



# Bierton Church of England Combined School

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! Doesn't that seem like ages ago already. We have started off this term with a hive of activity including parents evening in the first full week, notification of upcoming trips to enrich the children's experiences and an introduction of ParentMail payments.



If you have not signed up to ParentMail I urge you to do so as this will be our main form of communication from now on. Letters, parents meetings and payments will all be completed using this format. I would particularly urge you to download the ParentMail APP to your phones as this gives you instant alerts without having to go into your emails. It is brilliant! More information about payments on ParentMail can be found later in this newsletter.

I am looking forward to another busy term with lots of events taking place. Please refer to the key dates to ensure your diaries are up to date.

Ms Martin  
Headteacher

## Spring Term 1 Value

At Bierton CE Combined School, we have five main Christian values; love, cooperation, honesty, respect and responsibility. Our value last half term was 'Love' and we saw examples of children showing each other love, through kindness and friendship, every day. This term, our value is 'Cooperation'. Cooperation means helping each other, being a team and working together to achieve a goal. Children can work together during PE, they can help and encourage one another if they are stuck with their work and they can work together to make the school a better place!



Cooperation



A reminder that we are now a **NUT FREE zone**. Thank you for ensuring that your children do not have any products with nuts in their school lunch boxes.

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## ParentMail

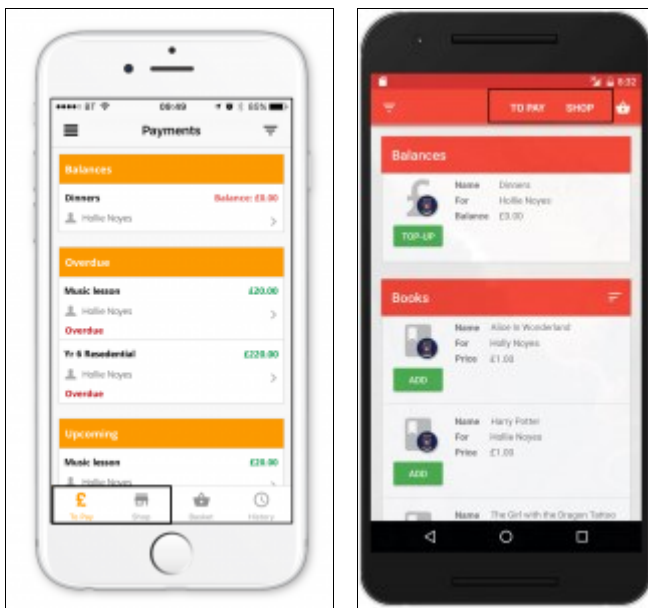
We hope that you are finding ParentMail a useful communication tool and are pleased to see that several parents commented on this as a positive introduction at parents evening.

We are now beginning to introduce payments via ParentMail. This means that school trip contributions will now be asked for on ParentMail. It is quick and easy to use and hopefully will make things easier for you rather than having to hunt around for cash and an envelope. If you are not able to pay online, it provides you with a barcode that you can take to a local PayPoint to make your payment in cash. The One Stop on Douglas Road in the Coppice Estate is our closest PayPoint but there are numerous other locations across Aylesbury. We will slowly be introducing this feature and have started with our Trips for Beech and Birch Class and Year 3+4 Trip to the River and Rowing Museum.

How do I buy an item from school? (From the mobile App):

If you have a notification, it means your school have invited you to pay for something, or have notified you of a new payment item which is now available for you to buy or pre-order.

Once in Payments, you will be able to view items "To Pay" or visit the "Shop".



In "To Pay" you will be able to view items which you are due to pay. Items here are divided into the following sections:

**Overdue Items:** These are items for which payment or an instalment is overdue

**Upcoming Items:** These are items for which the due date is approaching

**Part Paid Items:** These are items for which a partial payment or subsidy has already been made.

In "Shop" you will be able to view items which your school have set up as available payment items, which you can buy at any time.

