

Friday  
17th  
July  
2020

# BIRCHILLS CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



## IMPORTANT

Today marks the end of the summer term and the beginning of the summer holidays, COVID 19 has made it a unique time in our lives and one that will certainly never be forgotten! A time when we have lost loved ones and also a time when people have recovered or are healing from heartache. Our thoughts, respect and prayers are with you all. We have been touched by the community spirit, working together and the support, we are very proud to work at Birchills and serve our community with love and respect. **Thank you** for all your kind words and support. Staff have worked tirelessly to ensure families had support with learning and wellbeing. We are looking forward to meeting you all again to make learning our top priority. Stay safe. **God bless our community.**

## GOODBYE YEAR 6

We are incredibly sad that we haven't been able to say a proper goodbye to our Year 6 classes. We are planning to organise a goodbye party, in the autumn term, so that they have the chance to visit school one final time and get the chance to say a proper goodbye. In the meantime we would like to wish our Year 6 children **good luck!** We know you will make Birchills proud!

**God bless you.**

## CURRICULUM PLANS

Please see topics to be covered next term on the next few pages, find out as much as possible over the holiday and tell your new teacher.

Prizes for all who do this homework!  
Surprise and shock us!

## CONTACT IN HOLIDAYS

In the event of an emergency and you need help or if you want to tell us important information, please call or text us. **07483 305859**

## SEPTEMBER RETURN REMINDER

*In September all children will be, legally, required to return to school and in full uniform, correct shoes, socks and simple hairstyles, no extreme cuts/shapes or patterns.*

**YEARS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6** These year groups will all return on  
**WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER, 8.30am.**

### Nursery and Reception

These year groups will receive a separate letter about inductions and start dates.

**ARRIVING** Three gates will open at 8:30am until 8:50am - this will allow children to enter school in a calm and ordered manner. To avoid congestion, we will be asking different year groups to enter at different gates.

**Nursery:** Children should enter through the main gate towards the office access.

**Reception, Y1 and Y2:** Children should enter through the lower end Birchills Street entrance which is the usual entrance for all children.

**Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6:** Children should enter through the gates on Farringdon Street (where the staff carpark is).

**HOMETIME** Children will be dismissed from the same point that they enter school. Only **one adult** will be permitted to collect a child.

- **Nursery and Reception:** 2:30pm
- **Year 1 and Year 2:** 2:40pm
- **Year 3 and Year 4:** 2:50pm
- **Year 5 and Year 6:** 3:00pm

## SEPTEMBER RETURN - CONTINUED

Government advice recommends that when in school children should be part of a 'bubble' and avoid contact with other bubbles wherever possible. Our bubbles will be the class that the children are in. Breaktimes and lunchtimes will be staggered and assemblies will still take place but will take place in the classrooms. Children will not be required to socially distance from each other but where possible our staff will maintain a safe distance from your children.

**IF YOUR CHILD OR A MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS ANY COVID 19 SYMPTOMS THEN THEY SHOULD NOT COME TO SCHOOL AND SEEK ADVICE REGARDING GETTING TESTED.**

**<https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>**

## NEW TEACHERS

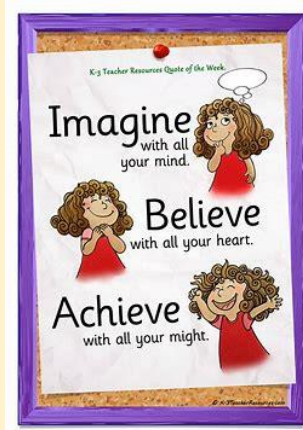
See the table below to find out who your child's new teacher is.

