

Please see attached separate letter regarding an update on our current COVID situation.

It's been lovely to see so many children in their Christmas jumpers today! We will be able to let you know how much we've raised for Save the Children in next week's newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Friends Christmas Fair last week. It was lovely to see everyone and a special thanks to the whole Friends committee who worked so hard organising and running the event.

Many thanks also to everyone involved in running Christmas activities from decorating the hall, running the KS2 bazaar and everyone rehearsing, performing and filming the Infant and Nursery Nativity plays. We will send out links next week.

Year 3 - Stone Age

Over the past few weeks, Year 3 have been learning about the Stone Age. It has been an exciting topic and all the children have thoroughly enjoyed a range of learning experiences. They have followed instructions to create their own woolly mammoths, designed and created their own Stone Age necklaces and created their own cave paintings using charcoal. They have even written instructions on how to wash a Woolly Rhino!



Year 4 - Crime & Punishment

Year 4 have enjoyed a fantastic day out at Oxford Castle and Prison as part of our Crime and Punishment topic. We learnt about the history of the Castle and how it was repurposed as a prison in the Victorian era. We were particularly shocked when we learnt its youngest inmate was younger than us! There was also opportunity to perform a mock trial, where everyone took on a different role in either the defence or prosecution team, for the trial of Mary Blandy - a former inmate of the prison. The children were polite, showed resilience whilst climbing the 101 steps of St George's tower and represented the school in a fantastic manner. Well done!



Year 5 - Ufton Court Trip

Recently, Year 5 had a brilliant day at Ufton Court learning about the Ancient Greeks. We started the day by learning about the City States of Ancient Greece by looking at artefacts and then became Greek hoplites with swords and spears. In the afternoon, children took the roles of judges, jury witnesses and criminals to discover Ancient Greek crime and punishment... some children experienced time in the stocks! Despite the very cold weather, all children were perfectly behaved and represented Birch Hill Primary very well. Well done Year 5!



Waitrose Community Matters

A big thank you to Waitrose in Bracknell, for awarding Birch Hill Primary £333! Waitrose are helping local organisations who are raising funds for their biodiversity/conservation and environmental projects through their "give a

little local love" scheme. This award will help us buy resources for our Edible Playground!

Brodie - Read to Dogs

We are very sad to tell you that Brodie, our 'Pets as Therapy' dog has passed away. Brodie has listened to children read at Birch Hill Primary for many, many years, as part of our 'Read to Dogs' scheme. We would like to thank her owner, Gay for the amazing work she and Brodie have done with the school.



Morrisons It's Good to Grow

Another big thank you to all the parents who shopped at Morrisons and helped us raise 2286 Grow Tokens to spend on FREE gardening equipment for the school! We will be making a shopping list soon and we will let you know what you've helped us buy for Edibles.



Dates for the Diary

Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 15th December—Please book online
Early Years & KS1 Nativity Performance	Coming soon online
End of Term	Friday 17th December
INSET Day	Tuesday 4th January 2022
Start of Term	Wednesday 5th January 2022

Letters/Attachments coming home this week:

- Birch Hill Menu 2022 spring term
- Parent Covid Update December 21
- School Nursing Newsletter Dec 2021