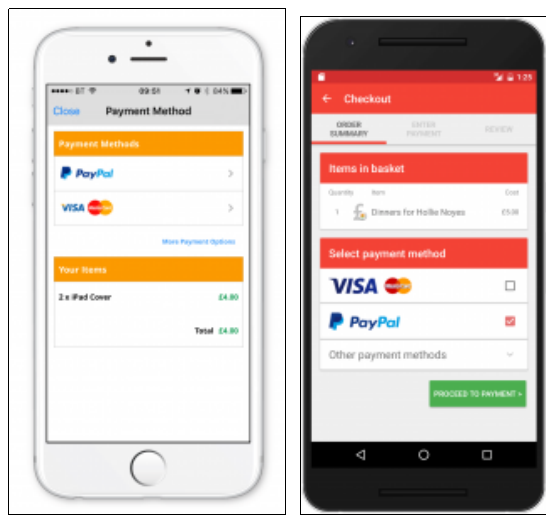
Once you have found an item you want to purchase, simply click on it, and go through the options - such as quantity, size, colour etc.

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You can then choose to 'Add to Basket' and continue shopping, or click 'Pay Now' to check out straight away.

You can view your basket at any time by clicking the basket icon. This will display all the items that you have added so far.

To make a payment, go to the Checkout screen where you will see a summary of the items you are buying, and available payment options. Please be aware, these payment options are decided by your school.



Choose your selected method of payment, then click confirm payment. You will then need to enter your payment details as you would with any online purchase.

## Attendance—DECEMBER 2018

Attendance at school is vital to allow a child to progress in their learning and their social development. It is expected that a child's attendance should be above 95%.

Each month we are going to celebrate the class with the highest overall attendance by awarding the whole class with dojo points which add together to form rewards.

Attendance for December:

Ash = 97.1%

Alder = 96%

Beech = 92.7%

Birch = 98.7%

Cedar = 97%

Cherry = 97%

Chestnut = 97.1%

Holly = 94.3%

Hazel = 95.6%

Hawthorn = 98.2%



**Congratulations!**

Well done Birch Class on having the highest attendance at 98.7% attendance for December.

5 DOJO points each!  
Congratulations!



## Children and Young People's Occupational Therapy Training Talks for 2019



**The Children and Young People's Occupational Therapy Department** is offering informative talks to parents, staff working with children and staff supporting parents.

We will cover the following three topics:

### Transition to Secondary School

**Wednesday 24th April (6 – 8pm)**

The Oakridge Centre, 240 Desborough Road High Wycombe HP11 2QR

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May (7 - 9pm)**

Rayners Hedge, Croft Road, Aylesbury HP 21 7RD

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May (6 - 8pm)**

Amersham Hospital, Education Centre Conference Room 1 HP7 0JD

### Understanding Sensory Techniques & the 'Alert Principle'

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June (6 - 8pm)** Amersham Hospital Education Centre, Conference Room 1 HP7 0JD

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October (7 - 9pm)** Rayners Hedge, Croft Road, Aylesbury HP 21 7RD

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March (6-8pm)**  
The Oakridge Centre, 240 Desborough Road High Wycombe HP11 2QR

### Tips for Developing Handwriting Skills

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February (7 - 9pm)**  
Rayners Hedge, Croft Road, Aylesbury HP 21 7RD

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October (6 - 8pm)**  
Amersham Hospital Education Centre, Conference Room 1 HP7 0JD

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June (6-8pm)**  
The Oakridge Centre, 240 Desborough Road High Wycombe HP11 2QR



All of our talks  
and workshops  
are **FREE!**

Please call or email to book your place or for more details of the above talks

**Telephone: 01296 566045**

**Email: [buc-tr.cypttherapytraining@nhs.net](mailto:buc-tr.cypttherapytraining@nhs.net)**

Visit our website [www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/CYP](http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/CYP)

# Stronger together

The chance to connect with like-minded people who have walked in your shoes.



**‘Walking With You’** is a new parent led support group for anyone supporting children and young people experiencing mental health difficulties.

You can sit and discuss shared experience with other parents and carers over coffee and biscuits as well as having a group Q&A with parents and mental health professionals from CAMHS.

The informal sessions are open for any parents and carers with children up to 25. Come to as many sessions as you like – it’s entirely up to you.

Due to lack of facilities and support we are unable to accommodate children at the group.



Adam's Park (Wycombe Wanderers FC) 10-11:30am (Main Club Reception)  
Friday 25th January, Friday 1st March, Friday 29th March.

