



Birley Spa Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

Newsletter

September 2021



Executive Headteacher Update

Dear parent and carers,

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! Our children are settling beautifully into the new routines and class groups. They are particularly keen to demonstrate their enthusiasm towards their learning. I am so impressed with how focused they are. Over the summer, teachers have been working extremely hard to prepare an exciting range of topics for the children to explore. Please look out for further information regarding future topics, engagement activities and opportunities for parents to join us for exciting activities day.

Safeguarding

The Government have now published Keeping Children Safe In Education 21; please click on the link below to access this document:

<https://www.birleyspaacademy.co.uk/parents/safeguarding/>

Following a recent government report and Ofsted's review, a comprehensive report of sexual abuse in schools and colleges has taken place. We wish to remind parents that mobile phones (including smart watches) are not permitted whilst on any part of the school grounds. This ensures maximum privacy and safety for our pupils, please keep them out of sight. If your child is in Year 5 or Year 6 and you feel it is necessary for them to bring their mobile phone to school, we would like you to please contact the school office in order to sign a declaration. Please click on the link for a report summarising findings and recommendations:

<https://www.birleyspaacademy.co.uk/parents/safeguarding/>

Online Safety

In addition we will be sending out an online safety newsletter to assist you with safeguarding your child's online devices at home. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the school office and we will be happy to provide any help necessary and support to you.

PE Timetable

FS1	Friday
FS2	Friday
Y1	Monday
Y2	Monday
Y3	Thursday
Y4	Friday
Y5	Tuesday
Y6	Thursday
Shirebrook	TBC

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their P.E. Kit on their P.E. day – (plain white t-shirt, black bottoms).

School start and finish times

Since our return to school, operational procedures have been reviewed and in line with government guidance, our usual school start and finish times are now in place:

Year Group	Doors Open	Registration	Home time
EYFS	8:45am	8:55am	3:00pm
KS1	8:45am	8:55am	3:10pm
KS2	8:45am	8:55am	3:10pm
Shirebrook	8:45am	8:55am	3:00pm

Summer Of Reading challenge

A big well done to all the children that all unleashed their reading superpowers this summer, and participated in the Summer of Reading initiative.

There were plenty of prizes up for grabs, such as book bundles and National Book Tokens, direct through: <https://theweekjunior.co.uk/summerofreading>

If you read, rated and reviewed any books as part of this, maybe you'd like to leave these at the school office.

The deadline for submissions is next Friday 17th September.

Please deliver your entry in a sealed envelope marked "Birley Spa Primary Academy's Summer of Reading".

There's a £20 Waterstones Gift Voucher to be won as top prize! Winning entries will also be shared during an upcoming assembly. Review forms can be found at:

https://ads.dennisnet.co.uk/subs/2021/TWJ/SDT-2119-TWJ-SoR-Review-Form_v5.pdf

Alternatively, maybe you would like to create a very our own...



Breakfast & After School Club



We are delighted to inform you that our breakfast and after school clubs are now live, you can book on via the gateway app. We are working in partnership with SJD Sports. This is fabulous, as we are able to offer a variety of different sporting activities on a daily basis.

Breakfast Club – opens at 7:35am (children will be taken to class for the start of the school day), children are to be dropped off at the hall doors.

Afterschool Club – will run until 4:15pm, all children to be collected from the main school entrance.

The cost of each session will be £4.00 payable in advance via School Comms, Gateway app.

WC 13/9/21	Activity AM	Activity PM
Mon	Long ball	Long ball
Tue	Gym	Gym
Wed	Tag Rugby	Tag Rugby
Thur	Rounder's	Rounder's
Fri	Bench ball	Bench ball

WC 20/9/21	Activity AM	Activity PM
Mon	Dodgeball	Dodgeball
Tue	Table Tennis	Table Tennis
Wed	Fun Fitness	Fun Fitness
Thur	Netball	Netball
Fri	Handball	Handball

Pupil Voice Elections

Our school has a vibrant community and everyone is passionate about creating the fairest learning environments. Our team of school councilors play a major role in developing the greatest relationships, especially listening to the views of all stakeholders. We believe it is really important that all the children have the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings about their school as well as share aspirations they have for all members of the local school community. We are delighted to announce that following pupil council elections the successful candidates are:

