



NEWSLETTER

12th January 2024

A message from Mrs Gibson:

Welcome back as we greet 2024 with a really positive start back to school. We hope you and your families had a wonderful rest and lots of fun over the Christmas break.

We've been delighted to see the children so keen to be back in school and have enjoyed hearing all about their holidays.

Each class has started their new learning and has been excited to continue where they left off last year.

Parent workshops:

Year 1 parents are encouraged to come to our phonics workshop on **Tuesday** morning so that they can find simple ways to support their child's early reading.

Year 6 parents are taking part in our SATs workshops on **Monday and Tuesday** to see why these assessments support their child in preparation for secondary school and how they are used. They'll be able to see the papers and how much the children need to apply our school values during the build-up to the testing week so we're looking forward to seeing you all there!

Attendance:

A huge well done to Class K who had 100% attendance this week. This means that every child arrived ready to start at 8:40am and that all children accessed all of their learning – keep it up Class K!

Well done to **Lexi** who won our attendance award and gained a £10 Asda voucher!



What we're all about:

Birley Spa Primary Academy
A C.E.A.C. Academy

Values

- Creativity**
Revolving the world in new ways and making connections.
Being able to generate solutions.
- Resilience**
Being able to recover from difficulties and challenges.
Seeing mistakes as the first steps to new learning.
- Endeavour**
Striving to achieve the best and seeking the well-being of others.
- Aspiration**
Having high hopes, ideas and working hard to achieve the best.
- Teamwork**
Working collaboratively and encouraging other members of the school community to be the best version of themselves.
- Empathy and Tolerance**
Being open-minded to opinions and beliefs that may differ to our own.
Being patient, understanding and accepting of differences.

Real life experiences:

- Visits and visitors
- Performances
- Competition opportunities
- Public speaking
- Forest School
- Residential visits

All of our children can shine through our inclusive, experiential curriculum which helps our children to achieve their potential and inspires a lifelong love of learning.

BIRLEY SPA PRIMARY ACADEMY

OUR CURRICULUM DRIVERS:

RESILIENCE

EMPATHY

WELLBEING

COLLABORATION

INDEPENDENCE

ENGAGEMENT

CONFIDENCE

ASKING QUESTIONS

CURIOSITY



Reading Resolutions

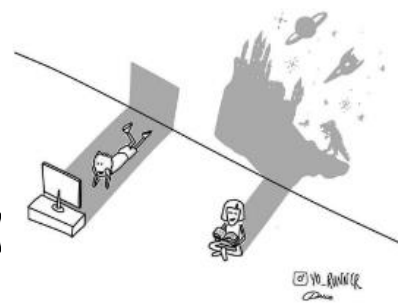


6 Bookish New Years' Resolutions

It's a shiny new year, full of possibilities. How about making some resolutions linked to books and reading? Research shows that the benefits of reading together can lead to lifelong success for children.

Suggestions to develop the best attitude to reading:

1. Read aloud to your child every day
2. Read poems to your child
3. Join your local library – or use it more often (it's free!)
4. Share books at times other than bedtime
5. Try a different genre such as recipe books, comics, leaflets, menus and fact books
6. Try audiobooks



Staying Safe Online!

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many areas which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

STAY SAFE ON NEW DEVICES

Whether you're an internet newbie or a pro at surfing the web, it's always important to keep online safety in mind. We've pulled together a list of top tips to make it easier for you to protect yourself and your devices in the digital world – helping you steer clear of hazards like misleading information and vicious viruses. There's never a bad time to refresh your internet safety knowledge, but it's an especially smart thing to do before you start using any shiny new devices!



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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STAR OF THE WEEK