Contact

Need more information? Contact the Single Point of Access on 01865 901951  
or email: [oxfordhealth.bucksCAHMSSPA@nhs.net](mailto:oxfordhealth.bucksCAHMSSPA@nhs.net)

## Sparkle Opportunity

On the 11th December, we held our next Sparkle Opportunity which this time focused on a passion for cooking. Children from across the school were selected to take part in the cooking session where we made Star biscuits and layered them into a Christmas Tree Sculpture. The children worked in pairs to weigh and measure out their ingredients. They then practised their rolling skills to roll out their dough to 1cm thick. It was amazing how many stars biscuits the children managed to cut out of their dough!



In the afternoon, the children came back to decorate their biscuits and create their tree sculptures using their star biscuits. I have to say that it was a delight to watch the children supporting each other and complimenting each others decorating skills.



A huge thank you to Mrs Baker who supported us with our baking and decorating and for wrapping one of the Christmas tree biscuits up in cellophane for the children to take home as a present for a loved one.



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## Reading Celebration Afternoon

Congratulations to Lucinda H, Harrison W, Joe M, Danielle B, Toby H, Karenza D, George E, Alex G, Indy H, Felix N, Jacob S, Ryan D, Oliver G, Eeshan P, Emily G, Imogen M, Scarlett H, Salahuddin H, Sufyan K, Neve C, Beth H, Harley-Ray H, Archie C, Ciara K, Emily S, Priya F, Ruby C, Isla P, Sophiah B and Sid E for our being our reading champions last term.

These children were chosen for either being one of the top 'word bankers' in their year group or successfully completing more quizzes than anyone else. As a reward for their efforts, they were invited to a Reading Celebration Afternoon on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January. The children had fun playing charades, acting out their favourite books and working in mixed-aged teams to try and win the quiz all about books. They also ate cake but I'm sure it was the reading games that were the highlight! Congratulations again - keep up the good work.

### Accelerated Reader

It has been amazing to see the amount of books that our children are reading at the moment. This has been reflected in the progress and growth in reading ages within all year groups. Remember, you are able to sign up to be notified when your child completes a quiz so you can easily keep on track of their progress. You can also see which books there are quizzes available for by going to [www.arbookfind.co.uk](http://www.arbookfind.co.uk). Children are able to read a combination of school books and books that you have at home but they should be within their ZPD range to ensure optimum growth in their reading age. If you have any questions regarding accelerated reader, please don't hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.

### Reading around the world

In EYFS and Year 1, the children are aiming to complete the Global Reading Challenge. Hopefully, your child has started to bring home certificates when they have reached a particular destination. Every time your child reads 10 minutes (EYFS) or 30 minutes (Year 1), they will move closer to their next destination. Please continue to record how long your child has read for in their reading record so your child's class teacher/ teaching assistant can move them around the world. If you have any questions about the Global Reading Challenge, please don't hesitate to ask your child's class teacher.

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## Online Safety Tip

### TikTok

Have you heard of TikTok? Is it an app your child uses? This month's online safety tip gives you information about the app and provides information about keeping your child safe online.

#### What is TikTok?

It's a social media app that gives users the opportunity to share 60 second short videos with friends, family or the entire world. This social network app is from the creators of Musical.ly. All the content that was hosted on Musical.ly is now on TikTok. So if your child had a Musical.ly account they will now be able to access this content on TikTok. Currently, the app is available in 34 languages with 150 million active users. Like Musical.ly before it, it is most popular with under 16s.

#### What is the minimum age for TikTok app?

13 is the minimum age according to TikTok's terms and conditions.

#### How does TikTok work?

When you download the app, you can instantly see the videos that others have posted on the channel but are not able to share or post anything until you have set up your own account.

#### Why do teens love the TikTok?

It is a way to express themselves and create short-form video clips to gain a following and build a community around their passions. It also features some great special effects that users can apply to their videos to make them more unique. You can also cross-post the content on other platforms to share it with more people.



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### What should parents be concerned about?

- When you download the app, users can see all the content without creating an account although they are not able to post, like or share anything until they've set up an account on the app.
- By default all accounts are public so anyone on the app can see what your child shares. However, only approved followers can send them messages.
- Users can like or react to a video, follow an account or send messages to each other. There is the risk that strangers will be able to directly contact children on the app.
- Children may be tempted to take risks to get more of a following or likes on a video so it's important to talk about what they share and who they share it with.
- To delete an account you have to request a code from the app using a phone number.

