

## Welcome

I enjoy this time of year, the weather is getting colder and Christmas is coming! It is also the time of year when we run lots of school tours showing potential parents around ready for September 2020. Meanwhile, the children have been busy with a number of events and trips over the last month from Henley Museum, Cross Country to everyone celebrating Children in Need by coming into school in their pyjamas. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped with the fundraising for Southampton Children's Hospital. We raised an amazing £1122.48! As always, please see the dates below for the various different Christmas events. I look forward to seeing you all at them.



## Victorian Day

Year 6 children, and teachers, entered a time vortex on the 13th November to a Victorian school. Lessons they experienced included: spelling, sums, drill, history and object lesson. They very quickly learnt that Victorian education was very different to their own and that 'children should be seen and not heard'. Everybody had great fun acting their way through the day and learnt how appreciative they should be of Birch Hill as it stands today!



## Children In Need:

For Children in Need this year, we rolled out of bed and came to school in our pyjamas! Some were unrecognisable in their onesies, dressing gowns and slippers. As part of this event, school council organised a cake sale which was hugely popular. The many donations we received from parents and teachers enabled this event to be such a success! Across the day we raised an amazing total of £526.44!

## Year 4 Viking Workshop:

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of November, Year 4 were visited by a Viking, Bjorn. He rallied his troops through songs and marches to scare the Saxon armies. Some children were dressed as warriors while we learnt how Vikings named their swords and fought wars. Other children battled for true love: dressed as Viking gods, we re-enacted Norse legends of deceit and triumph. This was a fantastic and immersive experience that every child enjoyed thoroughly. We are incredibly proud of the Year 4's enthusiasm and engagement – well done Year 4!





### Year 4 Football Tournament

A group of year 4 children attended a football tournament at Easthampstead Park on the 7th November. Birch Hill finished 2nd in their group, having remained undefeated until the final match. The boys and girls who played showed excellent sportsmanship and determination.

### Cross Country Festival

Children from Year 4, 5 and 6 competed in the annual cross country festival on the 15th November at Great Hollands.

The girls finished 5th overall with a combined time of 34.24 and the boys finished 17th with a combined time of 32.50. Both groups performed amazingly and showed excellent collaboration skills.



### Year 3 River & Rowing Museum

On Wednesday 13th November, Year 3 visited the Henley River and Rowing Museum to take part in some workshops about the Stone Age. The children had lots of fun creating cave paintings with charcoal and red clay. They also made Stone Age pots with coins and some clay animal statues. The children found the history workshop equally as interesting, investigating Stone Age weapons, farming and food. Everybody had a brilliant day and represented the school beautifully.



### New Members of Birch Hill Primary

We have welcomed two guinea pigs to Birch Hill this week; Winnie (all black) and Cookie (black and white). They have settled into the Rainbow Room and have been greeted by some of the children already. Your child may come home and tell you about them.

**Please let your child's class teacher know if your child is allergic to animal fur and is unable to have contact with the guinea pigs.**



### Bikeability

Some of Year 6 took part in the council's Bikeability scheme this week.

Over the course of three days, they have learnt the rules of the road and grown in confidence whilst cycling on it.

The instructors have praised how much each child has improved and we would like to add our congratulations.

### Friends Of Birch Hill Primary

Friends held an EAGM on 7<sup>th</sup> November and I would like to welcome and thank Lucy Potter, Maria Lewis, Lisa Silk-Hale, Alex Perrot, Shelly Taylor and Anil Saksena for stepping up and offering to run the Friends committee. We are still fund raising to redevelop the Calm Zone into a new sensory garden, so everyone's hard work is much appreciated.

We have lots of Friends events taking place in the run up to Christmas. Please take a look at the dates below as well as information on the Friends Facebook group and the Birch Hill Primary Facebook page.



### Children's Achievements

Congratulations to Ruby Huggins who was the Captain's mascot at Chelsea V Crystal Palace on the 9th November.



We have a new twitter account!  
Please follow us on twitter -  
@BirchHillSch



## Reminders

Don't forget to collect the tokens from The Sun Newspapers from Saturday 23rd November. We can then claim £600 worth of new books for the school. We need 3,500 tokens. Thank you for your help.

Please book your child's Christmas lunch online by Wednesday 11th December. We cannot take orders on the day.

Dates for the Term	
Friends Meeting	Tuesday 26th November - 6.15pm
Family Learning Workshop - Year 3	Wednesday 27th November - 9.00am
Family Learning Workshop - Year 4	Thursday 28th November - 9.00am
Year 4 'Christmas Unwrapped' visit to St. Michael's Church	Thursday 28th November - PM
Bracknell Forest Christmas Carol Concert	Sunday 1st December - 5pm
Friends Christmas Present Room	Friday 6th December—AM
Christmas Bazaar	Friday 6th December—PM
Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity (Grandparents & small children)	Monday 9th December - 10.00am
Easthampstead Baptist Church Carol Concert (Year 2)	Monday 9th December - 7.00pm
Reception & Key Stage 1 Nativity	Tuesday 10th December - 10.00am & 6.00pm
Nursery Nativity	Thursday 12th December - 10.15am
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 18th December
<b>END OF TERM</b>	<b>THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER</b>

If you have any suggestions or feedback please fill this section in and return to the school office.....