



Weekly Newsletter

08 September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and managed to have some quality family time.

It has been lovely to see the children back and settle back into school really well. As always at this time of year, I would like to say a special welcome to all our new families who have joined us and especially to our new Nursery and Reception children who have started this week.

I emailed you last week over the summer holiday with an update on staffing; but just as a reminder;

	Teacher Allocation	TA
	Ms Karen Cameron (KS2 Leader)	
Y6	Miss Chloe Hodge (4 days) Mrs Hannah Kerslake	Mrs Liz Partridge Mrs Sue Bonner (AM) Mrs Sam Higgs
Y5	Mrs Carla Hooper (4 days) Miss Emily Conn	Mrs Sharon Todd Mrs Karlie Golding Mrs Dee Biggins
Y4	Mrs Sam Russell (4 days) Mrs Emma Wells	Mrs Anna Radzinska
Y3	Mrs Shirley Moore Mrs Helen Davis/ Mrs. Kalpna Clarke (job share)	Miss Alanna Smith
Y2	Miss Sophie Middlemass Miss Hannah Mustoe / Mrs. Imogen Attrill (job share)	Mrs Brenda Tidy Mrs Jo Fincham
Y1	Mrs Emma Bradshaw Miss Karrie Browne	Mrs Kim Foster (PM) Mrs Rhona Mosthav Mrs Terri-Lee Artman Mrs Dani Hewitt
Reception	Mrs Chantal Watson Miss Molly Archer (EYFS and KS1 Leader)	Miss Hannah McGill Mrs Shannon Holgate Mrs Kim Foster (AM)
Nursery	Mrs Becky Giles	Mrs Sarah Hartley Mrs Jo Fincham Mrs Linda Mitchell

We will make a permanent appointment for Mrs. Davis's job share over the half term and will keep you updated. We will also be advertising for a Teaching Assistant and Finance/Admin position.

Dates and Diary

Please see the dates below. There are Welcome Meetings for every year group over the coming weeks (face to face) and Parents Consultation Evenings (all virtual) with the class teachers (and children) immediately before half term.

Parent Survey

Many thanks to everyone who completed the Parent Survey in July. We will share the results with governors and your comments and feedback will form part of the School Development Plan (SDP) this year.

Academy

We have continued to work with the Local Authority (LA), Department of Education (DfE), and Maiden Erlegh Trust (MET) on the proposal to join the Trust by 1st December. We will keep you updated on progress over the coming months.

All the information is available on the [school website](#)

Emergency Contact Forms

We are starting to send out emergency contact forms. Please send these back to the class teacher or TA as soon as possible with your updated information – this needs to include at least **two** contacts.

FRIENDS OF BIRCH HILL NEED YOU!

What is Friends of Birch Hill?



This is the parent/teacher association (often known as PTA) for the school. The group raises money to enhance provision for the children by organising events like the summer fair, school discos, dress up days, events for parents. Last year the group raised enough money to pay for a new climbing frame for the playground and now fundraising is ongoing to upgrade the school library.

What can you do to help?

There are only a few parents on the group at the moment so Friends really need some new volunteers. If you choose to join the main jobs/tasks are:

- Coming up with fun ideas for future fundraising events which the kids will enjoy
- Attending meetings which are usually held every 2 months
- Reaching out to businesses to get people to attend the school fair & donate raffle prizes
- Attending events to help set up, run a stall, lend a hand, clear up
- Working with the school office to get communication sent out to parents
- Designing flyers and communication to raise awareness of events

The more volunteers we have, the less work for each person and the more fun for the kids!

Please email friendsbirchhill@gmail.com

PE DAYS

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Tues & Thurs	Mon & Fri	Tues & Thurs	Wed & Fri	Wed & Fri	Tues & Fri

DATES FOR THE DIARY — AUTUMN TERM

Welcome to Year 5&6 Meeting	Monday 18th September @ 6.30pm
Welcome to Year 3&4 Meeting	Wednesday 20th September @ 6.30pm
School Photographs	Thursday 21st September
Welcome to Year 1&2 Meeting	Tuesday 26th September @ 6.30pm
Magic Pebbles Workshop for Reception	Tuesday 3rd October & Thursday 5th October @ 9am - details to follow
Year 6 Height & Weight Check	Wednesday 11th October
Welcome to Reception Meeting	Wednesday 11th October @ 6.30pm
Parents Evening (virtual)	Tuesday 17th October - 4-7pm
Parents Evening (virtual)	Thursday 19th October - 4-7pm
HALF TERM	MONDAY 23RD —FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER
INSET DAY	MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER
Year 6 Shakespeare performance	Thursday 9th November - details to follow
Year 5 Ufton Court Trip	Friday 24th November
Children's Christmas Fair	Friday 1st December
Nursery Nativity Play	Tuesday 5th December - 9.30-10.30am
KS1 Nativity Play	Wednesday 6th @ 9.30am & Thursday 7th December - 9.30am & 5.30pm
Reception Nativity Play	Friday 8th December @ 9.30am
Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 13th December
END OF TERM	FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER