



# Bird's Bush News



Spring 2 - Week 21

1st March 2019

Please make sure we have your up-to-date contact number so that we can contact you in an emergency and keep you updated with our message system.

## Class Champions

R1	Logan
R2	Dexter
2	Daisy J
3	Ethan
4	Lillie-Mae
5	Charlea
6	Hadley
7	Brooke
8	Ronaldo
9	Oscar
10	Max

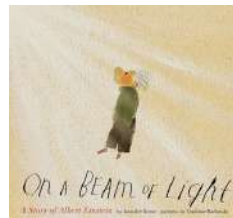
As part of Year 1/2 Science, the children have enjoyed exploring 'Shaping Up' through a range of exciting actions by bending, stretching, twisting and squashing.

## Read it! Winners

R	Owyn
Y1	Elizaveta
Y2	Alexi
Y3	Ethan
Y4	Olivia
Y5	Summer L
Y6	Aimee

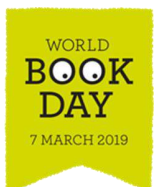
## World Book Day 7th March

To celebrate World Book Day this year, we invite the children to dress up as a 'mad scientist.' This is to coincide with National Science Week where all the children will learn the story of Albert Einstein through the delightful book *On a Beam of Light* by Jennifer Berne. If your child would prefer to come to school in their school uniform or as a book character that will be fine too.



We would also like the children to bring a book into school they no longer want in order to swap it for another.

Lower Juniors can dress up on Friday 8th instead as they are on a visit to Wall on the 7th.



Newsletters are available via the App, on the website, by clicking the text link or we will send it by email - if you give us your email address!

## New Messaging System

Please note, we have moved onto a new text messaging system in school. If you were using the Teachers2Parents App this will no longer receive any messages sent.

Please make sure we have your up to date mobile number on our system.

Please ensure that permission slips and payment for the Y3/4 trip to Wall next Thursday are made by Monday 4th March.

Payment needs to be made through ParentPay against Year 3 / 4 trip to Wall and not against dinner / lunch money.

Year 3 will be visiting in the morning and Year 4 will take their visit during the afternoon. Both groups will eat lunch in school as normal.

Denese Hill (our Family Support Worker) will be holding a coffee morning in school once a month for our current parents. Our next coffee mornings are 29th March, 24th May and 28th June.

Denese is also available throughout the week to discuss any issues, problems or concerns you may have.

### CLASS 6—MRS GUILDER'S ASSEMBLY

**FRIDAY 8TH MARCH at 9.00 - 9.30 a.m.** Parents/Carers of children in Class 6 are very welcome to come along.

#### TERM DATES FOR 2018-2019

<b>Autumn Term 2018</b>	Wed 5th Sept 2018 Mon 5th Nov 2018	Thur 25th Oct 2018 Fri 21st Dec 2018
<b>Spring Term 2019</b>	Tues 8th Jan 2019 Mon 25th Feb 2019	Fri 15th Feb 2019 Fri 12th Apr 2019
<b>Summer Term 2019</b>	Mon 29th Apr 2019 Mon 3rd Jun 2019	Fri 24th May 2019 Fri 19th July 2019

We close at 1.15pm on Fridays

#### SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING DAYS

Mon 3rd Sept 2018, Tues 4th Sept 2018, Fri 26th October 2018  
Mon 7th Jan 2019, Mon 22nd July 2019

### Diary Dates

7th March - World Book Day - dress up as a scientist (Lower Juniors on 8th)

7th March - Y3/4 Trip to Wall

8th March - Class 6 Assembly (Mrs Guilder)

15th March - Red Nose Day

29th March - Coffee Morning

29th March - Non Uniform day for Chocolate donations

4th April (THURSDAY) - Chocolate Bingo

9th & 11th April - Parent Consultation Evenings\*\*

15th April - 26th April EASTER HOLIDAYS

2nd May - School closed for Elections (except Y6)

6th May - School Closed Bank Holiday Monday

13th May - Year 6 SATs week

\*\* please note change of date

Further details about events will be sent out by text or letter nearer the date.

## PROMOTING GOOD ATTENDANCE

Regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities. In recognition of this, the law makes it an offence for a parent or carer to fail to secure the regular attendance of their child at a school at which the child is a registered pupil, without good reason or the agreement of the school. Parents and children should also be supported by their school to overcome barriers to regular attendance, through a range of intervention strategies.

Procedures for attendance have to be clear, understandable & consistent. Here are a few of ours: **REMEMBER:** we are happy to support with any issues! Our children have contributed to this notice too...