### 6 things you can do to keep them safe on the app

1. Talk to them about online bullying
2. Set their TikTok account to private
3. Make sure they are Share Aware
4. Get familiar with the community guidelines
5. Be aware of explicit songs and content on the app
6. Turn on Digital Wellbeing settings

This guidance is provided by Internet Matters. For further information and advice, please visit: <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/tik-tok-app-safety-what-parents-need-to-know/>



JANUARY NEWSLETTER

## Year 5/6 Grand Canyon WOW day!

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2019, Year 5 and 6 travelled to north-west Arizona on the world's best airline: Bierton Airways! We experienced a one of a kind tour of the Grand Canyon. Dressed up in our holiday clothes, suitcases in our hands, boarding passes and passports at the ready - we were set to fly!



Our journey began when we received our passports, stamped and checked by the cabin crew: Miss Evans and Mrs Gibney.



Afterwards we were escorted to our seats and sat in our recliners. Our pilots (James Charles and Mr Gadsby) gave us an in-depth safety brief along with a guided tour of the Grand Canyon.

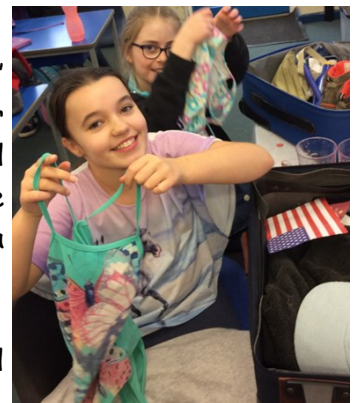
We had three tour guides: Ranger Mayer, Ranger Quinn and Ranger Gadsby. Firstly, we had Ranger Mayer, who taught us some amazing facts about the Grand Canyon. For example, did you know that it takes 4460 Wembley Stadiums to be the same length of the Grand Canyon? Also did you know that it's over 7 Billion years old!



Next, we visited Ranger Gadsby for a lesson the 7 Natural Wonders of the World: The Aurora Borealis, Victoria Falls, Harbor of Rio De Janeiro, The Great Barrier Reef, Mount Everest, Paricutin and finally- the Grand Canyon.

In the afternoon, we visited Ranger Quinn, where we completed collages of the majestic and might Grand Canyon. Paper was strewn across the room, shred of orange, red and yellow flying in the air, like little fire flies.

Finally we played a game of 'suitcase search' where we had to find a certain object in our suitcases and the fastest person to get it out and hold it up in the air wins...nothing! Some of the objects were sunglasses, swimming costumes, a towel, an America flag and many other things.



In no time at all, Wednesday was drawing to an end and we all had cracking tan from the Arizona sun.

We are excited for the term ahead and we can't wait to learn more!

Written by Priya, Issy and Maisie.



## PE and SPORTS

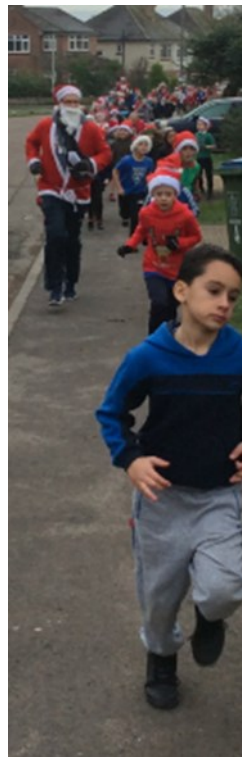


### *Santa Fun Run*



On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December, Bierton School was inundated with Father Christmases, elves and even a reindeer or two! This was all in aid of Bierton's Santa Run!

We began the event with the whole school taking part in stretches and warm up exercises led by our Sport Ambassadors. Then the rest of the school cheered on the Year 5 and 6 race. Next up were the Year 3 and 4s, shortly followed by Beech and Birch. These children all completed a course around the school, up past the church and down to The Coppice and back. Ash and Alder also completed a tough course around the school site. Whilst it was a challenge, no one gave up and we all achieved a new personal best! A massive thank you to all the parents who gave up their time to marshal, run and cheer us on! A special thanks to, Mr Golding, who not only led the Year 5 and 6 Race, but also ran with the Year 3 and 4s too! It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces as we ran past and their support definitely spurred us all on!



The aim of the event was to encourage the whole school in a sporting activity, which everyone could complete at their own level, showing everyone that exercise can be a social event as well as being fun!

