

Birchensale Headlines



Volume 5; Edition 8; Apr 19

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the eighth newsletter of the year at Birchensale.

The 1st April saw us finally join with Trinity High School (and soon to follow, Holyoakes Field First School) to form the Bordesley Multi-Academy Trust. This will ensure a smooth pathway for pupils from aged 3-19 (as well as taking pupils from other feeder schools). It also cements the 3-tier system in our pyramid into the future.



Pupil Numbers

We currently have 551 pupils in the school. With a small year group of 112 leaving Year 8, and a new intake of 150 pupils joining us in Year 5,

we will have the highest number of pupils we have ever had, on roll in September, with 589 pupils... and counting!

Diary News

2/4/19: Miss Dalby hosted an evening entitled 'What a lot of hot air', with performances from the choir, brass club, dance club all accompanied by Arrow Valley Brass Band. The evening was a great success and the feedback from parents and band members was positive. Plans are already in place for the next event!



4/4/19: We held our latest Y7/8 Parent/Pupil lunch.

5/4/19: Following a careers visit to the Year 7 Skills Show at the Chateau Impney, one lucky pupil, Fawad Faizan, had a nice surprise as he was

presented with an I-Pod mini after winning a competition on the DRPG 5G stand.



11/4/19: We held the final whole school disco of the year. The next big event will be the Year 8 Leavers Ball held on Thursday 18th July.

12/4/19: School breaks up for Easter. Pupils return on **Monday 29th April.**



30/4/19: Miss Gatfield has secured a visit from one of the top netball players in the National League, Bongi Msomi, a South African international player. She will

run a coaching session with our netball players.



And coming up....

6/5/19: School is closed for May Day Bank Holiday.

8/5/19: Ms Vaughan is taking a group of 32 Year 8 History students to the Houses of Parliament as part of a research project.



13-16/5/19: A reminder that Year 6 are sitting their Key Stage 2 SATS exams during the week **13/05/19** to **16/05/19**. Please make sure your child is in school and you do not book holidays or appointments during this week.



17/5/19: Mrs Roberts is taking a group of our Year 8 girls to the Fleet Air Arm Museum as part of their engineering project.

20/5/19: The new Trustees of the Bordesley Multi-Academy Trust have their first meeting. I will feedback anything important to you as usual.

21/5/19: Mrs Pugh has organised a trip to Drayton Manor after winning a competition for tickets for the school. Pupils are to be chosen at random during an assembly prior to the trip.



22/5/19: Mr Homer has organised our Annual Sports Day, so all pupils will need to come to school in their sports kits.

24/5/19: School breaks up for May half term. Pupils return on **Monday 3rd June**.

Attendance

The school attendance rate is currently 95.7%. The best attending classes are 5EHO (97.8%), 5OCO (97.7%) and

7BW (96.5%). Government targets are 95%.



Head Teacher Awards

The latest award went to Amal Shah in Year 5 for sharing with me her sketchbook containing a new picture for each day.

She received a certificate and 50 achievement points. Well done!



Sports

Our sports teams have produced more outstanding performances this month.

Miss Gatfield took our Year 8 Girls to The Redditch Astro, where they were victorious in their District Hockey tournament. The winning team was Maja Szymko, Heather Rigby, Anna Filip, Amelia Chew, Atlantis Shuck, Evie Willis and Betsaida Bustamante-Gonzales.



The following week, the Year 6 Girls then went on to win their District Netball tournament. The winning team was Olivia Berresford, Isabelle Wadlow, Evie Hexley, Connie Waddell, Isabelle Ryan, Skye Shuck, Lola Darby, Deimante Salnaite and Grace Cox.



Birchensale hosted the District Indoor Rowing competitions and, amazingly, were victorious in all eight team events, as well as producing five individual champions.



Harry Bacon, Sebastian Haynes, Lewis Mallin and Patryk Krauze won the Year 5

Boys team event, with Harry also the individual champion.

Mettilda Valentine-Bathrick, Hailey Best, Priscila Bustamante-Gonzales and Desiree-Lea Broadbelt won the Year 5 Girls team event, with Mettilda also the individual champion.

