

January 2024



'Attainment through Caring, Challenge & Creativity'

NEWSLETTER



Back to Cool at BPS!

It was good to see the children all back safe and sound earlier this week after their Christmas break. Happy New Year to everyone reading this! As I explained to all the children in their assemblies, sometimes there are really good opportunities to make fresh changes and starts and the start of a New Year is certainly one of those times...good luck to all and remember to seize the days ahead!

Buddies/Clubs and RIG

There are extra pages to this Newsletter, please do have a look and get in touch if you have any queries or can offer support to our vital Reading Improvement Group.

The Big Ambition—Closing on Friday, 19th January

The Big Ambition is a survey to help make sure that every child in England has an opportunity to share their views with policy makers ahead of the next General Election. Set up by Dame Rachel De Souza, the Children's Commissioner for England, children and parents or carers can complete the survey here:

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition



School Questionnaires

We will be sending our annual questionnaires out to you shortly, these help us to focus on areas for improvement and will be similar to those used by Ofsted.

Uniform

Please check you can still see the names on the labels you carefully placed on all the children's clothing including coats. Sharpies do wash out over time! Thank you.

Lunch Money

A polite reminder that this should be paid in advance and not arrears.

Attendance

Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing. Our school will be fully supporting the national initiative from the DfE to promote the importance of regular school attendance—Moments Matter, Attendance Counts. We will be including a special feature on this in our next Newsletter. This initiative aims to primarily reach those parents whose children are taking preventable odd days of absence - or "avoidable absence" - rather than those who face greater barriers to attendance, such as pupils with long term medical conditions or special educational needs and disabilities.

Contact us:

Tel: 01704 567516

Email:

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X : @birkdaleprimary



Next Newsletter in February or earlier



Clubs—Spring 2024

Below is a list of all the school clubs that will be running during the *Spring term*. Each club will send a letter home with details and starting dates. Unless otherwise stated, children will be collected from the main playground gate. All of our clubs are run on a voluntary basis and we are very grateful to the staff that run them. Could we politely ask that you pick your children up at the correct time.

Thank you.

Day	Club	Year groups	Times	Run by
Monday	Birkdale Buddies	KS2	3.20pm-4.00pm	Mrs Corlett, Miss Mullin, Miss Williams
Monday	Netball	Years 5 & 6	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mrs Eden and Mrs Harding
Monday	KS1 Choir	KS1	3.15pm-4.00pm	Miss Lee
Monday	Games Club	Year 2	3.10pm-4.00pm	Mrs Sinnott and Mr Stevenson
Tuesday	Choir	KS2	3.20pm-4.20pm	Miss Lee
Tuesday	Boys Football	KS2	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mr Murphy and Mr Gallagher
Tuesday	Book Club	Year 6	12.30-12.50 (lunchtime)	Mrs Biggs
Wednesday	Maths Club	Years 5 & 6	12.30-12.50 (lunchtime)	Mrs Szabo
Wednesday	Times Table RockStars	Year 4	8.15am	Mrs Corlett and Miss Mullin
Wednesday	Spanish Club	Year 6	12.30-12.50 (lunchtime)	Mr Stevenson
Thursday	Music Tech	KS2	3.20pm-4.20pm	Miss Lee
Friday	Hockey	Year 5	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mr Curragh
Thursday	Girls Football	KS2	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mr Murphy and Mr Gallagher



.....to join our team of
Birkdale Primary RIG readers!

Please join our wonderful, dedicated team of helpers who come in and read with children each week. Call in at the office or ask Mrs Corlett for more information. We will provide a DBS.

RIG - reading improvement group



Birkdale Buddies offers support to Key Stage 2 children who are young carers (those whose lives are affected by having a sibling or parent with physical impairment, learning difficulty or mental health issue).

The children do not have to be involved in the direct care of the family member. We work closely with children who are 'looked after' and we also support children who have recently suffered bereavement through losing an immediate family member. It has been running and developing for six years now and we are very proud of the work our volunteers and children do in this special group.

If you would like more information please visit the Birkdale Buddies page on our website under School Clubs in the Parents section :

<https://birkdaleprimary.ovw8.juniperwebsites.co.uk/page/?title=Birkdale+Buddies&pid=87>