



Weekly Update

4th December 2020

Staff Update

Ms Cameron is having an operation and will be out of school from today until approximately the February half term. She has told the children and classes that she works with. Miss Kaye will teach 4K on Wednesday and Mrs Shiva will teach 2HW on a Wednesday to release Mr Hughes-White to cover additional leadership role during this period. I'm sure you would like to join us in sending Ms Cameron our best wishes and a speedy recovery.

Christmas Lunch

Please remember to order Christmas lunch by **9th December**.

Poppy Appeal

Many thanks to everyone who bought poppies. We raised an amazing £556.31. Many thanks for your generous support.



Christmas Bazaar

The bazaar is different this year. The games have been taken to the classrooms for the children to enjoy. Year 5 & 6 have put a lot of effort into making the games fun for all year groups. Here are a selection of them. Well done to Year 5 & 6!



Our Twitter account regularly has photos and updates of class activities and events in school. Follow us on @BirchHillSch

Cold Weather Arrangements

In the event of bad weather we will always do our best to stay open. We may need to make last minute changes to drop off and collection arrangements (as we did last night in the rain). If it's icy we will grit the bottom playground and Y6 playground. In this situation, please do not come onto site early, instead use the whole 'staggered' times available. **8:30-8:55 and 3:00-3:25**

In the event of a school closure, details are on our website— under About US/ Emergency Closure Procedures.

Free School Meal Vouchers

The Local Authority will be rolling out Free School Meal vouchers for the Christmas holidays for parents who are eligible. Once we have more information we will let parents know. We anticipate this being week beginning 14th December. If you think you may be entitled go to <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-meals/how-do-i-apply-free-school-meals>

Friends update

- Pop up Christmas shop will be open in the bottom playground at pick up times on the 10th and 11th December.
- End of Term— Dress up/PJ day (& Christmas Jumpers), Class Christmas Activities and online Pantomime
- EasyFundraising is an easy way for Friends to raise money. Simply register Friends as your preferred charity.



A few reminders.....

School Christmas Events

- * **Children's Christmas cards** – can children please bring in their Christmas cards by **9th December**. We will not have the usual post box, instead, staff will sort them and send them out the following week.
- * **Christmas lunch**—please remember to order lunch by **9th December**.
- * **Nativity Show**—all year groups are working on a virtual Nativity show. We will share this with parents on the last week of term. More details to follow.
- * **Dress Up/PJ Day (& Christmas jumper)** Children will have a games day and some classroom Christmas activities and watch an online Panto on the last day of term.
- * **Staff Gifts** – We fully appreciate your continued support and understand it is traditional for parents to buy staff a gift at Christmas. However, in light of the challenges COVID19 has brought everyone I would encourage parents to either send a thank you to staff and/or make a donation to Guide Dogs for the Blind. This is our nominated charity for this school year. The link is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dan-kelf>

Dates

Children's Christmas cards due in	Wednesday 9th December
Year 4 Christmas Unwrapped Church visit	Wednesday 9th December
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 16th December
Friends Dress Up/PJ/Xmas Jumper Day & Online Panto	Friday 18th December
End of Term (finish at normal time)	Friday 18th December
INSET day	Monday 4th January 2021
Start of Term	Tuesday 5th January 2021

* See school website for term dates