



BIRCH HILL

PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Learn, Believe, Achieve Together

NEWSLETTER

5 JANUARY 2024

Welcome

It is lovely to see everyone back and especially to see the children settled back into school routines. Year 5 have enjoyed starting their swimming lessons this week and the choir is very excited about attending the London O2 Young Voices event today. They have all worked hard in their rehearsals and I know they will have a wonderful experience. Ahead of the event, I would like to thank Mrs Davis and Mrs Kerslake for all of their hard work running the choir since the beginning of the term.

We know the weather has turned, and it looks like it will be even colder next week and we may even get some snow. Please make sure your child comes to school wrapped up and with a coat. We also know there are lots of bugs and colds going around at the moment; we are seeing it with staff, so please bear with us.

If your child is absent from school, please remember to email bhpabsence@maidenerlegthrust.org leave a message on the absence line.

Can I take this opportunity to remind parents of some of the **school uniform** expectations:

- Birch Hill Logo - Royal blue jumper or cardigan & white shirt/polo/blouse
- Black shoes - these must be sturdy (no trainers, boots, or ankle boots)
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Games and PE kit is also required, consisting of:

- White or royal blue t-shirt & royal blue shorts
- Black tracksuit (when outside) or black hoodie & tracksuit bottoms (**plain and unbranded**)

And finally, after years of saying, no, I'll never do it, I've decided to run the London Marathon. I am running on behalf of the NSPCC as I think it's a great charity and obviously linked to the work we all do with children.

The School Council have agreed to make the NSPCC it's Charity for the Year and any funds raised will go directly towards my Marathon fundraising – obviously, this will be done transparently, and through my justgiving page (<https://www.justgiving.com/Michael-Dillon70>) and go directly to NSPCC. Any donations from parents would be greatly appreciated.

The NSPCC will be in school again during January & February to deliver their **Speak out. Stay safe** workshops with the children.

Michael Dillon - Headteacher



Nursery

Nursery have had a busy start to the term welcoming twelve new children to the class. We are all learning each others names and the rules of the class.

We were lucky enough to be outside playing when the snow started. We all had a lovely time watching the snowflakes come down and some of us even tried to lick them!!



Reception

The children have settled back into school after the Christmas break.

This half term the children have started learning about Space, they have enjoyed exploring the new space station role play area and researching facts about Venus.

In Expressive Arts and Design, we have been using the skill 'blending' to blend two colours.



This week the children had a visit from Tesco Food Group who presented the children with a fun and exciting workshop on how fruit and vegetables arrive at our supermarket shelves.



Cookery Club - Sapphire Class



This week's Triple Thank You and Triple Star Awards

Harrison - Y6	Thank You
Samuel - Y6	Thank You
Tommy-James - Y4	Thank You

YEAR GROUP REMINDERS

NURSERY	-
RECEPTION	-
YEAR 1	-
YEAR 2	-
YEAR 3	-
YEAR 4	-
YEAR 5	-
YEAR 6	-
SAPPHIRE	-
OTHER	Updated INSET Days - Friday 23rd February, Monday 15th & Tuesday 16th April 2024

DATES FOR THE DIARY—Spring Term 2024

Young Voices at the O2	Tuesday 16th January
NSPCC Assemblies	Monday 15th-Friday 19th January
NSPCC Virtual Assemblies	Monday 22nd—26th January
Take One Picture Art Week	Monday 22nd—26th January
NSPCC Volunteer Workshops	Monday 29th January
Take one Picture Art Exhibition	Thursday 8th & Friday 9th February
HALF TERM	MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY—FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
INSET DAY	FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY
Family Learning Workshop—Reception	Thursday 22nd February & Friday 1st March - 9am-10.30am
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 27th & Thursday 29th February - 4-7pm
Year 5 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th February - 4-7pm
Family Learning Workshop—Year 1	Tuesday 12th March & Thursday 14th March - 9am-10.30am
END OF TERM	THURSDAY 28TH MARCH
INSET DAY	MONDAY 15TH APRIL
INSET DAY	TUESDAY 16TH APRIL