

Next Week's Assembly Theme: International Human Rights Day

Reminder: Do not leave valuables on show in your car whilst dropping off and collecting children from school.

What's on Next Week

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Whole School Nasal Flu Immunisations Marathon Kids Assembly KS1 Movie Night 3.00-4.45pm	Y2 Baby Jesus at Polesworth Abbey	Reception visit to Wood End Hawk trip to Whittington Barracks Y2 and Y6 Hippodrome Performances 2.30pm KS2 Musical Theatre Club 3.00 -4.15pm	Family Christmas Craft Session Show and Share	13/12/19 - Crazy Hair Day 2.40pm Celebration Assembly

Feedback and Marking

We can all remember having our work marked when we were at school - quite often it was a sea of red pen with ticks and crosses. Since then marking has moved on and has become a complex system of feedback to pupils - often requiring a response from the pupils. This has proven to be very time consuming and the impact has been limited.

Over the past week, staff across our schools have been trialling a no marking week with teachers exploring different ways to provide effective feedback to pupils. This hasn't meant the teachers not looking at and carefully assessing the work of the children, but it has meant time has been saved by not writing comments in every child's book and this time being invested in planning work in direct response to what they have seen.

A number of different strategies have been tried and I am looking forward to meeting with staff to receive their feedback. This will then shape how our feedback and marking policy will change to make the best use of teacher time to maximise the progress of the children. When you next see their books at parents evening in March, you may well notice a difference. There may be less writing on the page from the teacher but the verbal feedback that will have taken place will have been more effective.

At the heart of the changes will be the mantra that standards cannot fall. They are to be maintained but what I think will happen is that standards will improve as a more bespoke approach is adopted and more time is given over to effective feedback to children. I look forward to keeping you updated as the year progresses.

Mrs M Cross
Executive Headteacher

School letters

At this time of year there are so many events happening and a lot of letters coming home, please ensure that you return letters and permission forms to school as soon as possible. This is especially important for permission forms as without parental consent children will miss out on activities and trips. If you think you have missed a letter please check the letters home section of the school website.

The consent forms for the **Nasal Flu Immunisation** can still be handed in first thing Monday morning, if you would like your child to receive the immunisation.

Also **Kids Run Free** with Marathon Kids launches on Monday, only children who have returned their consent form will be enrolled.



Presenting Angels to St Leonard's Church

All photographs can be purchased via ParentPay for £3 per A4 colour copy.

Spot Light on Excellence...

Enterprise

Enterprise Week is a time for children to work in **their Houses** to compete against each other. Mrs Hopkins organises the day and gives each House a criteria to work towards. This year, each House needed to make a Christmas decoration and a game to sell or play at the Christmas Fayre.

As always, the morning was a hive of activity. I nominated myself as 'photographer' and visited each House to see all the wonderful ideas and talk to the children. My favourite part of the day was watching the children work with their peers and support one another to produce the best products they possibly could.

The House Captains were challenged to produce a PowerPoint presentation which went into detail about pricing and profits too. I wish them luck, as Mrs Hopkins will be asking some tricky questions to see how well they know their products.

Thank you to Mrs Hopkins and all of the staff who took part in Enterprise Day; it takes a lot of time and preparation. I hope you can all attend the Christmas Fayre to see the games and decorations for sale this evening.

Well done Dordon!

Miss McGroarty



IPad App of the week

Make a Christmas Tree by
ABCya.com (£0.69 / £0.34 VPP)



The activity guides children through a series of steps to decorate a Christmas Tree, put a surprise in a gift box, and then finally place the tree in a wintry scene. Children can design and place several trees in their scene along with different surprises and gift boxes.

Charity Update

Our new charity for this year is



Whole School trip to see Snow White at Birmingham Hippodrome

Don't forget that the payment has been set up on ParentPay so you can pay in instalments of as little as £2. Please note that the full amount must be received by Friday 17th January 2020. Unfortunately if payments are not paid in full we will have no choice but to cancel the trip.

