

## Welcome

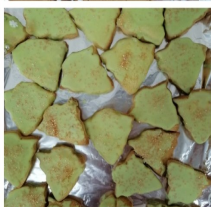
This time of year is always busy with lots of Christmas fun and excitement! I'm sure you will all agree the children were absolutely fantastic in their Nativity plays - both the Nursery and KS1 performances. The Year 5/6 choir also performed at the Bracknell Forest Christmas Carol Concert and the Year 2 choir performed at Easthampstead Baptist Church (EBC). Year 5 and Year 6 children also ran the Christmas Bazaar, while Friends organised the Present Room.

On Wednesday we had our Christmas Lunch and on Thursday the children were able to wear their Christmas jumpers.

Many thanks to all the staff, volunteers and Friends who have helped organise this range of exciting festive events. I know the children have had a great time and now everyone is ready for the holidays. On behalf of all the staff and governors, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New year.

## Staffing update

Mrs Davis will return to work following her maternity leave in January. I would like to thank Mrs Pasha for all of her hard work this term.



## Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity

Somewhere in a Bracknell forest...

Reception and Key Stage 1 performed an entertaining and festive play called the Little Fir Tree. The children had tremendous fun and were able to display their singing, dancing and acting talents.

Parents showed their appreciation with huge rounds of applause at all three performances and congratulated the children and staff.

Thank you to all the staff who worked very hard to make this happen.





### Nursery Nativity

Nursery put on the "Greatest Show" when they told their very special Christmas Story. Everyone joined in and sang beautifully. The children all thought singing "Baby Shark" at the end was the best!!!

### Friends

The disco raised an amazing £794, the Present Room £586, the Christmas cards £345, Christmas Jumper Sale £68 and the Christmas Bazaar made an incredible £477! Thank you to all the Friends who have helped make these events possible, and to all the parents for your continued support. The next meeting is on Wednesday 15th January at 7pm.



### Christmas Unwrapped

The children in Year 4 were invited to St Michael and St Mary Magdalene's Church for an exciting afternoon of Christmas unwrapped. Kind and generous volunteers of the church told the story of Jesus Christ in an engaging and interactive performance. We learned about the journey to Bethlehem and of the people who came to witness the birth of Jesus. The children had a brilliant afternoon and Birch Hill are very grateful to the church and its volunteers.



### Read2Dogs

A Merry Christmas from our Pets As Therapy dog Brodie. Brodie visits us once a week as part of the Read 2 Dogs scheme. Over this term, many children have read to her. We would like to say a very big thank you to her and Gay, Brodie's owner.

### Governors News

Governors met on Monday night. Unfortunately Pauline Cole, our Chair of Governors has resigned as Chair with immediate effect due to family commitments. David Droar has been elected as the new chair. Governors discussed the School Development Plan, including the post Ofsted actions and we also discussed the indicative school budget for 2020/21. On behalf of the Governors we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and happy New Year.

### Snow Closure

Although the snow and cold has not had a big impact on us this term, we thought it would be helpful to clarify our procedures (available on the school website).

- If it is necessary to close then there are several places to get information.
- The school will send out emails and text message via Teacher2Parents.
- The school website will be updated.
- The school will update as many social media sites as possible such as; Twitter, the school's Facebook and the Friends of Birch Hill Facebook pages, Bracknell Forest Council.
- Information on local radio stations for broadcast.
- When possible, the school answerphone message will also be updated.

## House Points

Earth

2272

Wind

2012

Fire

2113

Water

2332

### Children's Achievements

Well done to Dylan Pass for completing his 5k Santa Dash this year. Congratulations!





**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
&  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**FROM EVERYONE  
AT  
BIRCH HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### Dates for the Term

Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 18th December
<b>END OF TERM</b>	<b>THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER</b>
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 2020</b>
<b>START OF TERM</b>	<b>TUESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2020</b>
Year 6 Indoor Athletics	Friday 17th January
Anxious Thoughts Workshop (please call to book)	Monday 20th January - 9.15-11.15am
Year 6 WW11 Play	Wednesday 22nd January
Family Learning Workshop - RA	Tuesday 28th January
Family Learning Workshop - RC	Wednesday 29th January
Year 2 Natural History Museum Trip	Tuesday 4th February
Reception Height & Weight Check	Wednesday 12th & Thursday 13th February
<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>MONDAY 17TH—FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY</b>
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY</b>

Our new website goes live in January, we will keep you updated on the launch, and you can follow us on  
on twitter - @BirchHillSch