Current teacher	New teacher
	Reception A (Blue) Mrs Broadfield
	Reception B (Yellow) Mrs Solomon
Reception A (Blue) Mrs Ghag	Year 1 Mrs Ghag
Reception B (Yellow) Mrs Williams	Year 1 Mrs Williams
Year 1 Mrs Solomon	Year 2 Mrs Cooper
Year 1 Mrs Broadfield	Year 2 Mr Moxon
Year 2 Mrs Cooper	Year 3 Miss Williams
Year 2 Mr Moxon	Year 3 Mrs Yoshida
Year 3 Miss Williams	Year 4 Miss Broadhurst
Year 3 Mrs Yoshida	Year 4 Mr Potts
Year 4 Miss Broadhurst	Year 5 Mr Seaman
Year 4 Brassington	Year 5 Mrs Kimitris
Year 5 Mr Seaman	Year 6 Miss Poole
Year 5 Mr Potts	Year 6 Mrs Latham

## CLASS PAGES

The following pages will contain a brief overview of what will be covered during the next half term. More detailed documents will soon be on our website.

# Welcome to Nursery



## Nursery Staff

Mrs Taplin  
Miss Bobat  
Miss Brindley  
Miss Thomas  
Miss Martin

## Autumn One Topic

### Marvellous me!!!



During our first weeks in Nursery we will learning how to become independent learners and will be exploring our new surroundings.

## Starting Nursery Homework

***In preparation to starting Nursery can you? .....***

- Practice putting on/taking of your own coat
  - Wash and dry your own hands
  - Tell an adult your own name
- \*Read lots of stories and sing lots of songs
  - Count to five

We look forward to welcoming you to our school





We are so looking forward to meeting you all in September. Transition appointments will be sent to you in the post soon.

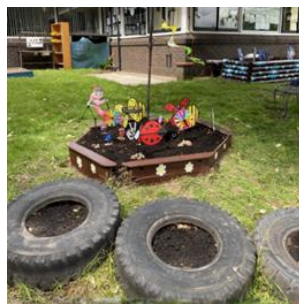


**Yellow Class** -Mrs Solomon and Mrs Hussain

**Blue Class** -Mrs Broadfield, Mrs Taplin, Mrs Walker, Mrs Khan.



We have been busy transforming our outdoors area ready for you all.



Please can you ask your child to draw and colour a picture of your family for us and write their name all by themselves and bring it to show us on your transition day in September. Be as creative as you can!





# Year 1



A big hello to all of the children, parents and carers. The last few months have been a very testing and difficult time for everyone and although we have been so far away we have been thinking about you all. We hope that you are all well and safe and in good health.

It is an absolute pleasure and delight that we are fortunate to be working with the current Reception children again for another year in Year 1. This is to support our children to have a much more smoother transition from Reception into Year 1 this year.



**Teachers** 1C Mrs Ghag & Mrs Carter, 1D Mrs Williams and Miss Bobat, along with Mrs Johnson and Mrs Parveen



## Curriculum



Initially, in September we will be focusing on supporting the children with settling back into school and its routines. The mental health and well-being of your children is very important to us. When we feel they are ready we will begin working on developing their reading (RWI), writing and maths skills.



Our topic for Autumn 1 will be 'History of Teddies'.



**Challenge yourself over the summer by having a go at these challenges.**



- \* Research and find out as much information as you can about old and new teddy bears.
- \* Create a 3D teddy bear using materials and resources at home. Be as creative as you like.
- \* Have a teddy bears picnic at home, take photographs and write about your super picnic.
- \* Take your favourite teddy bear on an adventure and write a diary about your adventures.



*Bring in your amazing work and creations to school in September. We can't wait to see them.*

*Please take care, stay alert and stay safe. We wish you all a safe and restful summer holiday and we will see you all soon on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020.*



**Welcome to Year 2!**  
We are really looking forward to meeting you in September!

**The Year 2 Team:**

Mr Moxon  
Mrs Cooper  
Mrs Gakhal  
Mrs Khan

**Things you can do to prepare for Year 2:**

- ✓ Get plenty of rest and enjoy your summer holiday!
- ✓ Help your parents/carers add up items when shopping.
- ✓ Continue to read and discuss what you have read.
- ✓ Practice your letter formation.

RWI, speaking and listening and maths will be our **main** learning focus!

**Books you will be reading:**



**In Geography we will focus on maps!**



**Art you will be creating:**

- Moving pictures.
- Building Bridges.
- Using paint to create backgrounds for bridges.

