

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

Telephone: 01623 842163

Dear Parents & Carers

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

We would like to welcome Miss Goodwin to our key stage 2 team. Also a warm welcome back to Mrs Pawlitta who has returned from maternity leave.

Classes for this academic year are:

Wren (F1/Nursery)-Mrs Wesley

Robin (F2)- Mr Cohen

Jay (Y1) -Mrs Evans

Dove (Y2)- Mrs Lewis/Mrs Pawlitta

Nightingale (Y3)- Miss Goodwin

Kingfisher (Y3/4)- Mrs Allen

Goldcrest (Y4) – Mrs Henderson

Kittiwake (Y5) –Mr Brightman

Siskin (Y6)- Miss Watson

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.

Extra-curricular activities such as football, sports club and choir/drama will continue week commencing 16th 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.

Mrs Smith
Head of School

Leaving Us!!!

It is with great sadness I am letting you know that Mrs Hughes, our school business manager, will be leaving us on Friday 13th September. She has secured a



BIRKLANDS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happening this week

Monday 2nd September

Tuesday 3rd September

Wednesday 4th September

Thursday 5th September

Friday 6th September

Celebration Assembly 9.00am

promotion, which will enhance all of her financial skills. We wish her the best of luck and I am sure we can all agree that she will be greatly missed A LOT!!

Uniform/PE Kits

As we are encouraging our children to be the best version of themselves that they can be, we **expect** 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 many 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.

Attendance

Research is showing the massive impact that poor attendance at school can have on a child's life chance. As a school, we encourage all children to attend school on a regular basis. Our target for every child is 96%. Any child that drops below that target should expect to receive a letter outlining our expectations, how we can help to improve attendance, along with what we expect from you. Please be aware that as a Trust we do fine for holidays taken during term-time. If your child has a mild cough or cold then they will be expected to be in school. We are able to administer medicine providing a consent form is signed by parents. If your child is sick, then please keep them at home for 24 hours. If they have diarrhoea, please keep them home for 48 hours. Antibiotics can be administered in school, again with a signed consent form.

Leaflet enclosed about attendance.

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.

School Meals

The school has a new catering provider. It is a company called Aspens. Each day meal options will be a hot meal or jacket potato or a vegetarian option, along with a pudding, at a cost of £2.30. You will find a copy of this half term's menu with this newsletter. 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 who 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.

More Important News

Upcoming Dates

Jeans for Genes – 16th September (wear jeans to school for a £1 contribution)

Mansfield Museum visit for year 3 and 4 classes- 17th/ 18th/ 19th September (details to follow)

School Photographs – 20th September

Internet safety parent information workshop- 26th September

Parents' Evenings – 8th & 9th October

Mansfield Museum visit for Dove class (Y2) - 9th October (more details to follow)

Book bus in school (details to follow) - 14th October

Flu vaccinations (forms to follow) - 17th October

School Calendar

A school calendar of key dates known so far has been produced and this should be with your pack