Crazy Hair Day!

Friday 13th December

To raise money for our chosen charity, Zoë's Place, the school council are holding a Crazy Hair Day.

Pupils and staff are invited to pay £1 and come to school with crazy hair!



There will be a prize for the craziest hair!



**St Leonard's Church
Christingle**

**Sunday 8th
December at 4pm**
All are welcome.

Christmas Menu



'Ensuring Excellence'



Swan

This week Swan class went to Birmingham Hippodrome to take part in a workshop about 'Snow White':

"My favourite part was pretending to ride horses to the music." Finley

"My favourite part was singing because the man was funny when he played the guitar." Kayleigh

"I liked watching Amelia play Snow White because she looked pretty in her crown." Cameron

"My favourite part was dancing with the huntsman because we got to do lots of fun things." Scarlett

"My favourite part was when we acted like we ate the poison apple and we all had to fall to the floor." Alexia

"My favourite part was pretending to make potions and playing the instruments, it was so fun!" Tyler



School Car Park

Reminder: To prevent serious accidents to children, please note that parents are NOT permitted to drive and park on the school site during the school day i.e. between 8.30am and 5.00pm. In exceptional circumstances parents may use the car park but only if they have received permission from school.



Dear Parents, McDonalds are giving away a free book "The Christmas Adventures of Archie" to get your copy go to <https://www.reindeerready.co.uk/storybook>



Drop in for support and advice

For families, children and young people 0-19 years old, or 0-25 years with additional needs

When:

Wednesday 8th January 2020

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

Wednesday 5th February 2020

From: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

At: Buds Building Birchwood Primary School, Birchwood Avenue, Dordon B78 1QU

For all families in North Warwickshire



The Early Help and Targeted Support Team



Dates for your Diary

16/12/19 - KS2 Movie Night
17/12/19 - 9.30am KS1 Christmas Performance
17/12/19 - 2.00pm KS2 Christmas Carol Concert
18/12/19 - 9.30am KS2 Christmas Carol Concert
18/12/19 - 2.00pm KS1 Christmas Performance
19/12/19 - Whole School to Church
20/12/19 - Christmas Jumper Day
20/12/19 - Christmas Dinner Day
20/12/19 - End of Term school finishes at 1.05pm
06/01/20 - Inset Day school closed to pupils
07/01/20 - Spring Term begins
24/01/20 - Whole School to see Snow White at Birmingham Hippodrome
28/01/20 - Young Voices Concert
05/02/20 - Family Lunch
17/02/20 - 21/02/20 Half Term
24/02/20 - Inset Day school closed to pupils
25/02/20 - Term resumes
03/04/20 - End of Term school finishes at 3.00pm
20/04/20 - Summer Term begins
08/05/20 - Bank Holiday
25/05/20 - 29/05/20 - Half Term
01/06/20 - Term resumes
19/06/20 - Inset Day school closed to pupils
17/07/20 - End of Term school finishes at 1.05pm
These dates may be subject to change if necessary. Details and times to be confirmed nearer each event.

Attendance

	Last Week	Year
Peacock	92.2%	95.1%
Kingfisher	93%	94.9%
Swan	98.3%	96.1%
Owl	92.4%	96.3%
Swift	98.6%	97.9%
Hawk	97.1%	96.7%
Falcon	96.5%	96.6%

Last weeks Postcards Home

Peacock = Grayson

Kingfisher = Jamie

Swan = Jackson

Owl = Rosie

Swift = Maisie

Hawk = Bailey

Falcon = Sayan

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Jack & Jill Preschool Before and After School Club

Breakfast Club 7.30-8.35am.

After School Club
3.00-5.30pm.

Monday - Friday, term time only. For more information please contact Jack & Jill Preschool on 01827 899551 (Please note that once a session has been booked you will be charged even if your child does not arrive.)