

Staffing Update

Mrs Smith has been at Birch Hill for a number of years and more recently worked as a one of our Nurture Practitioners. Sadly, she will be leaving us next Friday to embark on a new career in Public Health. We are very sorry she is leaving us, but I am sure you will join me in wishing her every success in her new career. Cathy who leads KOOSA Kids breakfast and after-school club will also be leaving us this week. Cathy has worked at Birch Hill for many years and has been a fantastic support to the children and families. We wish her all the best for the future.

SRP

I just wanted to give a quick update with regards to our Specialist Resource Provision. The builders and contractors have been working hard on getting the building work done in the modular, which will become our permanent facility for the Specialist Resource Provision. Most of the major internal building work is nearing completion and the outdoor area fencing work started at the end of this week. We will keep you updated on progress, but hopefully we will be able to move in to our new classroom very soon. Rebecca Churchill, SENDCo.

Nursery Topic

In Nursery we have been learning about autumn. We have been learning how to finger paint, use glue and paint sponges and we have made colourful autumn trees and fluffy squirrels and printed leaves.

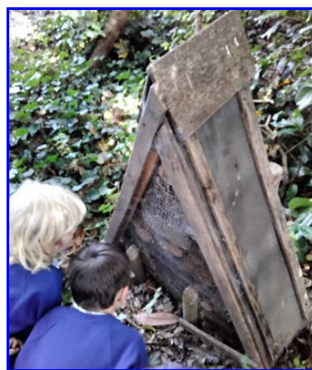
We have listened to stories about autumn and we would definitely recommend reading "The Leaf Thief" by Alice Hemming and Nicola Slater. Squirrel has forgotten what happens in autumn and thinks someone is stealing all the leaves!!!

We have also been on an autumn walk around the school grounds, we went through the woods in Badger's Retreat and out onto the field collecting leaves that had fallen to the floor so that we can use them to make pictures with.



Reception Topic

This week, Reception started our Emergency Services topic by being hooked into it with Hospital role play and listening to the stories: Real Superheroes and Who can be a superhero? We even practised our scissor skills by cutting out masks. We then started to explore beyond our Reception learning environment, by going down to Badger's Retreat. We saw the beds we will use to plant in, the pond, a story telling chair and we even went into the greenhouse.



Fancy Dress Day

Friends Dress Up Day is on Friday, 22nd October. Your child can come in fancy dress and bring in a £1 donation.



Secondary School Applications

Please ensure you apply for your child's secondary school place by 31st October. For further information go to the Bracknell Forest Council website: <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/starting-secondary-school/when-apply>

Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers

The Local Authority will be providing a £15 supermarket voucher for each child eligible for benefits based free school meals at October half term. More information will be sent to parents next week. If you think you may be eligible for benefits-based free school meals, please apply online at <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/free-school-meals>

Children's Achievements

A couple of weekends ago, Darcey Hall-Moore entered her first rugby tournament.

The event was held in Henley.

During the event she took part in various events and

thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Darcey has been able to use these skills during PE lessons in year 4 as we have been learning tag rugby.



Dates for the Diary

Parents Evening for 2OB, 3A & 6H	Monday 18th October—4-7pm
Parents Evening (virtual)	Tuesday 19th & Thursday 21st October 4pm-7pm
Friends Dress Up Day	Friday 22nd October
HALF TERM	MONDAY 25TH—FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER
INSET DAY	MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER
Year 6 Height & Weight Check—School	Tuesday 2nd November
Flu Immunisations - Reception-Year 6	Thursday 4th November
Reception Family Learning Workshop	Tuesday 16 th November (RW) & Thursday 18 th November (RR) see attached flyer
Parent Workshop	Wednesday 24 th November 9-11am
Year 5 Ufton Court Trip	Thursday 25th November
Year 4 Bikeability	Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th November
Year 5 & 6 Bikeability	1st, 2nd & 3rd November
Friends Christmas Fair	Saturday 4th December