



# BIRCH HILL

## PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Learn, Believe, Achieve Together

## Newsletter

## 26 January 2024

### Welcome

The children have had a great week creating, making, and crafting a whole range of different pieces of art work for our Take One Picture Arts Week, including; Totem Poles in Year 5 through to Paper Mache in Year 2 and leaf printing in Year 1. It has been lovely to see the children be creative and explore a wide range of artistic skills and their own creativity. We are looking forward to sharing the children's work with you at the exhibition on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of February.**

The Trust spent two days in school this week conducting a 'school review'; they observed Reading, Writing, Maths & Phonics, as well as speaking to staff and children. They spent time in all year groups from Nursery through to Year 6, including Sapphire Class and Rainbow Room. The process is very much 'getting to know you' to identify the strengths within the school and areas to develop. The report will be shared with Senior leaders as well as governors (now called School Advisory Board - SAB) to help review the School Development Plan. Next month parents, children, and staff will also receive a Trust wide survey that will also feed into the School Development Plan.

### Staffing Update

Mrs Bradshaw (1EB) will be leaving us at Easter to take up a new position at a school in Slough. We would like to thank her for all of her hard work since she has been at Birch Hill and wish her all the best for the future. We are working with the Trust to recruit a replacement teacher and will keep parents updated.

### Online Safety

Can parents in Year 5 and Year 6 please talk to their children about group messages on WhatsApp. There have been a number of incidents recently where children are being unkind to each other.

**Michael Dillon - Headteacher**

### Take One Picture

This year, our Take One Picture Art exhibition is based on **A Tiger in the Storm. (Surprised!) by Henri Rousseau.**

The children have been working on a variety of different pieces in their classes, which are based around themes from this picture.

We are looking forward to exhibiting these on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of February.**

We invite you to come along to see their masterpieces. Please see the timetable below.



### NSPCC

Teachers held their class-based NSPCC assemblies this week. The message of the assembly Speak Out Stay Safe.

The NSPCC will be in school delivering workshops for children in Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 on **Wednesday 7th February.**

### Year 3

A sneak preview of Art in year 3. The children have been really busy with our art week on 'Take One Picture'.

We have been using a range of mediums to create our lovely pictures. We used water paints, crayons, and ICT to recreate our interpretation of "Surprised" by Henri Rousseau.



**Be prepared to be blown away when you visit our Art Exhibition!**

### Year 4

Year 4 have been investigating and finding out why the Vikings raided and invaded Britain. The children have enjoyed discovering how the Vikings used to live and how they travelled across the ferocious seas- on a Longboat of course!

This week we took a pause on our Viking investigation and spent time getting creative with our preparation for the 'Take One Picture' project. Children have imitated Viking resilience and determination to produce some wonderful creations that we look forward to sharing with parents and carers soon!



## Take One Picture Timetable

### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Nursery	9:00 – 10:00
Reception	10:00 – 11:00
Year 1	11:00 – 12:00
<b>Exhibition closed between 12noon and 1:30pm</b>	
Year 2	1:30 – 2:30
<b>After school viewing from 3:15pm to 4:30pm</b>	
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>	
Year 3	9:00 – 10:00
Year 4	10:00 – 11:00
Year 5	11:00 – 12:00
<b>Exhibition closed between 12noon and 1:30pm</b>	
Year 6	1:30 – 2:30
<b>After school viewing from 3:15pm to 4:00pm</b>	

# Cookery Club

Five children from Year 4 who have consistently followed the golden rules were invited to go into the school kitchen, with Kelly and Anna to create food for the following day.



## Children's Achievements

Well done to Eve & Iszy in Year 5, and Eden in Year 3 for receiving awards in freestyle and street dance!

The girls all belong to Artemis Hip Hop (a group that rehearses at the community centre and our school)

They all took their first exam just before Christmas.

Eden took and passed her Rosette one, and Iszy and Eve were both awarded their Bronze award with honours.

Congratulations!



## This week's Triple Thank You and Triple Star Awards

Glen - Y5	Thank You
Maria - Y1	Triple Star
Elijah - Y1	Triple Star

### DATES FOR THE DIARY — AUTUMN TERM

Take One Picture Art Week	Monday 22nd—26th January
NSPCC Volunteer Workshops for Y2, Y5 & Y6	Wednesday 7th February
Year 3 Home Learning Exhibition	Thursday 8th February - 2.45-3.05pm
Take one Picture Art Exhibition	Thursday 8th & Friday 9th February (timetable to follow)
<b>HALF TERM</b>	<b>MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY—FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY</b>
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY</b>
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
<b>END OF TERM</b>	<b>THURSDAY 28TH MARCH</b>
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>MONDAY 15TH APRIL</b>
<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY 16TH APRIL</b>