Can you guess what the most important thing we think about in year 2 is?

Yes... that's right... **YOU!**

We care about you and how you feel.

We want you to enjoy your learning at school!

Can you think about some class rules you will be able to share on the first day back, that will help us all to enjoy our time at school?



Let's get creative! Your special summer project is to cut up some old magazines or newspapers and make a Volcano mosaic - get creative, we can't wait to see what you produce. See below for some ideas 😊



In Year 3 we have lots of exciting topics to explore together! We can not wait to get started with our new topic 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles' - see what is involved below:

Maths - Place value, addition and subtraction

Writing - *Stuck* by Oliver Jeffers and *The Tunnel* by Anthony Browne

Science - Rocks

History and Geography - Volcanoes and earthquakes

RE - *What is the Trinity?*

PSHE - Health and Wellbeing

Computing - Computing skills and Online Safety

Art - Sketching

D&T - Exploration, skills and design

Music - Volcanic soundscapes

MFL - Numbers

PE - Outdoor Games

## Welcome to Year 3

Special messages from Y3 staff:

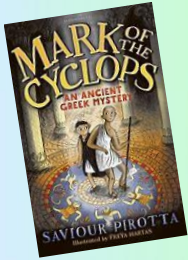
Mrs Yoshida - Hello children! I am very excited about meeting you all. We have so many exciting activities to do in Y3- you'll really love it!

Mrs Bristow - Hello. I'm looking forward to seeing you all. I enjoy baking, knitting and walking 😊 See you soon children!

Miss Williams - Hello you superstars! I cannot wait to meet you all - you have worked so hard during lockdown and I can't wait to see the wonderful things you have created.

Mrs Khan - Hi! I am looking forward to seeing you all in September. We are going to have lots of fun and discover lots of new things together!

We will be reading...



**Welcome to year 4**  
Miss Broadhurst, Miss Millward  
& Mrs Akhtar  
Mr Potts & Miss Wright

### Reading

Reading is fun and transports you to a different world. Make sure that you are reading every day.

### Challenge

How many books can you read over summer? We cannot wait to hear what you've read.

### Multiplication Facts

In year 4 you need to learn all of your tables up to 12 x 12 at speed.

### Challenge

Get practicing and see how many you can learn. Can you beat the teacher?

#### Curriculum

**Maths:** Place Value, Addition & Subtraction

**Humanities:** Ancient Greece

**Science:** Electricity

**RE:** What is the Trinity?

**D&T:** Cooking

**Computing:** Coding

**Online Safety:** Self image and identity

**Music:** Mamma Mia

**MFL:** Months of the Year

**PSHE:** Managing & understanding own feelings.

**PE:** Games

PE will take place on a Monday

### Autumn Term

#### **Who were the ancient Greeks?**

About 2,500 years ago, Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient world. The Greeks were great thinkers, warriors, writers, actors, athletes, artists, architects and politicians.

We will be exploring what life was like in ancient Greece when we return in September.

#### Summer homework

- ❖ Read and retell the story of Medusa, the Gorgon, who could turn people to stone if they looked at her
- ❖ Design a mythical creature. Which animals' body parts could you include in your design? What personality will your creature have?
- ❖ Be inspired by Greek art! Look at online examples of pottery and create a design for an ancient Greek jug or bowl.
- ❖ Taste some traditional Greek dishes such as moussaka, figs, goat's cheese or taramosalata. Write a food review, describing what you have eaten.
- ❖ Be like an athlete ready to perform at the Olympic Games and get fit by taking a daily run. Time yourself each day. Can you beat your personal best?



# Welcome to Year 5

## 5K



## 5L



Mrs Compton



Mrs Kimitris

You will find out what we are doing in art and design in September!

In the meantime, can you collect the following resources...

- Cardboard boxes
- Kitchen roll tubes

In Autumn 1 we will be reading...



Mrs Brittle

Mr Seaman

## Homework Projects

Not all homework tasks are compulsory, you can choose what you would like to do!

