

Birchensale Headlines



Volume 5; Edition 9; May 19

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the ninth newsletter of the year at Birchensale.

Holyoakes Field First School, Birchensale Middle School and Trinity High School have now joined together to form the Bordesley Multi Academy Trust. This is a very exciting opportunity for all three schools, which will strengthen our joint work and enhance provision for students and families in our family of schools. As you will be aware, all three schools are now over-subscribed and have gained an increasing reputation for the quality of education, range of opportunities, care and support, which they provide for their students.

Pupil Numbers

We currently have 551 pupils in the school with more pupils joining all year groups. As of September, we will be full with 600 pupils in the school.

Diary News

8/5/19: Ms Vaughan took a group of 32 Year 8 History students to the Houses of Parliament as part of a research project. Despite serious traffic problems, the day was a great success with a tour of Parliament and a meeting with our MP Rachel Maclean.



11/5/19 Following on from our successful coaching session with the Wasps netball captain, a number of our girls were invited to attend the Wasps v Loughborough Lightning match in Coventry. Our girls were invited to be flag

bearers to form the guard of honour at the start of the match. They were also seen on TV a number of times! They all had a fantastic day out and Wasps won!



13-16/5/19: Year 6 sat their Key Stage 2 SATS exams during the week **13/05/19** to **16/05/19**. I would like to congratulate each and every one of them for their hard work before and during the tests. I know that all of the pupils did their best and should be proud of themselves.



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

project. The girls competed against other schools to design a flight deck for a new jet, coming third overall. The girls, Zoe Goddard, Ella Ashton, Elysia Bucsa, Paige Wiggins, Aimee Field, Makayla Hunt, Kaitlyn Crosby, Tamara Zelenyanski, Sophie Fitzpatrick and Siobhane McMillan had great rapport, teamwork, humour, true grit and determination to complete the task.



20/5/19: The new Trustees of the Bordesley Multi-Academy Trust had their first meeting. Along with our own Governing Body, we will strive to ensure that all three of our schools continue to thrive.

21/5/19: Mrs Pugh organised a trip to Drayton Manor after winning a competition for tickets for the school. Pupils were chosen at random during an assembly prior to the trip. We all had a fantastic day out (although numerous trips down Storm Force 10

resulted in some very wet pupils and teachers!)



22/5/19: Our Annual Sports Day took place with victory going to Beoley House.

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

And coming up....

7/6/19: Mr Spafford and Mrs Cartwright are taking some of our Year 5/6 pupils to a swimming gala.

18/6/19: Year 8 are spending the day with The Transformation Trust as part of their Life Skills programme.

25/6/19: The Summer Production takes place with members of the choir and drama club.

27/6/19: Miss Dalby is taking a group of our more-able musicians to Symphony Hall in Birmingham.



28/6/19: Miss Dalby will be taking members of the choir, orchestra and Battle of the Bands winners to perform at the Trinity Music Concert.

Attendance

The school attendance rate is currently 95.7%. The best attending classes are 5EHO (97.4%), 5OCO (97.3%). Government targets are 95%. May I remind you that if appointments need to be made in the school day, we would appreciate a copy of the appointment card, and pupils should attend school for the rest of the day. At Birchensale, every lesson counts and we do not want your child to miss out on any part of their education.



Head Teacher Awards

The latest awards went to Oliver Celec in Year 5 for sharing with me his

sketchbook containing some fantastic drawings, Mia O'Brien (First), Tula Williams (Second) and Alice Whitworth (Third) for their fantastic Science Fair entries and Isabell Johnson for some superb History homework on the bubonic plague and a model of a ship.

They each received a certificate and 50 achievement points. Well done!



Sports

Our sports teams have produced more outstanding performances this month.

We have introduced a new sport at Birchensale, handball, and the pupils have really worked hard on honing their skills. Our Year 7/8 Boys and Girls teams travelled to Worcester to compete in their first ever event and both teams returned with silver medals from the Worcestershire County finals. A tremendous effort.

Congratulations go to Sophie Fitzpatrick who entered the Year 9 High School javelin event and came back with the

gold medal and District title after a series of superb throws.

Our Year 8 Girls defended the District trophy they won last year, with some outstanding performances, great teamwork and sportsmanship. The winning team was: Lucy Dell, Atlantis Shuck, Evie Willis, Heather Rigby, Ruby Gillett, Paige Wiggins, Kristina Pecenkova, Anna Filip, Qirat Iman, Klaudia Kroplewska and 'player of the tournament', Amelia Chew.

So far this year we have won 24 District trophies and 2 County trophies in Indoor Athletics, Indoor Rowing, Hockey, Football, Cross-Country, Table Tennis, Netball, Rounders and Basketball. Altogether 104 different pupils have been crowned as District or County Champions, winning 199 gold medals.

Fund Raising

Mr Homer recently completed the Velo Challenge, a 90-mile cycle ride across Birmingham and the Midlands. He raised £125 towards Alzheimer's research. We have now raised £3,813.25 for good causes so far this year.

After half term, we will be collecting loose change in 'form' moneyboxes for four weeks to raise money for Matt's Mission charity. They raise money to send terminally ill children on a trip of a lifetime, to places like Disneyland whilst they are still able to travel, to create happy memories.



Celebrating Differences

Next half term Year 5 will be celebrating 'difference and diversity'. As part of this, Year 5 will be learning about 'different families', 'what makes a person unique' and 'challenging stereotypes'. We want to celebrate all families and ensure everyone's family is included. As part of the school ethos, we want to make sure that every child feels included and knows that they can be themselves.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Jones'.

Tim Jones, Head teacher

