NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended the 'Settling In' meetings with your child's Key Person last week. It was wonderful to hear such positive feedback about how well your children have settled into school life. As always, we operate an open-door policy, so please do not hesitate to reach out if there is ever anything you would like to discuss with us.

The weather is starting to turn and the temperatures are dropping. Please ensure your child brings a coat daily to school and that it is clearly labelled with their name. The children are beginning to notice the change in season and commenting on the leaves falling from the trees and that they are turning different colours.

To support our work around Autumn, the children will bring a brown paper bag home just before the half term holiday. We hope you will be able to fit in an Autumn Treasure Hunt with your child during the holiday and collect leaves, conkers, acorns etc. This is a wonderful opportunity to get outside together and talk about the changing seasons. We ask that the children bring their Autumn bags back with them on Monday 2nd November to share their treasures with their friends and adults. Please do add photographs of your Autumn walk on Tapestry.

We have a vacancy for a parent governor and details will be sent out to you next week but in the meantime if you are interested in this role or have any questions related to it, please do come and see me.

Have a lovely weekend.

Margaret Stocks

KEY DIARY DATES

Friday 23rd October
Last day of this half term
Monday 2nd November
Children return to school
Wednesday 4th November
School Photographer
Thursday 5th November
Family Books sharing session in Nursery
11.30 a.m. or 2.30 p.m.
Friday 13th November
Children in Need
Wednesday 9th December
Christmas Lunch
Thursday 10th December Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 15th December
Christmas Extravaganza evening @4.30pm
Friday 18th December
Christmas Party
School Closes 12.00p.m.
Monday 4th January
Children return to school

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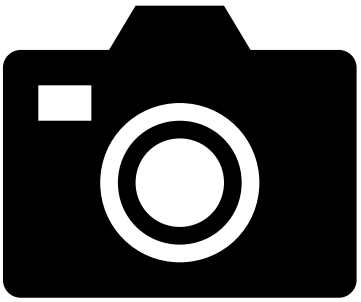
School Photographer

The school photographer will be visiting Nursery and Preschool school on Wednesday 4th November to take individual photographs of your children. Siblings who both attend our setting will also have the chance to have a joint photograph taken. Any Preschool children who are not due to attend on a Wednesday will be invited to come in between 1.30pm and 2pm to sit for a photograph. Children will bring home a QR code that you can scan to set up an account. Once registered you will get a notification via email to tell you when your child's photo is ready to view. We will assume that you give your consent for your child's photograph to be taken unless you email admin@birchwoodnursery.herts.sch.uk by 12noon on Tuesday 3rd November. If you would like a copy of DSP Photography's Privacy Policy, please advise.



Nursery Admissions

The admissions window for applications to Birchwood Nursery for children in our Preschool whose date of birth falls between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024 will open from Monday 2nd November. A prepopulated application form will be given out after half term holiday. If you wish your child to transfer to the Nursery in September 2027, we ask that you check through the form and make any amendments. Please ensure all parts are completed including which sessions you would prefer and return your form to the School Office as soon as possible. We will soon have published dates for open afternoons on our website for any parents who would like the opportunity to look around our Nursery provision. You can book onto one of these sessions via the website by clicking on one of the available dates and completing the form at www.birchwoodnursery.herts.sch.uk

NEWSLETTER

Primary Admissions

The admissions window for Reception places from September 2027 opens on 2nd November. An email will be sent to all Nursery aged children after half term with information on how to apply. Attached with this newsletter is a full list of when the local primary schools will be offering parents the opportunity to look around. Please note that you must contact each of the individual schools that you would like to visit in advance to book onto a tour as places are limited. We strongly encourage you to visit potential schools before making an application. Should you require assistance to make an application, appointments can be booked with Vicky in the School Office in November. However, you must have already decided on which schools you wish to apply for beforehand.

Attendance & Punctuality

Please can we remind you that it your child is absent, you MUST contact the School Office before 9am on EACH day of your child's absence. We also ask that you ensure that your child arrives by 9.10am. Children participate in small group learning from 9.10am to 9.30am. Late arrivals disrupt the learning of the entire group and also means your child misses out on learning experiences.

Library Days for Nursery

Please find below the schedule for your child's library day:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Red Day Alison	Yellow AM Susie	Blue AM Julie	Green AM Krysia	Red AM Jade
	Yellow Day Laura	Blue Day Lesley	Green Day Suzanne	