Bronze tasks	Silver tasks	Gold tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sketch a bird of prey.</li> <li>• Annotate a picture of a castle.</li> <li>• Copy a small section of the Bayeux tapestry.</li> <li>• Design an Anglo-Saxon shield.</li> </ul> <p>If you complete a bronze task you will receive 3 dojos per task.</p> <p>Our topic is 1066.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research words which originate from Anglo-Saxons times. Use these words to create a word search.</li> <li>• Create a glossary of technical words associated with a castle e.g. portcullis.</li> <li>• Research and write an information leaflet about Halley's comet.</li> <li>• Find out about the Feudal system.</li> </ul> <p>If you complete a silver task you will receive 5 dojos per task.</p> <p>In RE we will be studying the Holy Trinity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a storyboard to retell the events of the Battle of Hastings.</li> <li>• Write an autobiography about Edward the Confessor.</li> <li>• Create an annotated sketch of a trebuchet and explain how it works.</li> <li>• Design and make a replica of William the Conqueror's flagship – Mora.</li> </ul> <p>If you complete a gold task you will receive 7 dojos per task.</p> <p>Our Science unit is materials and their properties</p>



# Welcome to Year 6

## Staff

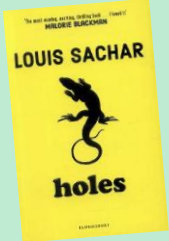
You will either be in Miss Poole's (6M) or Mrs Latham's class (6N). Miss Poole is supported by Miss Partridge and Mrs Simkiss, Mrs Latham is supported by Mrs Dail. Mr Wesi will also support us some afternoons.

## Things to Remember

- PE will be on Friday afternoons
- Please remember to bring your own water bottle on the first day which is clearly labelled.
- Please ensure that you get a good night's sleep before school – Year 6 is a busy year and we need you ready to learn!

## What we will be learning about during Autumn 1...

### Reading and Writing



We will be reading 'Holes' by Louis Sachar and studying some poems by Valerie Bloom and Grace Nichols.



*Challenge: Can you find examples of poems by these poets?*

### Maths and Science

In maths we will be consolidating work on place value and securing understanding of written strategies. To ensure that you are prepared for Y6 maths keep practising those multiplication tables – the better you know them, the easier you will find maths.

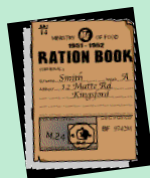
In science we will be studying the human heart and thinking about how to eat a healthy diet.

*Challenges: How quickly can you complete all of your tables – be prepared to 'beat the teacher'. What can you find out about the heart? Perhaps create a poster or make a model to show what you know!*

## Topic

In our topic lessons we will be developing a deeper understanding of the events of WW2 and in particular thinking about how war impacted on the lives of children in this country.

*Challenge: Can you research how Walsall was affected in WW2?*



## Summer Homework Task

*Please complete the English, maths science and topic challenges. If you really want to make a good first impression you could also write a recount of what you have been up to during lock down. Think about all of the features of writing that you could include to really impress us. Have you learnt any new skills? How have you kept busy? What have been your positive experiences? What about your negatives – write it down and share it with us when we return!*



## COVID-19 TESTING

Anyone who has symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can get a free test to check if they have the virus. Some people without symptoms can have the test too. There are 2 ways to get a coronavirus test: getting a test kit delivered to your home or going to a test site. If you or anyone in your household develops any of the following symptoms you should visit the following website to arrange a test by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>

**SYMPTOMS** = The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

### CATCH IT BIN IT KILL IT

Please share the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' message with your children ready for September. In September the children will be encouraged to wash their hands more regularly and we also encourage children to use sanitiser. Please ensure that your children are hearing the same messages from home too,

### WE ARE STILL HERE

Please contact us if you have any questions or suggestions. We care about you all.

[principal@birchills.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:principal@birchills.walsall.sch.uk)

Remember we are still here for you over the summer holidays. Do not hesitate to email us if you need support.

Stay safe and stay well!

## CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



## BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



## KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.