9th – 12th January 2024

Class:		
A	Louie – For his creativity when working in the making area and working so hard to write his name independently.	Charlie – For his resilience in following school routines and his enthusiasm for learning.
B	Lylah – For showing great aspiration in maths and using these skills independently in provision.	Louie – For showing great aspiration in maths and using these skills independently in provision.
C	Logan – For aspiration and resilience in Literacy when writing independently.	Ivy – For showing a positive attitude in all areas of learning this week. Ivy has shown resilience and has self-corrected her work showing aspiration as she did this.
D	Gabriel – For aspiration . We really like how you challenged yourself in Science this week understanding the body.	Seb – For aspiration . We really like how you are including yourself in the learning with the whole class.
E	Archie – For endeavouring to do your best in your learning. You are trying hard not to let things distract you. You have also shown great teamwork by encouraging your class mates.	Kyla – For showing all of our school values . You have settled back into our routine perfectly and you have shown super behaviours. I can see you want to do your very best learning.
F	Coen – For endeavour . He has returned to school with a positive learning attitude.	Lyla – For being a role model in all values in our class.
G	Poppy – For endeavour . She has come back this week and worked so hard on her phonics and has blown us away with her positive, hard-working attitude.	Alice – For her aspiration to improve her presentation this week.
H	Kenley – For Endeavour . Kenley has worked hard and independently to make progress in his English learning.	George – For Resilience . George has worked hard to improve his handwriting and also making an effort to be kind to others.
I	Jenson – For showing empathy and kindness to his peers and adults.	Lacie – For showing endeavour in her writing.
J	Tommy – For showing aspiration in his subjects and contributing some fantastic ideas in reading.	Chance – For showing heaps of kindness towards his peers and for always putting a smile on his face.
K	Jayden – For showing all school values on our first week back. Jayden has set a good example to the rest of the class.	James – For being resilient and showing sustained focus and concentration all week. Well done!
L	Lottie – For great focus in class and showing very good engagement in our new English unit. Keep it up!	Thomas – For showing good resilience and an improved work rate and attitude in class. Keep it up!
M	Liam – For showing aspiration in Maths. You are becoming more confident and are challenging yourself.	Jayden – For showing aspiration in English. You are working hard to overcome challenges.
N	Junior – For aspiration . Junior is working really hard on learning his letter sounds and it is showing with his reading. Well done!	

Weekly Attendance

9th – 12th January 2024

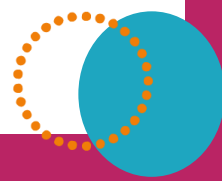
Whole School target: 96%



EYFS	A	94.5%
EYFS	B	98.6%
Y1/Y2	C	94.2%
Y1/Y2	D	94.2%
Y1/Y2	E	90.7%
Y3	F	89.6%
Y3	G	99.3%
Y4	H	83.3%
Y4	I	91.7%
Y5	J	94.4%
Y5	K	100%
Y6	L	92.6%
Y6	M	92.3%
Y3/Y6	N	97.2%
Whole School Attendance		93.6%

At Birley Spa Primary Academy we are committed to helping all pupils to achieve their full potential. Good attendance is a key factor in raising pupils' attainment and supporting their personal development. **In line with DfE and Local Authority policy, we do not authorise holidays taken in school time and we work with families to do everything they can to support their child to attend school every day.** Whilst it is appreciated that children are ill from time to time, please think carefully before allowing your child to be absent from school. The chart below provides an indication of how just a few days absence can significantly impact a child's overall attendance percentage and impede their learning:

Description	Attendance	Whole Days Lost	Lost Hours of Learning
Excellent	100 – 99%	0 – 2	0 – 10
Good	98 – 96%	4 – 7.5	20 – 37.5
Requires Improvement	95 – 91%	9.5 – 17	47.5 – 85
Persistent Absentee	90 – 86%	19 – 27	95 – 135
Critical	85 – 80%	28.5 – 38	142.5 – 190



Dates for the Diary

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
17 th January 2024	Year 5 and 6 Youth Violence safety workshop
12 th – 16 th February 2024	Half term Holiday
19 th February 2024	School Reopens for children
19 th February 2024	Young Voices Trip for Year 5
8 th March 2024	Mother's day afternoon tea 2pm, 2.45pm and 3.30pm
11 th March 2024	Mother's day afternoon tea 2pm, 2.45pm and 3.30pm
29 th March – 12 th April 2024	Easter Holidays
15 th April 2024	School Reopens to children
6 th May 2024	Bank Holiday – School Closed
27 th May – 31 st May 2024 3 rd June	Half term Holiday INSET day – School closed
4 th June 2024	School Reopens for children
14 th June 2024	Father's Day breakfast 8am, 8:30am and 9am
17 th June 2024	Father's Day breakfast 8am, 8:30am and 9am
23 rd July 2024	Last day of the Academic Year
2 nd /3 rd September 2024	INSET Days – School closed