



Birchensale Shines at District Indoor Athletics!

Birchensale PE continues to go from strength to strength! Last Friday, our KS2 Indoor Athletics teams competed in the District Competition and delivered fantastic performances.

Our boys' team secured a brilliant 3rd place , showing great teamwork, resilience and determination throughout the event.

Our girls' team were outstanding, achieving an impressive 1st place overall! Their victory means they will now go on to represent Redditch at the County Finals in April.

A huge well done to all pupils who took part – you represented Birchensale brilliantly, and we are incredibly proud of you!



VIP invites for some of our year 5 pupils



Last Friday, some Y5 pupils had VIP invites to the grand opening of the long-awaited trim trail at Holyoakes Field First School. Mrs Koser, the Headteacher, felt it was only right that they attended having been part of a group of pupils who helped Mrs Cerrone design the trim trail last year, when they were in Y4. After local MP, Chris Bloore 'cut the ribbon' our pupils thoroughly enjoyed playing on the new equipment alongside some Holyoakes children.



Friendship group **explore their** **communication skills**

This week in friendship group, children explored their listening and communication skills by being blindfolded and making their way through an obstacle course in the classroom. There were lots of giggles and successful partnership throughout this week's challenge.

Serving Up Stories: Our Legendary Catering Crew

On World Book Day, our incredible catering team pulled out all the stops and delivered a menu worthy of a bestselling novel. Students (and more than a few staff!) were delighted to tuck into BFG Burgers big enough to satisfy even a friendly giant, Peter Rabbit's Peas fresh enough to make Mr McGregor suspicious, and Queen of Hearts Jam Tarts that—thankfully—didn't result in any royal declarations of “Off with their heads!”

And if that wasn't impressive enough, the team took things to a whole new level by dressing up as a full-blown fruit salad. Yes... an actual fruit salad. We had a fabulously bright orange, a determined melon, a very cheerful strawberry, a cluster of enthusiastic blueberries, and a pineapple who absolutely stole the show. Never has the dinner hall looked so colourful — it was like being served lunch inside a fruit bowl!

A huge, heartfelt thank you to our catering team for bringing so much creativity, fun, and flavour to the day. You made World Book Day unforgettable — and delicious!



An amazing trip is coming for our Year 8 pupils.

This June, our Year 8 pupils will be heading to Stratford for an exciting day of learning and fun. They'll spend the morning working with professional actors, bringing literature and performance to life in an engaging, hands-on workshop. In the afternoon, pupils will (hopefully!) enjoy some sunshine as they explore more of Stratford and take part in additional activities.

Further details, including timings and arrangements, will be sent out soon.



TRIP DATES:
in school time
4th and 5th June

Spend the morning learning from the very best actors and directors at the Royal Shakespeare company!



JOIN US ON OUR YEAR 8 TRIP TO STRATFORD!



Then enjoy the afternoon sun along the riverbank, eating lunch and walking through Stratford-upon-Avon town centre to see where Shakespeare was born!



Action for happiness

International Day of Happiness is on Friday on March 20th. For 2026, the campaign is to be part of a wave of positive connection, spreading happiness and kindness across the world. This year, action for happiness are exploring the relationship between social media and happiness. In a world that often feels challenging and divided, social media can help bring us together or push us further apart. On March 20th, they are looking for **Happiness Champions** to help turn the tide and take collective action against the trend of division, through acts of 'real connection'.



Will you join action for happiness as a Happiness Champion?

What am I being asked to do? The idea is simple. A Happiness Champion pledges to create a meaningful, uplifting moment with another person and help the positive ripples continue. We'll send you all the guidance and inspiration you need. All that's required from you is your commitment to prioritise human connection on March 20th and give at least one person the gift of your warmth and undivided attention.

By signing up as a Happiness Champion, you'll receive:

- Clear instructions: 3 easy steps to champion real connection
- Inspiration & nudges: ideas and reminders to help you take action
- The feeling of being part of something bigger: being part of a global wave of connection and positivity.

Ready to join us? [Take the pledge to be a Happiness Champion](#) by clicking on the word below and following the link.

Let's turn the tide together.

♡
HAPPINESS
♡

A letter from our Mrs Nelsey – Pupil Wellbeing Lead and Autism Mentor

Dear Parents/Carer,

Every day, I see how important it is for children to have spaces they feel calm, safe, and able to explore the world in their own way. A sensory garden provides exactly that.

Unlike a traditional garden, the aim is to create a space where children can engage with nature through sensory experiences, encouraging curiosity, relaxation, and exploration. Although sensory gardens are particularly supportive for children with autism, every child benefits from access to nature and sensory play.

Creating this space is a community effort, and parental support can make a dramatic difference.

You may be able to help by:

- Donating plants such as lavender, rosemary, lemon balm, fluffy grasses, lambs' ear, bamboo, mint, and any plants of vibrant colours.
- Water elements – old funnels, small buckets, watering cans.
- Children's gardening tools.
- Wood off cuts especially MDF.
- Any left-over bags of gravel, compost, or wood chippings.
- Milk bottle tops and old CDs to make wind chimes and ornaments.
- Left over drainpipe pieces for creating a water feature.

We are looking forward to seeing the garden grow and sharing this special space with our pupils in the coming months.

Mrs Nelsey

Pupil Wellbeing Lead and Autism Mentor

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



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!



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





Awesome Sports Camps 2026

OPEN TO ALL SCHOOLS

Open to Boys & Girls Ages 5 -12

Awesome Sports Camps are a fun, exciting action packed programme of sports and friendly Competition. Our active and flexible programmes are designed for the different ages and experiences of the children attending. Children really enjoy the variety, choice and flexibility we offer, as it allows them to try new activities, learn new skills and make new friends.

Dates

EASTER

Tues 31st March
Wed 1st April
Wed 8th April



MAY

Wed 27th May



SUMMER

Wed 22nd July
Wed 29th July
Wed 5th Aug
Wed 12th Aug
Wed 19th Aug
Wed 26th Aug



OCT

Wed 28th Oct



FOR BOOKING FORM SCAN THE RELATED QR CODE

Times

Arrive: 8.45-9.00am
Activities: 9.00-3.00pm
Collection: 3.15pm

How Much?

£20.00 Per Day
Discounts available for multiple days

SPORTS ON OFFER*

- Dodgeball
- Activity Trail
- Boxercise
- Rounders
- Athletics
- Fitness
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Forest Skills
- Team Building
- Basketball
- Dance
- Football
- Tag-Rugby
- Soft Archery

and much more!!!

* Due to weather conditions and group suitability activities may vary

FUN - FITNESS - FRIENDS



Camps Run By Qualified Coaches with DBS, 1st Aid & Child Welfare Training

Find us on facebook

Tel: 07512 466250 Email: awesomesportscamps@yahoo.com

Birchensale Middle School, Bridley Moor Road, Redditch. B97 6HS

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 Easter holiday

Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April -
Easter holiday

Monday 13th April -

Pupils return to school

Wednesday 22nd April -

Parents evening for years 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

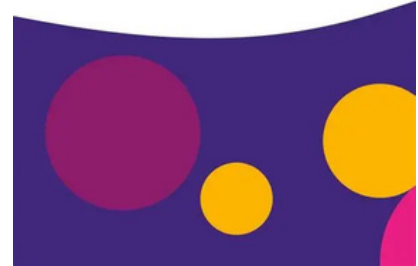
Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May -
Half term

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