



Weekly Update

28 May 2021

Welcome

This year seems to be flying past and I can't believe we're already at half term and beginning to think about Summer 2. I hope everyone has a well-deserved and relaxing half term. It also looks like the sun is eventually coming out – so there should be some nice weather to enjoy.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the Year 4 performance - **Wiz Wham Alakazam**. I hope you had a chance to watch their filmed performance last night (it will be available on the website for the next few weeks). Everyone has worked extremely hard and all their work has paid off – I hope you agree that the children were brilliant.

Mental Health Awareness Month

May has been National Mental Health Awareness Month and the children have been discussing aspects of this from body image in the upper years of the school to our own mental wellbeing.



New Classes for September

Every year we split classes to rebalance them. After half term we will talk to the children about their new classes for September. More details to follow after half term. You are welcome to talk to your child about friendships and who they would like to be in their new class.

Holiday Test & Trace

Please be aware schools are operating Test and Trace over the holiday and any COVID test results should be sent to covidtest@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk. This email will be monitored over the holiday and we will contact parents if there are any positive cases.

If you are going abroad next week you may need to self isolate when you return. Please check the government website for further information.

Testing

If anyone gets COVID symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- ⇒ self-isolate immediately
- ⇒ get a PCR test to confirm the result via GOV.UK.
- ⇒ follow the [stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

Send your PCR test results into school before your child returns to school using the email address covidtest@birchhillprimaryschool.co.uk

Please note that you cannot use a lateral flow test to avoid self-isolating. Lateral flow tests are only for people with no symptoms. Your child will not be allowed back into school unless they have had a negative PCR test result.

You need to self isolate until you have the results of the PCR test. If the result is positive, or if you are contacted by NHS Test & Trace you will need to self isolate for 10 days.

OxWell Survey

Year 5 & 6 Parents/Carers - You will have received a letter from me today with regards to a survey that we are asking Year 5 and 6 children to complete at school. I hope the letter is self-explanatory, however the following website will give you more detail about the OxWell Student Survey <https://www.psych.ox.ac.uk/research/schoolmentalhealth> Thank you for your support. Rebecca Churchill.

Year 4 Performance

The children in Year 4 put a spell on the whole school with their fantastic production of Wiz Wham Alakazam. After 5 weeks of hard work and dedication, the children should be very proud of what they have accomplished: an icy adventure through a magical castle. With wizards, ice creatures, dragons and a goat or two, the play was full of bright scenery, excellent acting, boisterous songs and tantalising teamwork. Well done Year 4, we are very proud.

Maestros Assembly

On Tuesday afternoon, KS2 were given demo sessions on the violin and double bass by John Earls and Joseph Cowie who both teach for Berkshire Maestros. Both teachers are hoping to recruit some pupils for their respective instruments and are offering free taster sessions in school after half-term for those who are interested. The double bass is currently on the Maestros' 'Endangered Instruments' programme, with free instrument hire and 50% off fees for a term. The sessions provided us with a lovely opportunity to hear some live music and were enjoyed by all.

If your child is interested in taking up lessons on either the violin or double bass, then please refer to the contact details on the letter that has previously been sent out.



At friends HQ it's been a bit quiet but the hub is still busy with ideas with what we can do to achieve our current fundraising goal. This is to fund the new play equipment in the bottom playground. We are waiting for a final quote and design to approve and then it will be all systems go. Due to all our fundraising to date we are well on the road. We are all truly thankful and the kids will love it.

Also we need to update our volunteers list. If you can volunteer for any events, even if it's half an hour, we would love to hear from you.

Please email us at: friendsbirchhill@gmail.com. Then we will be in contact as and when needed.

Best wishes and a great half term from the Friends team.

Kids Tennis Half Term Camps

Come and join us!

Tuesday 1st and
Wednesday 2nd June
at Jocks Lane
Recreational Ground



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AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

BREAKFAST CLUBS

HOLIDAY CLUBS

Dates for the Diary

HALF TERM	Monday 31st May—Friday 4th June
National Sports Week	Monday 21st—Friday 25th June
New Reception Parents Evening	Thursday 24th June (7pm (virtual))
Year 6 Secondary School Transition Days	Wednesday 30th June & Thursday 1st July
Year 4 Residential to Oakwood	Thursday 1st—Friday 2nd July
Year 6 Residential to Oakwood	Monday 5th—Wednesday 7th July
New Reception Class Stay & Play	Tuesday 6th July & Thursday 8th July 3.45-4.45pm
New Nursery Class Stay & Play	Wednesday 7th July 4.00-5.00pm
Whole School New Class Transition session	Friday 9th July
Annual Reports to go out	Friday 16th July
END OF TERM	Wednesday 21st July
START OF AUTUMN TERM	Thursday 2nd September