

# Birch Church of England (VA) Primary School



**WB 1<sup>st</sup> September**

**Edition 1**

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Dear All,

This is our first new-look letter/ dates sheet. We've tried to keep it simple!

The children have all settled back into their classes really well and, ignoring the power cut on day 1, our new in-house school-dinners have gone smoothly – many thanks to the catering and office team. Thank you, parents for supporting this. Please continue to do so by order a week in advance if possible as this helps us cut down on wastage.

I have seen lots going on in school this week with astronaut training, Aztec art work, poetry and some great straw rockets in science. Y6 and I enjoyed a slightly soggy Forest school session which they coped with brilliantly.

In assemblies we have looked again at our Christian Vision and our Christian Values as we head into a new year and thought about what acts of kindness and wisdom and trust lead to so many children having leaves on our tree display.

Buddy, the spaniel puppy, had his first day on Wednesday and met a few small groups of children in my office. He is not coming at all into the school building at the moment but will be in for just 2 days a week this term and begin to meet the children who feel confident and comfortable with this in a very low-key way. All aspects of having a dog in school have been risked assessed with mitigations put in place.

Dates for next week are in the 'Dates for your Diary' section of this newsletter with a reminder that Y5 and 6 children coming to the Sports club, which will be Tag Rugby, should arrive just after 8:00 to start by 8:10 – please not before 8:00 am. The Y3/4 club, also Tag rugby, finishes at 4:20. Essex Primary Coaching will be our coaches this year.

Finally, can everyone please action the link about flu immunisations on 15<sup>th</sup> September as soon as possible and please have a look at this week's Wake up Wednesday poster about stress and anxiety in children and the Foodbank list for our Harvest Festival in early October!

Have a great weekend everyone!

Rebekah May  
Headteacher

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

WEEK BEGINNING	EVENTS	WEEK BEGINNING	EVENTS
1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 1<sup>st</sup> Day school</li> <li>4<sup>th</sup> Sept Y6 group A Forest School</li> </ul>	29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<p>Thursday Y6 Forest school session Group B</p> <p>Friday Harvest festival Class 1 &amp; 2 parents invited to assembly for <b>9am</b></p>
8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<p>Individual Music lessons start this week. Mr Webb (keyboard &amp; guitar) Monday Mr Fraser (drums) Thursday Miss Hammond (singing) Friday</p> <p>Thursday before and after school sports club re-starts (am. Y5 &amp;6, pm.Y3 &amp;4)</p> <p>Thursday PAFA AGM at 7.30pm at The Hare &amp; Hounds pub. All parents welcome</p> <p>Thursday Y6 Forest schools Group B session (during school time)</p>	6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Nothing yet!
15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<p>Wednesday Flu Immunisation opportunity pm in school. Please action the consent form sent out to all parents via email by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September</p> <p>Wednesday 3.30pm Reception Parents invited to a Phonics workshop in Class 1 Meet the teacher in classes 2,3,4 &amp; 5 More info in Headteacher's letter</p> <p>Thursday Meeting for Y5 parents regards next year's Bawdsey residential Trip (Oct 26) in Class 4 at 3.30pm.Please come along if you can for all info regards the trip and payment plan</p> <p>Friday Class 1 &amp; 2 Forest school starts for Groups 1 (in school)</p>	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<p>Monday Individual (&amp; in school siblings) photographs</p> <p>Tuesday School tour available to book with Headteacher for Reception 2026 places</p> <p>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> Y6 Bawdsey Manor residential trip</p>
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	<p>Starting tuition groups this week</p> <p>Monday after school football club begins for Y4,5 &amp; 6 3.20-4.20pm. Must have shin pads.</p> <p>Thursday Y6 Forest schools session Group A</p> <p>Friday 11am School tour available to book with Headteacher for Reception 2026 places</p>	20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<p>Tuesday Provisional Y6 visit to Chelmsford Cathedral (tbc)</p> <p>Friday Y6 parents invited to assembly at <b>9am</b> for Bawdsey photos</p>
29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<p>Thursday School Census day. Please order a school meal to support school funding</p>	Key dates to note	<p>3<sup>rd</sup> Nov Non-pupil day</p> <p>W/C 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov Parent Consultations week</p> <p>9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Dec Class 1 &amp; 2 Christmas Nativity both showings 2.15pm</p>

We have not taken many pictures yet or reviewed permissions for photographs, so I will leave with a photo of Buddy, this time!

