Weekly Newsletter – 7th March 2016

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Shop for Schools

This year Birklands is one of the 30 lucky schools taking part in this scheme run by the Four Seasons Shopping Centre in Mansfield. The programme will run from Saturday 19th March to Tuesday 19th April and during that time teachers, parents and friends can earn points for their school by taking their receipts to the Customer Service Desk in the Four Seasons Shopping Centre.

Receipts will be stamped and returned and exchanged for point vouchers. The vouchers can then be posted in the box belonging to us. Each £1 spent in the Centre is worth 1 point and receipts will be rounded to the nearest pound.

Each week, the Chad will print 'Bonus Points' vouchers and additional points can be collected during the Easter holidays by taking part in fun activities in the Centre. Details of the activities will be featured in the Chad.

At the end of the promotion, the school with the most points per pupil will win £3000 in cash to spend on school equipment!

The school in second place will win £1000 to spend on equipment and every participating school will receive a 'vegetable starter pack' worth £38 to help them plant their own small vegetable patch.

Please support Birklands and help us to collect the most points. More details will follow soon.



Monday 7th March Phonics 3-4pm

Tuesday 8th March Phonics 3-4pm Phonics meeting for parents 3-4pm

Wednesday 9th March Multi-Skills after school sports club – Key Stage One

Thursday 10th March Maths Club 3-4pm Y3/4 to Southwell Minster

Friday 11th March Year 1 to Warsop Library 11am Corporal Butcher after school club 3-4pm

Phonics Meeting (Year 1 & Year 2)

A meeting for parents will be held on Tuesday 8th March 3-4pm to discuss the Phonics Screening Test. Please see Miss Murphy or Mrs Evans if you have any queries.

We aim high, we care, we believe, we are respectful

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Tickets are now on sale for 'Shakespeare Rocks!'

Years 3 and 4 will be performing 'Shakespeare Rocks!' this half term. Rehearsals are well underway and many thanks go out to all those parents who are supporting children to practise their lines at home. Performances will take place on Tuesday 15th March at 1.30pm and Wednesday 16th March at 5.30pm and tickets are available now! We do need all children to return to school on Wednesday 15th for the evening performance at 5.30pm-please let your child's teacher know if your child is unable to attend the evening performance so we can make the necessary arrangements to ensure that the show can still go ahead.

<u>New Teacher</u>

As you may or may not be aware Miss Bryant, our year 5 teacher, will be leaving us at Easter. We are pleased to be able to tell you that we have been successful in recruiting a new teacher to replace Miss Bryant. Ms Spyby is an experienced Key Stage 2 teacher who will be joining us from Heatherley Primary School after the Easter holidays. She has previously worked with Mrs Smith so we are looking forward to building on the experience we already have in Key Stage 2 to create an even stronger team.

Funding for School

As you know, all of the children in Key Stage I now qualify for Universal Infant Free School Meals. This has meant that many parents who may qualify for Free School Meals do not apply as they already receive a free meal for their child. However, many funding streams that we can access as a school use the Free School Meal indicator as a way to allocate funding. As fewer parents now apply, this means we are able to access less funding. We are keen to keep our current staffing ratios for classes but as costs increase, we need to tap into as much funding as we can.

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals then please apply to Nottinghamshire County Council. To find out if you are eligible, please visit our website where you will be able to find out more information and online forms. Alternatively you can ring the FSM team on 01623 433009 who will ask you some qualification questions and give you an immediate answer.

More Important News

Stars of the week ending 4th March were:

Reception – Jacob McRell & Klarissa Zhuta Year 1 – Tiegan Stocking & Tyler Clarke Year 2 – Tamira Morley & William Evans Year 3/4 L – Jemma Hobson & Hope Snuggs Year 3/4 P – Lexi Stocking & Thomas Winterton Year 5 – Abbie Morley & Curtis Preston Year 6 – Amber Guy & Clare Holden

Best behaved class were the Goldcrests in Year 6 – well done!

Attendance last week was 96.31% which is still within Government targets but could be improved! The Goldcrests in Year 6 had 100% attendance for the second week running - well done! Thank you to all parents and carers for helping in this extremely important subject.

Planning ahead!

The Year 6 KS2 SATs will be administered in the week commencing 9 May 2016.

We would love you to...

Join us for Maths games on a Tuesday morning from 8.30am.

Reading every Friday morning from 8.30am.

CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE A TEAM POINT EVERY TIME THEY ATTEND!!

Breakfast Club is held on a daily basis from 8.00am to 8.30am at a cost of £1.20



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