

Appleton Street, Warsop,
Mansfield, Notts, NG20 0QF

Telephone: 01623 842163

Dear Parents & Carers

First of all a huge welcome back to you all, especially the new members of Birklands Primary.

We would like to welcome Mr Brightman (Y5) and Miss Knowles (Y2) to Team Birklands!

Mrs Pawlitta will be taking a rest as she is now starting her Maternity Leave. We will keep you informed of any updates.

All of our staff have been very busy over the holidays preparing for the new academic year both in the classrooms and around school.

A little reminder of timings for the school day. The school gates will open at 8.30am, with registration at 8.45am. Therefore, please ensure your child is in the school playground by 8.40 at the latest. Your child's learning begins at 8.45am and any lateness does have an impact on their progress. School finishes at 3pm so please ensure you are here on time to collect you child.

Sadly, due to complaints from neighbours, we have had to relocate the chickens to our school allotment. Please be reassured that they are loving their new home and have not been neglected over the school holidays. Mrs Peters still fully intends to run Chicken Club.

Extra curricular activities such as football, sports club and choir/drama will continue week commencing 10th September. More details will follow shortly.

Our wrap around after school club, for those wishing to access this, is still available daily at a cost of £7 (£6.50 for regular attendance). This is available from 3.00pm to 5.30pm. Please collect a contract from the school office if you wish to make use of this facility.



BIRKLANDS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happening this week

Monday 3rd September

Tuesday 4th September

Wednesday 5th September

Thursday 6th September

Friday 7th September

Celebration assembly –
2.15pm
(instead of 9am on this occasion)

Celebration Assembly

As you are possibly aware our Celebration assembly is normally held on Friday at 9am. For this week only (Friday 7th September) this will take place at 2.15pm instead.

Uniform/PE Kits

As we are encouraging our children to be the best version of themselves that they can be, we ask that all our pupils come to school every day wearing the correct school uniform. This includes black shoes NOT trainers. Full details of our school uniform can be found on the school website.

We also ask that the school policy with regards to PE kit is also followed. Any child wearing a top that we feel is inappropriate will be asked to go and collect one from our spare PE kit. We advise that your child brings their PE to school every Monday and keeps it in school all week, then take home on a Friday to be washed.

As you can imagine, we have a lot of the same items of clothing in school. Therefore, please ensure that all of your child's clothing has their name in it to avoid things going missing and/or going home with the wrong child.

Parking and Driving

As you can appreciate, our school is in a residential area. We do want to work with our neighbours. We therefore ask that you drive carefully along Appleton Street and be mindful of children walking to and from school. With regards to parking, please do not park on the zig-zags between the hours of 8am and 4pm. This is to protect your children. Usual Highway Code rules do apply and double parking or parking on double yellow lines is not allowed. In addition, please be courteous to our neighbours and don't block any drives. The school has arranged for our local PCSOs to do regular checks with regards to parking and driving at the beginning and end of the school day. Please be aware that Parking Enforcement Officers do patrol the area and will issue parking tickets if restrictions are broken.

Dahlicious Day

Wednesday 12th September is a dress up day to celebrate Roald Dahl's birthday. Pupils can dress as a character from a Roald Dahl book or can dress in yellow which was his favourite colour. Dahlicious Day links with work the children will be undertaking over the first couple of weeks as they will be reading different Roald Dahl texts and learning all about the author. We are asking for a donation of £1 per child and all funds raised will be used to buy books for each class.

School Meals

School will continue to offer a choice of either a hot meal or a jacket potato. Our new Autumn/Winter menu will be sent out today so you can discuss the meals with your child. An electronic copy of this can be found on the school website. As a school we encourage all children to widen their food choices and therefore children can decide every morning whether they wish to have a school meal or bring a packed lunch from home. All that we ask is that they tell their teacher the correct option! As we encourage healthy eating, we ask you to work with us and if your child brings a packed lunch ensure this reflects a balanced diet. No fizzy pop/water please as these have a tendency to fizz up during the day and explode when opened!

Free School Meals

We would encourage all parents to apply for Free School Meals if you think that you may qualify. This is very easy to do and an instant answer will be given. Parents can either register online via the County Council's website or they can telephone 0300 500 8080 to apply over the phone. All new applicants which are successful will receive a free school polo shirt. Please collect from the school office. If you would like assistance in making your application then please feel free to come into school. We would encourage everyone who thinks they may qualify to make an application. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives Universal Infant Free School Meals, the school will receive extra funding which can be used to assist you in things such as school trips, uniform and enrichment activities.

sQuid Accounts

If you would like a registration form to set up a sQuid account to pay for school meals and tuck then please collect from the school office. Please note that we are aiming to become a cashless school so would encourage parents to pay by this method. Due to parents not keeping their child's sQuid account in credit, we are now introducing a rule that if any account is more than £5 in arrears your child will not be allowed to have tuck and we will ask you to send in packed lunches until the debt is cleared. The reason for introducing this rule is that the school has incurred a large debt due to arrears from last academic year.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available every day from 7.30am. Please do not try to enter the building any earlier as our insurance does not cover pupils being in the building prior to this time. The cost of Breakfast Club is £2. However, if your child qualifies for Free School Meals, we can offer this for free. If your child has ever qualified for Free School Meals then we can offer a reduced cost of £1. If you are unsure, please come and have a chat with us.

Poppy Sculpture

Our pupils have got an amazing opportunity to work with a local artist on Wednesday 12th September. During the day small groups of pupils will be working with the artist to create poppy sculptures from plastic bottles. These sculptures will be used within the community to commemorate Remembrance Day and the centenary of the end of World War 1. To support the children and the artist with this, please could children bring in clean and clear plastic bottles, various sizes are required.

More Important News

Upcoming Dates

PTFA Welcome Disco – 11th September
Roald Dahl Day – 12th September (dress up and £1 contribution)
School Photographs – 21st September
Parents' Evenings – 2nd & 3rd October
Halloween Disco – 25th October

School Calendar

A school calendar of key dates known so far has been produced and will be sent home with your child.

PTFA

If you would like to be a part of our PTFA please speak to our Chair, Sam Willows, or any other member.



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