

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

Telephone: 01623 842163



BIRKLANDS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happening this week

Monday 17th September

KS1 Sports Club 3-4pm
Cooking Club 3-4pm
Football Club 3-4.15pm

Tuesday 18th September

Chicken Club 3-4pm

Wednesday 19th September

Thursday 20th September

Chicken Club 3-4pm
Volleyball Club 3-4pm
Maths Problem Solving 3-4pm
Choir 3-4pm

Friday 21st September

School Photos
Year 6 Reading Boosters 3-4pm

Dear Parents & Carers

Many thanks to all of you who made a massive effort in supporting our Roald Dahl Day. All money raised will be used to purchase books for the children.

Also, thanks to our PTFA for organizing the Welcome Disco. The children had a lovely time and we look forward to the next event. Our PTFA are very active in supporting the school and are always looking for new members. If you would like to join please see our Chair, Sam Willows, or speak to someone in the school office.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

These are taking place this Friday 21st September. There will be no celebration assembly this week. As usual, all children will have their photos taken individually and with siblings. If you would like your child's photo taken with a younger or older sibling who does attend our school then please be in school for 8.15am. If your child attends nursery in the afternoon then please bring your child in the morning if you would like their photo taken.

INSET DAY CANCELLED

Some of you may be aware that the school should have been participating in a Trust INSET day on November 5th. This has now been postponed so school will be open to children on this date.

Absence

Pupil attendance continues to be well below target. Your child can come to school with a minor cough or cold. If your child is off school for more than 3 days we will need to see medical evidence in order to authorise the absence. We can administer medicine providing a parent has signed a consent form.

Website

The school works very hard to ensure we have the most up to date information on the website. Please check this on a regular basis. You will find all relevant and statutory information on there.

Keeping Our Children Safe

As you may be aware, our pupil numbers are increasing and we are constantly reviewing our safeguarding procedures e.g. dismissing at the end of the day. We would therefore appreciate your cooperation with these procedures:

Dismissing at the end of the school day – Please wait for your child to be dismissed by the teacher. Please wait well away from the steps. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, please wait until all children are safely with an adult before engaging in conversation or make an appointment. If there is a change in your child's end of day routine, please let staff know e.g. different adult collecting them.

Walking Home Alone – if you feel that your child is mature enough to walk home on their own then we will now require a permission slip completing to allow this.

Parents in School – A reminder that parents are not allowed beyond the reception area unless they have an appointment. If your child arrives late at the start of the day, after the doors are closed, please bring them to reception and we will ensure they get to class.

Breakfast Club – Now our children are settled, when dropping your child off at Breakfast Club please hand them over to our staff at the lower hall door. Breakfast Club staff will make sure that your child's belongings are where they should be.

School Gate – If you enter and leave the school grounds once the children are in school, please ensure that you close the gate behind you.

Playground Equipment – If you allow your child to play on the equipment at the end of the school day please be aware that they are your responsibility.

Harvest Festival Assembly

This is taking place on Wednesday 26th September at 10am. The Vicar will be coming in to lead the celebration. As part of the festival we would like to donate a collection to the local food bank. We would be grateful if you could send in donations of dried/tinned food to the school office.

Eggs

Our chickens are still busy laying eggs in their new home. These can still be purchased at a discount price of £1.00

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.

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.

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.

More Important News

Upcoming Dates

School Photographs – 21st September
Year 5/6 visit to Sherwood Pines – 24th September
Harvest Festival assembly – 26th September
Nursery coffee morning – 28th September
Parents' Evenings – 2nd & 3rd October
Halloween Disco – 25th October

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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