



BIRCHES PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

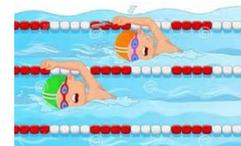
January / February / March 2017

Dinner Money Reminder – January / February Increase

School meals cost **£2.35** per day - **£11.75** per week. Please consult the monthly menu and send the correct money on a **Monday** morning for the whole week. All money sent to school is to be in a named envelope. We are unable to lodge cheques and can only accept cash. Thank you.

Swimming Programme

The 6 week swimming programme for P7 children will begin on Tuesday 10 January. This will last for six weeks and each lesson is 30 minutes long. Swimming lessons for P4 will commence after half term.



Shared Education Lessons

Our Shared Education programme with St. Mary's P.S, Maghery continues this term with all children throughout the school involved at some stage. The focus of the programme is Numeracy and ICT. If the children are travelling to St. Mary's, they will return in time for lunch.

The timetable for January and February is as follows:

January

P2	Tuesday 17	at Birches
	Thursday 19	at Birches
	Tuesday 24	at St. Mary's
	Thursday 26	at St. Mary's
P5	Wednesday 11	at St. Mary's
	Monday 19	at Birches
P7	Monday 16	at Birches
	Monday 23	at St. Mary's

February

P3	Thursday 9	at St. Mary's
	Tuesday 21	at Birches
P7	Wednesday 8	at St. Mary's
	Monday 20	at Birches

World War II Event - Friday 13 January

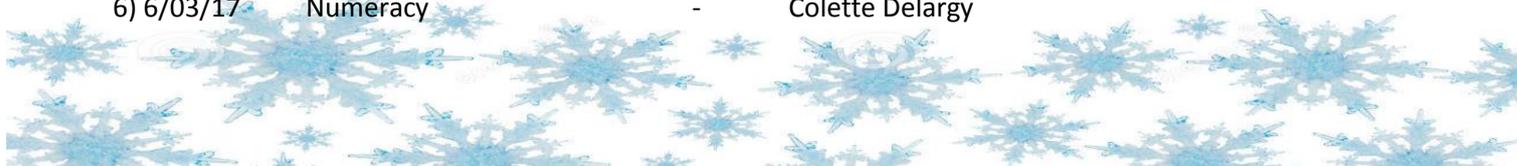
Children from P4 have been learning about World War II in World Around Us during the first term. They will be given the opportunity to visit the Palace Stables, Armagh on Friday 13 January and through various interactive activities they will explore 'Life during the War' focusing on the Blitz, Evacuees and Rationing.

Family Learning Programme – 6 week programme for parents

The Loughshore Partnership has organised a six week family learning programme to take place in our school on Monday evenings at 7pm. Although this programme is based towards children from P5, P6 and P7, all parents are more than welcome to attend.

We are delighted that we are able to offer this to parents free of charge and we hope you will be able to attend each of the sessions.

1) 23/01/17	Parenting Styles	-	Liz Jones
2) 30/01/17	Growing up & Internet Safety	-	Liz Jones
3) 06/02/17	Learning, thinking & the brain	-	Kate O Hanlon
4) 20/02/17	Literacy	-	Kate O Hanlon
5) 27/02/17	Numeracy	-	Colette Delargy
6) 6/03/17	Numeracy	-	Colette Delargy





Tri County Netball – Friday 3 February and Friday 31 March

On Friday 3 February, children from the girls’ netball team will be taking part in the tournament at Dungannon Leisure Centre. They will leave at 9.30am and will be back in time for school dinner. They will also be taking part in the Netball Blitz Day on Friday 31 March.

School Photographer – Wednesday 8 February

The photographer will come to school on Wednesday 8 February to take individual and family group photographs. Further details will be sent home with the children.

Love Your Heart Day – Tuesday 14 February – NON UNIFORM DAY

On Tuesday 14 February Mrs Neill will be organising a special menu to focus on healthy foods which are important to maintain a healthy heart. This will be a non-uniform day. There will be a charge of £1.00 and all proceeds will go to The British Heart Foundation.



Hope For Youth Ministries – week beginning Monday 20 March

Colin Tinsley from Hope for Youth Ministries will be coming out to carry out Interactive Assemblies with all of the children in school each day for the week beginning on Monday 20 March.



Charities – Barnardo’s – Monday 13 February

This year the main charity we will be raising money for is Barnardo’s. Information regarding this will be sent out shortly.

After School Activities P4 – P7

Monday	Boys football	(P5 – P7)	2.35pm– 3.30pm
	Girls Badminton	(P5 – P7)	2.35pm– 3.30pm
Tuesday	Multi Skills	(P4 – P7)	£1.50 per session 2.40pm – 3.40pm
Wednesday	Ulster Scots	(P5 and P6)	2.35pm– 3.30pm
	ICT Club	(P4)	2.35pm– 3.30pm
Thursday	Healthy Kids	(P3 – P4)	£1.50 per session 2.40pm – 3.40pm
	Cross-Stitch and craft club	(P6 and P7)	2.35pm– 3.30pm

Money Wallets

Money wallets are still available to buy from school. These come in packs of 40 at a cost of £2.50. These can be purchased from your child’s class teacher.

Friends Of Birches

We are delighted to announce that we made £600 at the school disco held in November and £415 with our prize draw.

I would like to thank the committee and everyone who helped out at our fundraising events and helped provide refreshments at the school performance for The Cosy Club and Peatlands Playgroup.

Your help and support was very much appreciated by all of the staff.

