



# 'BIRCHANGER BUZZ'

*'Learn to Love, Love to Learn'*

## Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

This has been a busy week for our Year 6 children who have been taking SATs tests. These are national tests in reading, arithmetics, maths reasoning, grammar, punctuation and spelling. The children have shown a brilliant Growth Mindset approach towards the tests – tackling the challenging questions positively, showing great focus and concentration throughout the week. We are really proud of the effort and determination shown by them all.

Next week Year 5 and 6 children will be visiting London (with an early start at 8.15am!) They are taking a tour of the Houses of Parliament which will be fascinating with so much in the news about democracy and the election. They are also going to the London Aquarium with learning connected to their topic on evolution and adaptation. We are really grateful to the PTA who contribute towards the cost of all our visits to make them affordable.

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> May – Badgers Class  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Owls Class  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Ladybirds Class  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Squirrels Class

## Online Safety

Learning about online safety is an important part of the Computing curriculum in school. In school access online is closely monitored but we know that it is when they are at home that children use smart phones and tablets freely to access the internet. Children talk about the apps and games they are using and we notice that it is younger and younger children, from Year 3 and below, who are interacting online through games and apps. This is not necessarily a bad thing but we would recommend that parents know which games their children are using and are aware of how they work and any potential issues.



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The website <https://www.net-aware.org.uk> gives information about popular apps and games – their age restrictions, the potential risks are and how you can help your child stay safe while using them.

### **Sainsburys Vouchers**

Last call for these - please check bags and pockets and bring in any more Sainsburys vouchers next week. We'll use the vouchers to order equipment for the school.

### **Diary Dates**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – INSET Day – non-pupil day

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