

Newsletter: December 2018



Head Teacher's Welcome



So, here it is, Merry Christmas – I hope you're having fun!

Finally, the children have been "allowed" to use the "C" word this year and many of them, and some parents, have enjoyed it!!

2018 has been a busy year (again!) for Birchfield but a successful and very enjoyable one. I sincerely hope that your children have enjoyed their learning experiences and that you are pleased with the progress they are making. I am planning some questionnaires in the new year where you will be able to give us your views on school and can help us plan for the future.

Richard Culham

Yeovil Christmas Lights!

Congratulations to Connie Barclay (6LB) who won a Yeovil wide competition and her prize was to turn on the Yeovil Christmas lights! In addition Connie was interviewed by BBC Somerset and her winning Christmas light entry has been turned into an actual display that will be enjoyed by us all for years to come!



Congratulations Connie.



Very Successful Fundraising

There have been a number of events to raise funds and awareness for various charities as well as for school through our good friends at FoBs. The end results have again shown that the Birchfield community is strong and generous. Thank you all very much.

Children in Need - £448.79

Seeds for Africa (Child.org) - £324.47

Bingo - £603.08

Lord's Larder Harvest appeal - 253 items of food were donated. Throughout 2018 the Lord's Larder has helped 2,080 adults and 1,123 children in need covering towns and villages in South Somerset and North West Dorset by providing emergency food parcels for those in crisis. **Thank you** for your continuing support.

Tilly's Charity Sponsored Read – over half term children had the opportunity to raise money for DHK (Dogs Helping Kids) by reading and recording the minutes they spent reading. An amazing £640 was raised for DHK, half of the money goes to DHK and half to the school to refresh some of our book corners.

Staffing Changes



As mentioned in the November newsletter, we say farewell to Mrs Macleod from Y6 at the end of term. We also say farewell to Mrs Watkins, LSA, who will be leaving to develop her career in a new direction and also Mr Eveleigh, Sports Coach will be leaving us. We thank them and wish them all the very best of luck.

Starting School in September 2019

If your child is due to start school for the first time (born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015) then it is **very important** you make an on-line school place application. **Deadline is 15 January 2019.**

To download the primary booklet for parents, to make an on-line application and for further information please visit the county website www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions

Safeguarding

Safeguarding our children is everyone's responsibility and is something that we take extremely seriously.

In January we will be working alongside the NSPCC who will be coming in to hold 2 assemblies; one for KS1 and another for KS2. They will also return the following week, to work more closely with our KS2 children, raising their awareness by sharing some important safeguarding messages and looking at how they can keep themselves safe.

There will be more information about this in the new term.

Dates for your Diary

Tues 11 Dec: YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (pm)
Wed 12 Dec: YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (pm)
Thurs 13 Dec: YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (am)
Fri 14 Dec: YR & KS1 Christmas Nativity (am)
Tues 18 Dec: Christmas Jumper Day and school Christmas Lunch
Wed 19 Dec: YR & KS1 Christmas parties
Thurs 20 Dec: YR & KS1 Pantomime trip to the Octagon
2 pm – KS2 Carol Service at St Michaels Church

Fri 21 Dec: INSET Day
Mon 7 January 2019: School re-opens
Fri 11 Jan: School Disco (further details to follow)
Tues 22 Jan: RLB trip to Gore Farm
Wed 23 Jan: RSM trip to Gore Farm (further information to follow)
Mon 18 – Fri 22 Feb: Half Term

Finally,

I hope that you and your family have a very happy and enjoyable Festive season and that 2019 brings you all that you wish for!