Our Sport Ambassadors (Hope, Micah, Freddie and Harry) were a fantastic help on the day: creating the course for Ash and Alder classes, holding up the finishing line, as well as cheering on all the children as they crossed the line. The dedication and enthusiasm they have all shown in their roles since September, continues to make all of us at Bierton proud.

Thank you to everyone for taking part!



# PE and SPORTS



## Year 1 Multi-Skills

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, Hazel class worked in groups to create a Multi-Skills Festival for the year 1s. In the morning, Hazel class worked extremely hard to create games that would challenge the younger children's agility, balance and coordination skills. They also had to consider the rules of their game, the equipment they needed and which year 5 or 6 would take on which role during their game.



During the festival, the Year 1s experienced a variety of different games: obstacle course, kicking games, throwing at a target and collecting equipment. All children in Hazel class did a fantastic job explaining their games, supporting and encouraging the children from Alder and Beech class to complete their game. The year 1s had lots of fun and there were happy faces throughout!



## Cross Country highlights! Saturday 19th January

The second cross-country competition took place on a fresh and frosty Saturday morning at Wendover Primary School.

High-spirited contenders from across the County ran head to head in a series of exhilarating races!

Well done to all our runners for showing their continued perseverance to the sport and congratulations to Alyssa, and Millie, who came 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, as well as Emily, who helped them to secure a team silver medal!

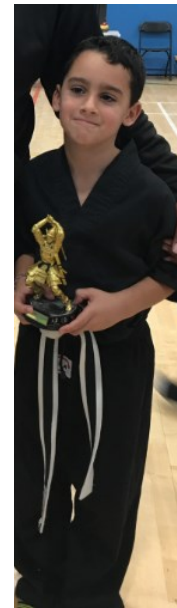


## PE Superstars!



Each newsletter, we shall be celebrating one of our PE Superstars here at Bierton.

This month's PE Superstar



is Eeshan!

Eeshan has received 'Student of the Year' for Genesis Aylesbury Dragons - Mixed Martial Arts!

Congratulations Eeshan!

Please email Miss Quinn at [sport@biertoncombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:sport@biertoncombined.bucks.sch.uk) if your child is a Sports Superstar and keep an eye on our PE board for all of our Sports Superstars across the school!

## February sporting dates for your diary!

Week beginning Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February: Mental Health and Well-Being Week.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February: Alder Class Multi-Skills.

## Key Dates for Spring Term

### February

W/C 4th February—Well Being and Mental Health Focus Week

Tuesday 5th—Reception and Year 6 Photographs.

Thursday 7th—Alder Class Multi-Skills Session 9:30—11am. Coach booked to transport children.

Monday 11th—Birch Class Trip to Roald Dahl Museum in Great Missenden.

Wednesday 13th—Beech Class Trip to Roald Dahl Museum in Great Missenden.

Thursday 14th—2:30pm Parent Drop for children with SEN Support Plans with Miss Smith.

Thursday 14th—FOBS Disco EYFS+KS1 3:30—4:30pm KS2 4:45—6pm

Friday 15th—School Closes at 3:20pm for Half Term.

Monday 25th—School Opens

Monday 25th—Echoes Rehearsal at Bierton CE Combined School

Wednesday 27th—Years 3+4 Trip to River and Rowing Museum in Henley.

Wednesday 27th—2:30pm Yr 1 Parents Phonics Screening Information Session.

### March

W/C 4th March—Poetry Focus Week

Monday 4th—Echoes Rehearsal at Great Kingshill School—Coach Provided.

Thursday 7th—World Book Day—Details to follow.

Thursday 7th—1:30pm Parents invited in to a workshop followed by spending time in class.

W/C 11th—Science Focus Week

Monday 11th—Years 5+6—Shakespeare Theatre.

Tuesday 12th—Echoes Rehearsal—Location to be confirmed.

Wednesday 13th—Echoes Rehearsal—Location to be confirmed.

Monday 18th—Echoes Rehearsal and Performance —Royal Albert Hall

Thursday 28th—Beech and Birch Multi-Skills 10-12 . Coach booked to transport children.

Thursday 28th—FOBS Cine Night 3:15—5:15pm.

**Friday 29th—Clubs Finish for the spring term**

### April

Friday 5th—School Closes at 1pm.

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