



BIRCHES PRIMARY SCHOOL
Newsletter
November / December 2017

Medical Information

Please keep the school informed of any recently diagnosed allergies or other medical conditions.

Allergies - Reminder

We have several children in school who have severe allergies. Therefore, it is extremely important that **NO NUTS or KIWIS or foods containing nuts** are to be brought to school by the children. Thank you.

Contact Details

Could you please ensure that school has an up to date phone number on which to contact you on. If you have moved house recently can you please make sure that you have notified school of your child's new address. If you have not been receiving text messages from school please contact Mrs Watson.

School Uniform

Please ensure children's names are on all coats, sweatshirts and on clothes that are removed to change for P.E and swimming. If possible please use name tabs as names written in ink can wear off during the year.

The only piece of jewellery to be worn in school is a watch.

For health and safety reasons **earrings, rings and necklaces are not to be worn.**

Contacting School

If you are concerned or unsure of anything relating to your child please do not worry at home, pick up the phone and speak to either Mrs Watson or your child's teacher. We will be only too willing to talk to you after school at a mutually convenient time.

After School Activities

After school activities will take place on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2.35 until 3.30pm.

They start on the week beginning **Monday 6 November to Thursday 14 December.**

Monday:	Badminton	P6 – P7	
	ICT Club	P4 and P5	
Tuesday:	Football	P4-P7	£1.50 per session
Wednesday:	Rugby	P4 and P5	
	Christmas Craft	P6 and P7	
Thursday:	Tennis	P6 and P7	
	Board Games	P4 and P5	

There will be no after school activities on Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 November.

Poppy Appeal

Children can make a donation towards the Poppy Appeal. They can also purchase a range of 'poppy' themed goods sent by The Royal British Legion, these include Friendship Bracelets and Flexi rulers at £1.00 each and other items including a box of small pencils and wristbands at 50p each. All money goes to the Poppy Appeal.

Parent Interviews – Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 November

School will close early on both of these days. In order to ease traffic congestion, we have staggered collection times.

- Children from P1 to P3 (and older brothers and sisters) are to be collected at 1.10pm.
- Children from P4 to P7 are to be collected at 1.20pm.
- The school bus will be available for children who normally travel on it at 1.30pm

Parent interviews will commence at 1.40pm. Please make sure you have returned your parent interview sheet stating the day and time you prefer to your child's class teacher.



School Disco – Friday 17 November 6.00pm to 7.30pm

The PTA have organised a disco for all children who attend the Birches Primary School. Tickets are available in school at £2.50 per child.

Ditch the Dark Day – Tuesday 28 November

The Eco Team have arranged a special ‘Ditch the Dark Day’ where all the children in school are encouraged to wear bright clothing to school to highlight the importance of being seen on dark mornings and evenings. There is no charge for this day.

Open Morning– Friday 1 December 9.00am – 12.00pm

Parents of prospective P1 pupils will be given the opportunity to view the school with the Principal, meet the staff and see our children in their classrooms working and learning together.

Pantomime P1 – P3 - Tuesday 5 December

Children from P1 to P3 will be given the opportunity to see Sleeping Beauty’s Big Dream at The Bardic Theatre, Donaghmore. This will take place on Tuesday 5 December.

The children will leave school at 10.00am and will **NOT be back in time for School Dinner.**

They will need to bring a packed lunch with them which they can eat on their return.

All children will go home at their usual time.

The cost of admission to the pantomime is £8.00 per child and can be brought to their class teacher by Friday 1 December.

P4 – P7 Christmas Dinner Tuesday 5 December

Christmas Dinner for children from P4 to P7 is on Tuesday 5 December. If your child wishes to take dinner on this day it is very important that they let their teacher know on Monday 4 December for catering purposes.

Pantomime P4 – P7– Wednesday 6 December

Children from P4 to P7 will be given the opportunity to see ‘Sleeping Beauty’ at The Market Place, Armagh.

The children will leave school at 9.15am and will **NOT be back in time for School Dinner.**

They will need to bring a packed lunch with them which they can eat on their return at approximately 12.40pm.

All children will go home at their usual time.

The cost of admission to the pantomime is £8.00 per child and can be brought to their class teacher by Friday 1 December.

P1 – P3 Christmas Dinner Wednesday 6 December

Christmas Dinner for children from P1 to P3 is on Wednesday 6 December. If your child wishes to take dinner on this day it is very important that they let their teacher know on Monday 4 December for catering purposes.

P1 and P2 Christmas Performance Wednesday 13 December

The P1 and P2 Christmas Performance will begin at 10.00am and should end at approximately 11.00am.

P3 and P4 Christmas Performance Thursday 14 December

The P3 and P4 Christmas Performance will start at 10.00am and should end at approximately 11.15am.

Save the Children – Friday 15 December – Christmas Jumper Day

Children can wear a special ‘Christmas Jumper’, a Santa hat or come to school in their own clothes to help raise money for Save the Children. If children wish to take part they can bring £1.00.

Party Days and Non-Uniform Days

Christmas parties for P1 – P4 will take place on Monday 18 December.

Christmas parties for P5 – P7 will take place on Tuesday 19 December.

Non-uniform day on Wednesday 20 December – NORMAL CLOSING TIME



Dates for your Diary

Parent Interviews

Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 November
School closes early (see Newsletter for details)

School Disco

Friday 17 November – 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Ditch The Dark Day

Tuesday 28 November – Children to wear bright clothing (No charge)

P1 – P3 Trip to the Pantomime

Tuesday 5 December – Sleeping Beauty's Big Dream £8.00

P4 – P7 Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 5 December

P4 – P7 Trip to the Pantomime

Wednesday 6 December – 'Sleeping Beauty; £8.00

P1 – P3 Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 6 December

P1 – P2 Christmas Performance

Wednesday 13 December 10.00am

P3 – P4 Christmas Performance

Thursday 14 December 10.00am

Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 15 December (£1.00 per child to go to Save the Children)

Christmas Parties P1 - P4

Monday 18 December

Non-Uniform Day (No Charge)

Christmas Party P5 – P7

Tuesday 19 December

Non-Uniform Day (No Charge)

Wednesday 20 December

Non-Uniform Day (No Charge)

School Reopens

Monday 8 January

***I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year***