### Daily Absence:

The school applies the following procedures in deciding how to deal with individual absences:

- We operate a first day contact system 01827 214666. Parents should call the school office to inform school of any absence, giving a reason for the absence. The office is open from 8.30 am and there is a telephone answering machine for earlier calls. A note can also be dropped in at the office or by sending an email to [s.office@perryhallmat.co.uk](mailto:s.office@perryhallmat.co.uk). If no contact has been made to the school, we will send a text message asking for parents to contact us as soon as possible, this may be followed up by a verbal telephone call
- In line with the Perry Hall Academy Trust's attendance policy: (<http://www.birdsbush.staffs.sch.uk/admin/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Academy-Attendance-Policy-July-2018.pdf>) there is an expectation to keep in contact with school every other day for illness over 2 school days in length (please also contact the school on the first day of any absence). Therefore, if we do not hear from parents and carers, we may make regular contact calls to you for updates.
- If no contact has been made with a parent to explain reasons for absence by day 3, a text will be sent to advise that a home visit will be made by the Family Support Worker as part of our duty to ensure the safety of all pupils and to ensure all is well. If no-one is at home, a calling card will be left explaining the visit and then if no contact is still not made by day 5, a 'safe and well' check will be requested from the local police.

*"If you are absent it affects your learning, so you don't know what you are doing when you come back."*

*"It affects your learning because you don't know what happens with each subject and you may get forgotten by your friends. You also don't know the homework that is set."*

*"You might miss exciting things."*

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life

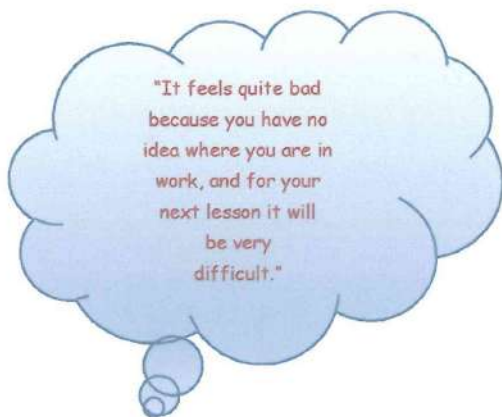
- School doors open at 8.35am and school begins at 8.45am. All doors are shut at this time and access is then only possible via the front entrance. Children arriving after 8.45am are deemed to be late and will receive a late mark.
- Lateness is monitored regularly and regular late comers noted. School will issue an advisory letter to parents. Registers close at 9.15am - arrival after this time will count as a session's unauthorised absence and may result in a penalty notice should these be excessive.
- Half termly reviews will be prepared for the headteacher to highlight potential attendance issues and absence patterns.
- 100% attendance will be celebrated termly and yearly.

**Leave of absence (there is no automatic entitlement to be absent):**

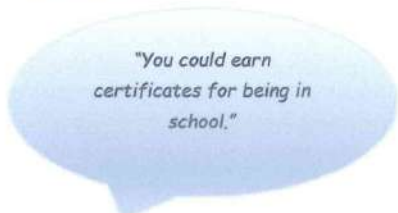
- ❖ Requests for leave of absence during term time need to be submitted in advance - forms are kept in the school office
- ❖ The school is required to respond, in writing, to both parents where appropriate, and make clear if the leave will be authorised or unauthorised. Any next steps will also be included in this letter
- ❖ Any further requests for leave in the next rolling calendar year will have a penalty notice request submitted to Staffordshire County Council, unless considered to be exceptional circumstances
- ❖ If a penalty notice is submitted, this will only be done once the leave has been taken - please note the school does not receive any part of the penalty money and is paid fully to Staffordshire County Council

**Exceptional Circumstances:**

The Headteacher may, in exceptional circumstances agree leave of absence in a school year. The application must be made in advance and the head teacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the leave. A leave of absence is granted entirely at the head teacher's discretion and is not a parental right. This does not include general family holidays taken during term time. The fundamental principles the school adopts for defining 'exceptional circumstances' are rare, significant, unavoidable and short. Unavoidable meaning that the event that could not be reasonably scheduled for another time.



A 2 week holiday means your child can only achieve 94.7% attendance



**Attendance under 95% (reviews are every half term):**

- A 'gentle' attendance advisory letter will be sent to parents with a copy of their child/ren's attendance certificate if attendance falls below 95%.
  - Level one: School identification of absence and initial contact with parent to attempt to establish reasons for absence and affect a resolution. Level one work would also include initial meetings between school staff and parents to discuss concerns about absences, as is general practice for most schools now.
  - Level two: If no improvement - A letter may be sent at any level requesting medical evidence to be provided for any absences, which can include:
    - Medical appointment card with one appointment entered
    - Letter from a professional
    - Medical note
    - Medication prescribed by a GP
    - Copy of prescription
    - Letters concerning hospital appointments
    - Slip with date, pupils name and surgery stamp, signed by Receptionist
- (Please be aware that telephone calls and handwritten notes from a parent/carer are not acceptable as medical evidence when attendance is of serious concern). If no evidence is provided the absence will be unauthorised, 20 sessions (10 days of unauthorised absence automatically if referred to statutory services).
- Final step: A request will be made for statutory services to become involved

**"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you."  
B.B. King**