reward ticket!

PARENT FOCUS GROUP

Following some feedback from parents/carers who would like to have time to discuss their children's schooling, Mrs James is hoping to start a Parents' focus group. We are looking for a parent/ carer from each form, who will be able to set their own agenda and take proposals from other parents in their child's form. Mrs James and the SLT will listen attentively and do their best to answer queries and clearly articulate the school's strategy and challenges. It is intended that there will be a meeting approximately every half term and feedback will come via the newsletter or from your form representative.

If you are interested in either taking part in the focus group or nominating another parent or carer, please email

enquiries@birchensale.bmat.co.uk stating clearly which form group you wish to represent. As long as we have a few from each year group we should be able to go ahead.

MY FAVOURITE BOOK

Titanic – My story by Ellen Emerson-White

“When reading it, this book feels as if the characters are real, it is full of facts and figures about the Titanic which pupils will lap up; with photographs to inspire pupil's imaginations. (Reading zone 6.6) - Mrs Okonska

A copy of this book is available in the school library.

IMPORTANT DATES

27th November – 1st December – Bikeability
27th November – Year 8 Parents Evening in school
29th November – Year 8 Parents Evening online
4th - 8th December – Year 8 Malvern Trip
12th December – Christmas Concert
12th – 15th December – Achievement Assemblies
15th December – Coffee Morning
18th – 20th December – STEAM/Careers Days
19th December – Interhouse Swimming Gala
21st December – Last day of Autumn Term
9th January – First Day of Spring Term

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

Check out the new books in the library this week, Frankie's Magic Football, written by superstar footballer Frank Lampard. Join Frankie and his team for their magical adventures, written by superstar footballer Frank Lampard. They'll be playing teams of cowboys and knights, aliens and pirates... can they win against them all? (zones 3.8 – 4.3)



LIBRARY NEWS

Top quizzers for the week:

Year 5 – Zara (5JPE) – 32 books
Year 6 - Victoria (6APG) – 43 books
Year 7 – Ben (7NHO) - 11 books
Year 8 – Ellie-Mae (8MVA) – 7 books

Top 5 Word scorers:

Victoria (6APG) – 1,267,528
Laura (8CPO) - 472,005
Ava (8MVA) – 382,858
Hollie (8KO) - 323,569
Norah (5ROU) – 317,742
Susan (5SJO) – 305,458

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BOOK FAIR

The **Scholastic Book Fair**, with hundreds of new books for your child to browse and purchase. Please encourage your child to visit the Book Fair at lunchtime and support us!

WHEN: Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd November

WHERE: In the Library at Lunchtime

There are over 200 titles for your child to choose from and with prices starting from only £2.99, there's sure to be a book for everyone. Don't forget that every book you buy can help to get **FREE BOOKS** for our school library!



THEO'S RECOMMENDED READ

Run Wild by Gill Lewis

Izzy and Asha need a space to call their own, away from difficult families, the Skull brothers and the trouble they bring. But the derelict building site where they stake their claim already belongs to something else, a wilderness they never expected and an injured wolf that desperately needs their help. Can they reconnect to the wild and save the wolf? Or is their pack too weak to fight much stronger powers? A stunning tale of our lost connection to nature and the wild that hides in us all, from renowned storyteller Gill Lewis. Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant or dyslexic readers. (Reading zone 3.5).



ANTI BULLYING WEEK

To celebrate what makes us all unique, pupils came to school wearing odd socks on Monday. This sent out an important message to pupils that they should be allowed to be themselves, free from bullying and it helped us celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a fun and positive way.



Our school council ran assemblies for their peers about Anti Bullying Week using resources from the Anti Bullying Alliance. Well done to the following pupils: Freddie 7ABE, Jenson 7NHO, Eddie 8ARO, Aroush 7EBO, Kayden 7EBO, Jacob 8KO, Ryley 8KO, Zoe 5AGA, Waniya 5AGA, Lola 5JPE, Ivy 5SJO, Norah 5ROU, Stanley 5REV, Armaan 6EBE, Tia 6EBE, Nivin 6ADE. The school council did a fantastic job and should be very proud of themselves.

The Art Council along with the Art department began forming a piece of artwork using metal linked to anti bullying using key words and ideas from the pupils in the school. Well done to the following pupils who have worked hard on this project so far: Rahima 6BTU, Tyonna 6BTU, Florence 6EBE, Bobbie 7ABE, Miki 8SHE, Chloe 8SHE, Misbah 8SHE, Aleeza 8SHE, Kayla 8CPO and Laura 8CPO. We are looking forward to seeing the finished piece very soon.

SPORT

On Wednesday 8th November our KS2 girls played in their football tournament. They played well, coming first in their group after winning 6-0, 5-0 and 1-0. They won the semi 4-0, but unfortunately came up against a very strong team in the final losing 3-0. Overall, they came 2nd.



Our year 7 girls played really well in their tournament on Tuesday 24th October. The girls worked well as a team and gave everything they had, but after a few unlucky loses came 3rd in their group.



SPORT

The year 7 football team played in their finals tournament on Tuesday 7th November. After battling hard, they managed to finish in 3rd place overall.



On Thursday 26th October, the KS3 trampolining team went to compete in their district competition. Congratulations to Shayleigh (2nd in beginners), Hollie (2nd in intermediate 1) and Isaac (1st in boys category) who all won medals in their individual categories.



CHILDREN IN NEED

Thanks to all the pupils for their kind donations of change today. The school council used the money to make a giant Pudsey Bear. All the money raised will be going to Children in Need.



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