Weekly Newsletter – 19th January 2016

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A big welcome back to all after the Christmas break. Hoping that all the children (and parents/carers) are feeling refreshed and ready for a busy new term.

The replacement of the school fencing is now complete. Thank you for your support whilst this work has been completed.

We are hoping to start work on playground improvements towards the end of term. This will create a lovely environment for the children to play in with much of the equipment decided on by the school council.

Free School Meals

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals then please apply to Nottinghamshire County Council. Even if your child is in receipt of Universal Free School Meals, we may still be able access further funding to help with your child's education. 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.



Monday 18th January Phonics sessions

Tuesday 19th January Phonics Sessions

Wednesday 20th January Multi-Skills after school sports club – Key Stage One

Thursday 21st January Swimming for year five children. (Nightingale class)

Year 6 Maths Club

Foundation Stage coffee morning 9 am

Friday 22nd January Class 3/4L visit to Warsop library

Corporal Butcher after school club

<u>PTFA</u>

The PTFA is an important part of Birklands Primary School. They help raise money that is used to benefit the children in our school. The current committee would like to ask our parents and carers if anyone has spare time

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to help support with events and join this important group. An informal meeting is being held on Wednesday at 9.00 so please come along and get involved.

<u>Uniform</u>

Mr Copestake and Mrs Duffy conducted a uniform audit last week and were very impressed with the standard. Thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring that your children come to school appropriately dressed. As a reminder the school uniform for Birklands is:

- Burgundy cardigan/jumper
- White or burgundy polo shirt or school shirt/blouse
- Black/grey trousers/skirt/pinafore dress
- Black school shoes

If there is a one off reason why your child is not in correct uniform then please inform their class teacher on the day.

Collecting Children

Can we please remind parents/carers to collect/drop off their children at the appropriate entrance. Many parents are now coming into school via reception and this is causing concerns about safety. Staff need to know who is in school and we are finding that parents are walking through reception to access other areas of school and not letting staff know. If you are in reception, please DO NOT let other people into school. This should only be done by staff members. If you do not need to speak to the school office then please do not enter school by the main reception.

After School Clubs

Just a reminder that the after school football club has now finished for Key Stage Two children. This is being replaced with a new multi-skills after school club for years 1 & 2. If you would like your child to attend but haven't yet booked a place then please come to the school office as we have a few places still available.

Corporal Butcher's after school club on Friday will continue all the way through to the end of the summer term.

<u>Library Visits</u>

These are continuing on a Friday morning all the way through to the summer. Dates for the next term are as follows:

22nd January 16 – Year 3/4L (Siskin)

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29th January 16 – Year 2 (Dove) 5th February 16 – Year 3/4P (Kittiwake) 26th February 16 – Year 5 (Nightingale) 4th March 16 – Year 6 (Goldcrest) 11th March 16 – Year 1 (Jay) 18th March 16 – Reception (Robin)

Can you please ensure that your child brings their library card on the day of their visit and any books that need returning.

<u>Attendance</u>

Can we please stress the importance of getting your children to school on time and ready to learn. Attendance last week was 97.5% which is a slightly down from last week. In the week commencing 7^{th} December the Siskins in 3/4L had 100% attendance and in the first week of term the Goldcrests in year 6 also had 100%. Last week we had **two** classes with 100% attendance, the Doves in Year 2 and the Nightingales in Year 5. A huge well done to all of these classes!

Children can come into school with minor ailments such as coughs and colds and we will monitor them. If their condition gets any worse then we will contact you to collect. Can you therefore ensure that we have the most up to date contact details for you?

Attendance over 96% is considered good as a national average

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 8.00 am to 8.30 am at a cost of £1.20



More Important News

Stars of the week ending 11th December were:

Reception – Peyton Hornblow & Jacon McRell Year 1 – Morgan Bush & Blanka Danik Year 2 – Adam Ashall & Tj Hargreaves Year 3/4 L – Lily-Mae Palmer & Hannah Smith Year 3/4 P – Kelsee Coppin & Conrad Richards

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Year 5 – Jorgie Foster & Bethany Lowe Year 6 – Ebony Bush & Brooke Simpson

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

Stars of the week ending 8th January were:

Reception – Jodie Hobson & Max Jones Year 1 – Elliemay Clarke & Harry Cudworth Year 2 – William Evans & Caleb Hornblow Year 3/4 L – Rhys Crawford & Jamie Evans Year 3/4 P – Faith Snuggs & Elisha Staniforth Year 5 – Bobbie-Jo Drury & Shanay Plastow Year 6 – Ella Bettridge & Tyler Broadbelt

Best behaved class were the Siskins in Year 3/4L – well done!

Stars of the week ending 15th January were:

Reception – Lahni Mellors & Jake Simpson Year 1 – Kadie Cooper & Isabelle Bingley Year 2 – Mackenzie Jessop & Cameron Watson Year 3/4 L – Sky Bell & Tamara Walters Year 3/4 P – Aimee Daniels & Harriet Sefton Year 5 – Alexander Brown & Holly Brown Year 6 – Benjamyn Marriott & Emily Sisson

Best behaved class were the Nightingales in Year 5 – well done!

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