



# 'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

*'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'*

## Friday 8th June

On Wednesday we had over 80 children stay for cinema club. The children enjoyed watching the film 'Sing' (there was quite a lot of singing along) and the snacks and hot dogs went down really well. Thank you to the PTA for organising this event.

## Is it Summer?!

Please make sure children have a coat in school for damp days and remember hats if it is sunny. We do try to get outside for playtime whatever the weather and if children just have a t-shirt and no jumper or coat this is difficult. Everything should be named – as we get towards the end of the year names have washed out of labels so please check and then we can return lost items.

## Homework club

On Mondays, Mrs Casey is running a homework help session during lunchtime. This is for pupils in Key stage 2 who have had a go at their homework at home but need a bit more help to complete it.

## Staffing

I would like to let you know that Mrs Channing will be leaving Birchanger School at the end of the Summer Term. Mrs Channing has taught at the school for a number of years, full time and then more recently as part-time teacher in Year 4 and has made a great contribution to the school as class teacher and subject leader. Mrs Channing leaves us to take up a new position and I'm sure you will join the staff and me in wishing Mrs Channing well in her new role.

Mr Ballard will also be leaving Birchanger at the end of the Summer Term. Mr Ballard came to the school initially for a few days' supply teaching and has stayed on in various roles over the last couple of years - this year teaching part-time in Squirrels Class as well as covering classes across the school each week. I would like to thank Mr Ballard for all his hard work and for his enthusiasm and commitment to the school. We all wish Mr Ballard well in his plans for the future.

I am pleased to inform you that Ms Berry and I have appointed a full time teacher who will be joining Birchanger in September. Miss Marshall-Spence is an experienced teacher and she is looking forward to visiting the school this term to get to know the staff and children.

## Class Assemblies

Parents are welcome to join us in our Friday assembly each week at 2.50pm when we celebrate the achievements of the children. Class assemblies will take place on the following dates, starting at 2.45pm

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Ladybirds Class

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Squirrels Class

### **Coffee Afternoon for parents of children with learning needs – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 2.15pm**

Last term we held an informal meet-up for parents of children with learning difficulties and Special Educational Needs. This was a successful afternoon with parents getting together over coffee to share ideas and experiences and we would like to make this a termly event. We know parents have a wealth of knowledge and information to share, or sometimes it's just good to meet like-minded parents who are facing similar issues. All parents are welcome, whether your child has a diagnosed special need or you are just concerned about difficulties they are having with learning.

Mrs Cook and Mrs Coop will be available to welcome parents (and put the kettle on!) but this is intended to be an informal parent led coffee afternoon. The meeting is not for parents to discuss individual issues with school staff– if you have concerns about your child's learning then please make an appointment to see your child's teacher or Mrs Cook, our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

### **Fathers Day Lunch – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June**

Hopefully you have now returned your booking slip and we look forward to welcoming Dads (or Grandads) into school to have lunch with the children on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate Father's Day.

### **Diary Dates**

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Fathers Day Lunch

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – PTA Summer Fair and Children's Fun Run

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July – School Sports Day

### **Term Dates**

Term dates for the rest of this academic year and for 2017-18 are on the school website under Letters and News.

### **INSET days for 2017-18**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 will be non-pupil INSET days. Two further INSET days will be set in due course.

Have a lovely weekend

Helen Coop