



Birchensale Middle School

Weekly News

6th March 2026

☀️ *Three Routines, One Incredible Team!*

Our pupils absolutely smashed it at the District Dance Festival on Friday! 🎀🕺 After weeks of practice, they performed three amazing routines, and their dedication truly showed. Such talent and teamwork – well done, everyone! 🙌🌟



Stacking Cards, Strengthening Friendships!

This week in Friendship Club, pupils put their resilience and perseverance to the test as they took on the challenge of building towers out of playing cards.

Working in small groups, they explored how patience, teamwork, and problem-solving can help overcome a wobbly foundation or a tower that suddenly collapses.

There was plenty of laughter, determination, and creative thinking as pupils experimented with different techniques to make their structures stand tall. It was wonderful to see everyone encouraging one another and celebrating each other's successes—big or small. Activities like this not only help pupils develop social skills but also remind them that mistakes are part of the learning journey.



Year 6 Weight-Lifting Enterprise Day

Before half term, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed an exciting weight-lifting themed Enterprise Day. Working in teams, they demonstrated fantastic resilience, creativity, and collaboration as they designed and developed a product to sell. Each group delivered a confident, well-structured pitch, showcasing their communication skills and innovative ideas.

Pupils also had the opportunity to learn correct lifting techniques from a trained weight lifter—a highlight that many described as both inspiring and empowering. We were delighted to welcome Juliet, co-founder of the fitness and nutrition brand Grenade, as our special guest judge. She was incredibly impressed by the pupils' enthusiasm, teamwork, and creativity throughout the day. Well done, Year 6, for your brilliant effort and energy!





Online safety coffee morning



On Friday 27th March, from 9:00am to 10:00am, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Pugh, will be hosting an Online Safety Coffee Morning.

Join us for practical guidance on:

- the potential dangers children may encounter online
- how to recognise signs of online concerns
- what steps to take if you think there may be an issue

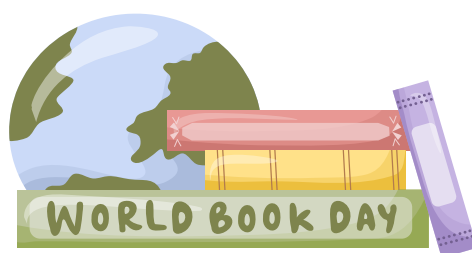
We warmly invite all parents and carers to come along, enjoy a coffee, and learn how to help keep children safe online.

World Book Day 2026

Thursday 5th March was world book day and our pupils certainly dressed to impress! We saw a fantastic range of costumes, and it was wonderful to see how much effort everyone put in. All pupils received a £1 book voucher which they can use at a local book shop.

This year, we were also delighted to host the book fair, pupils enjoyed browsing the wide variety of books on offer.

A huge thank you goes to the pupils who helped run the book fair during their lunch break - we couldn't have done it without you!



“Every page you read is a step forward—small steps add up to big futures.”

Paracetamol in School – Important Information for Parents

If you would like the school to be able to administer paracetamol to your child during the school day, please ensure that you do the following:

1. Provide a supply of paracetamol

- The medication must be in its original box – not loose strips.
- It must be clearly labelled with your child's full name and date of birth.

2. Give consent on MCAS

Please log in to MCAS and complete the consent section allowing school staff to administer paracetamol if needed.

We cannot give any medication without parental consent, and completing this on MCAS avoids the need for us to call home during the day.

3. Do not send medication in pupils' bags

Pupils must not carry medication in their bags or self-administer it in school. For safety reasons, all medication must be stored securely and administered by staff.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep all pupils safe.

Lunch & Tuck Money

If your child buys tuck or lunch in school, please ensure their account has sufficient funds.

Keeping accounts topped up helps us avoid having to contact parents during the day and prevents accounts from going into a negative balance. Thank you for your support.

Ready, Set, Learn!

Please remember to come into school with your planner, reading book, refillable water bottle, and all your equipment ready for the day

How you start your morning sets the tone for the whole day—start strong!

Introducing Our New Optional Summer Polo Tops

As we look ahead to the (hopefully!) warmer weather of the summer term, we're pleased to share that we will be introducing an optional school polo top for pupils to wear from after the Easter break until the end of the academic year.

Over the last few years, we've experienced some very hot end-of-year weather. While we've sometimes relaxed expectations around ties to help pupils stay cool, we also want to keep everyone looking smart and feeling comfortable. The new polo tops offer a practical, cooler alternative while still maintaining a tidy, consistent school appearance.