Pupil Voice

FS2 – Annabelle & Layla
Y1 – Charlie & Isla
Y2 – Remarni
Y3 – Chance & Oliver
Y4 - Daniel & Jamilia
Y5 – Kyron & Jessica
Y6 - Pharrell & Roman
Shirebrook – Jamie

Environmental Council

FS2 – Jaxson & Eligha
Y1 – Masie & James
Y2 - Darcie
Y3 – Grace & William
Y4 – Lexi & Chloe
Y5 – Imogen & Mia
Y6 – Max & Zain
Shirebrook- Codey

C.R.E.A.T.E

Y3 – Oscar & Isabella
Y4 – Gabriel & Chloe
Y5 – Andre & Kayleigh
Y6 – Noah & Heidi
Shirebrook – Daisy

Safeguarding Advocate

Y3 – Bella & Charlie
Y4 – Jorja & Kayla
Y5 – Alic & Abbie
Y6 – Elise & Kian
Shirebrook - Andrew

Refurbishments

During the school holidays we have been busy refurbishing some of our school areas. Here is a sneak peek....



Uniform

Children will be required to come to school wearing their P.E. kit on their allocated P.E. day. Children will need to wear a plain white t-shirt with plain black sports bottoms and jacket if necessary. If children attend school in anything other than plain clothes, the school office will kindly ask you to bring a change of clothes in for your child to change into.

COVID Update

Please see the latest government update for returning for school safely;

If your child has COVID symptoms

Do not send your child to their nursery, childminder, school or college if:

- they are showing one or more symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- they have tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- they are required to quarantine having recently visited a red list travel ban country

If you or your child develop symptoms, self-isolate immediately and [book a test online with the NHS](#) or call 119.



If your child is identified as a contact of a positive COVID case

You may be contacted by NHS Test and Trace or the school or education setting and informed that your child has been identified as a contact. They will not need to isolate but will need to book a PCR test. They will be able to continue going to school or nursery if they have no symptoms and are well. If the test is positive or they have symptoms they must then isolate.

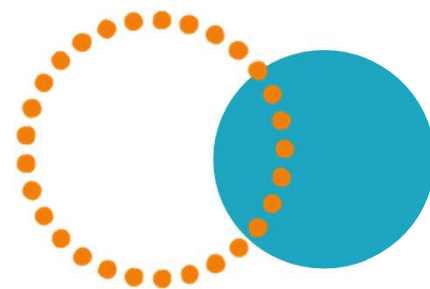
Others in the household will not be required to isolate if they are fully vaccinated or are below the age of 18 years and 6 months. If others in the household are over 18 and 6 months but not fully vaccinated, they must isolate as a contact. [You can find out more here](#)

Attendance

Last year we worked hard on improving our attendance. The result of this hard work was a tangible improvement in not only our attendance figures, but perhaps more importantly the beginnings of a permanent shift in the attitude amongst our parents towards attendance.

We have spent a lot of time engaging with parents in a variety of creative ways. The focus of this work is to help adopt healthier attitudes to attendance, and in some cases a more productive relationship with school.

Moving forward we will continue to use school attendance panel meetings, to help identify barriers to learning and enable support to be put in place to help children and their families to attend school. The ultimate aim of our work is to ensure that every child is given the opportunity, through their excellent attendance, to fully engage and benefit from our new curriculum.



Last Week's Attendance Figures

Target—96%

Actual— 96.7%

R—Heeley 88.6%

R—Whirlow 93.5%

Y1—Sheaf 94.8%

Y2—Endcliffe 98.6%

Y2—Norfolk 95.7%

Y3—Crucible 99.3%

Y3—Lyceum 94.3%

Y4—Kelham 97.0%

Y4—Weston 96.7%

Y5—Millennium 99.2%

Y5— Graves 97.0%

Y6—Bolsover 94.9%

Y6—Peveril 95.3%

Shirebrook 100.0%

Well done to all the classes who exceeded the target of 96%.
Let's see the other classes trying really hard to achieve the
target – remember every day counts!