Filip Berezna, Kieon Hicks, Shaun Harper and Ronnie De Ritter won the Year 6 Boys team event.

Jayda Cotterill, Chloe Nash, Isabelle Wadlow and Lani-Mae Lamb won the Year 6 Girls team event, with Jayda also the individual champion.

Kacper Cioch, Isa Iltaf-Armstrong, Alfie White and Riley Oxenbury won the Year 7 Boys team event.

Brooke Stanton, Maja Szymko, Emily Laing and Safiya Sharaz won the Year 7 Girls team event, with Brooke also the individual champion.

Dave Bulley, James Clarke, Alex Hilton and Lewis Smith won the Year 8 Boys team event.

Tamara Zelenyanszki, Courtney Matthews, Kristina Pecenkova and Heather Rigby won the Year 8 Boys team event with Tamara also the individual champion.

So far this year we have won 23 District trophies and 2 County trophies in Indoor Athletics, Indoor Rowing, Hockey, Football, Cross-Country, Table Tennis, Netball and Basketball. Altogether 101 different pupils have been crowned as District or County Champions, winning 187 gold medals.

Our Year 5/6 Boys Indoor Athletics team went to Bromsgrove School and were crowned Worcestershire County Champions. The successful team was Harry Bacon, Lewis Mallin, Riley Butler, Zabeeh Ullah-Faheem, Ellis Simons, Kieon Hicks, Jaidon Lee, Bailey Gibbs, Amir Ahmed, Daniel Rousseau, Hashim Babar and Blake Dawkes.

Our Year 8 Boys Indoor Athletics team then defended the Worcestershire County title they won last year. The winning team was Dave Bulley, Reo Veness, Josh Martin, Szymon Pitula, Mateusz Okninski, Naqeeb Mahmood and Leo Keyte.

At the same games, our Year 7 Girls won bronze medals in their County Netball event and silver medals in their County Indoor Athletics event, and our Year 5/6 Girls also won bronze medals in

their County Indoor Athletics event.

Our Year 5 Girls then secured silver medals as runners-up in their District netball tournament.



Pupils of the Term

At the end of each term, we ask each form teacher to nominate a Pupil of the Term for their form, and each Head of Year for a Pupil of the Term for their year group. The winners were:

Year 5 Pupil of the Term:
Amal Shah

5AE: David Zernicki, 5ECA: Hailey Best, 5EHO: Callum Magnet, 5OCO: Calvin Matthews, 5SD: Mariam Ali.

Year 6 Pupil of the Term:
Isabelle Wadlow

6ABE: Tanya Hewitt, 6SHE: Alfie Gray, 6SRO: Safwan Rahman, 6RE: Eric Woodward, 6SHO: Justin Andrews.

Year 7 Pupil of the Term:
Maja Banas

7AG: Maja Szymko, 7AS: Summer Godson, 7MV: Emily Wood, 7NM: Katrina Zake, 7BW: Ellie-May Minton.

Year 8 Pupil of the Term:
Heather Rigby

8LCA: Emily Wallis, 8CNE: Nathan Robinson-Wood, 8EW: Lewis Smith, 8PHO: Dave Bulley.

Fund Raising

With £61 raised from the raffle for the Redditch Lions Easter egg, we have now raised £3,688.25 for good causes so far this year.

Photography Competition

The competition, run by Ms Hewitt and Mr Harrison produced some fantastic shots. The winner was Kristina Pecenakova with the beautiful butterfly picture below. The runners-up were Mia O'Brien and Tula Williams.



Letters from the Palace

As part of their ECO work, a number of pupils sent a letter about plastic issues to Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace. Replies were received for Kian McDermott, Sid Hancox, Harrison Poole, Callum Magnet and Jasmine Ryan.

Thank you

Following our successful movie night organised by Mrs Homewood and the school council, I would like to thank the following people and companies for donating food and drink for the evening: Peter Wainwright, store manager for Crabbs Cross Co-Op, Beverley Allington, Community Champion for Morrison's, Redditch and Sarah Taylor, Community Champion at Tesco Express, Redditch.



I hope you have enjoyed reading the latest 'Headlines'.

Tim Jones, Head teacher