Key Information

- **Available from:** The start of the Easter break
- **Supplier:** Orchard Clothing
- **Price:** £9.95 each or 3 for £25
- **When they can be worn:** Throughout the summer term only
- **Optional:** Yes—completely optional

Pupils may continue wearing their usual white school shirt and tie if they prefer. However, unlike in previous hot spells, we won't be saying "no ties" this year. Children who choose to wear shirts will still be expected to wear their ties as normal. The summer polo top is simply an additional option designed to make everyone a little more comfortable on those warmer days.

Looking Ahead

This is not a one-off—summer polo tops will be allowed every summer term going forward. From September, we will return to our standard uniform of white shirt and tie as usual.

We hope this small change helps pupils stay cool, comfortable and confident while continuing to represent our school with pride.

If you have any questions, please just let us know





BMS Chatty Families



SUPPORTING PUPILS & PARENTS WITH ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

WHAT IS CHATTY FAMILIES?

BMS Chatty Families is a welcoming group for pupils and parents at Birchensale whose first language is not English. Led by Mrs Okonska, our EAL Lead, the club helps pupils build their English language skills and supports parents in feeling more confident using English at home and with school work.

JOIN US!

Come along for a cuppa, biscuit and friendly conversation. Meet other families from around the world and enjoy sharing:
Cultures Languages Experiences
The journey of becoming part of life in the UK



OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY

This year we are proud to have 20 families from 10 different countries taking part! Represented countries include:



 Latvia  Romania  Pakistan  Albania  Poland

EVERYONE BELONGS HERE

Come along, get involved and be part of our warm and supportive community



If you would like attend Chatty Families then please email us and someone will contact you with more information.

enquiries@birchensale.bmat.co.uk



Want to make a real difference at



Birchensale?

We are looking for parents to join our PTA and help us create amazing experiences for our pupils!

From helping to run exciting events like our Christmas Fair to fundraising and building strong links with the local community, there are so many ways you can get involved.

We're looking for enthusiastic parents who want to help Birchensale become even better.

Why should you join?

- Meet parents from other year groups.
- Meet the teachers in a less formal setting.
- See the school from a different angle.
- Make new friends by working alongside members of the local community.
- Learn new skills.
- The satisfaction of knowing you have made a contribution.
- The knowledge that you have helped make the school you chose an even better place

If you would like to join or would like anymore information please email us [**enquiries@birchensale.bmat.co.uk**](mailto:enquiries@birchensale.bmat.co.uk)

Your ideas, energy, and support can make a big impact—
so come and join us today!



Birchensale Safeguarding Team



Designated Safeguarding
Lead (DSL)
Mrs Pugh



Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)
Miss Dawson



Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)
Mrs James



Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)
Mr Clifton

Keeping Your Child Safe: Key Safeguarding

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, here are key contacts that can help:

School - Your first point of contact. Speak to the designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Mrs Pugh, if you have any concerns.

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) - For concerns about online safety, grooming, or exploitation. Report at www.ceop.police.uk

NSPCC - Provides confidential support and advice on all safeguarding issues. Call 0808 800 5000 or visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

Kooth - Free, anonymous online mental health support for young people. Visit www.kooth.com

Police - If a child is in immediate danger, call 999. For non-emergencies, call 101.

me, you, us
safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Dates for your diary

Friday 27th March -

Online safety coffee morning 9am to 10am

Friday 27th March -

School closes for the Easter holidays

Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April -

Easter holiday

Monday 13th April -

Pupils return to school

Wednesday 22nd April -

Parents evening for year's 5, 6 and 7

Monday 4th May -

School closed for May Day Bank Holiday

Wednesday 20th May -

SEND coffee morning 9.30am to 10am

Friday 22nd May -

School closes for half term

Sunday 31st May -

Wembley trip

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May -

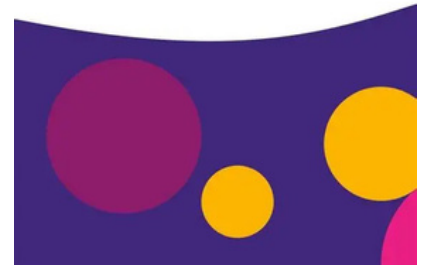
Half term

Thursday 4th June -

Year 8 trip to Stratford

Click on the images below to find help and information

WORCESTERSHIRE
FAMILY HUBS 



 Information, Advice
and Support Service
**Herefordshire &
Worcestershire**

BEST START 
WORCESTERSHIRE



**HOME
START**
**North East
Worcestershire**