

Birchwood Avenue Primary School's News



Issue 4, December 2025



Dates for your diary

Spring Term 2026	
5 th January	Return to school
8 th , 15 th & 22 nd January	Tottenham Next Gen training
Wb 26 th January	Bikeability UKS2
29 th January	Gymnastics workshops
6 th , 13 th , 27 th Feb	Year 5 at Onslow
16 th -20 th February	Half-term
26 th Feb	Y4 PE at Onslow
5 th , 12 th , 19 th March	Y4 PE at Onslow
16 th March	INSET day
26 th March	Pupil reports sent home
27 th March	Term ends @1:30pm
Summer Term 2026	
13 th April	Children return to school
4 th May	Bank Holiday
25 th -29 th May	Half-term
21 st July	Term ends @1:30pm

Message from Miss Hall

As we reach the end of this term, I want to say a heartfelt thank you for all the support, kindness, and encouragement you've shown. It's been wonderful to see our children learning, laughing, and growing together, and that's only possible because of the strong partnership we share with you.

As the holidays approach, I'd like to wish everyone a joyful and restful break. For those celebrating Christmas, may it be filled with warmth and happiness. For those who mark this season in other ways, we send our very best wishes for peace and joy. Whatever your traditions, I hope you find time to relax, recharge, and enjoy special moments with family and friends.

On behalf of all the staff, thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We wish you good health, happiness, and a bright start to the new year.

Reception Class- Christmas sing-a-long

We have been busy making mince pies, enjoying our Christmas dinner and entertaining parents. Our Reception Nativity Sing-a-Long was very well attended by the children's families. The children worked very hard to learn the songs and performed brilliantly.



Uniform



In school, there is already a growing collection of uniform with no names on. Please write your child's name or initials on the label of their uniform. This is costly and 'lost' uniform can be avoided.

Christmas Dinner

Thank you to our fabulous HCL team for preparing a tasty Christmas dinner for our children. This is what they said...

Year 2:

Marcus - "It was so good, I ate it really quickly!"

Olivia - "I liked that we sat with our friends and got Christmas crackers that popped."

Year 5:

"It was really fun decorating the classroom, we made a paperchain that wraps around the whole room!" - Laila

"I loved the crackers at the Christmas dinner!"
- Reggie

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S Please follow the link
E below for a wealth of
N resources, websites etc.
D Miss James has created
this page of useful
information.

[Support for Parents of Children with SEND](#)



We made mince pies for our families to enjoy.



Christmas dinner was delicious, and we wore our Christmas jumpers to school.

Santa's Visit to Birchwood

Despite the torrential rain, on 4th December, Santa made his way to our school. The children were excited to see him in the playground on his sleigh.



Year 2 - Gunveer - "I liked seeing Santa because he was doing high-fives."

Adam - "I liked it when Santa said six-seven, it was really funny!"

Year 1 - Oscar - "I liked seeing Santa; it was fun and exciting."

Meet 'Elijah' the Elf

Elijah the Elf has been up to no good in Year 1 this month. Here's some of his mischievous moments. The children were very excited to see what trouble he'd caused each day.

KS1 nativity

Fortune - "I loved doing the nativity because I could invite my family to school."

Freddie - "Doing the nativity made me feel brave!"

Ivar - "My favourite song was the donkey dance, hee haw stomp the floor."

Year 1 and 2 teachers - "We are so incredibly proud of year 1 and 2, they did absolutely amazing and showed off all their hard work!"



Alfie - "Oh no the elf fell into his cereal!"

I hope the elf gets unstuck!

Harvey - "Elijah the Elf has been really silly!"

Miracle - "The elf was doing gymnastics!"



Zach - "The elf was messing around with the photocopier, it was so funny."



Rosi- 'The elf pooped in Miss Khan's cup. It was yucky!'



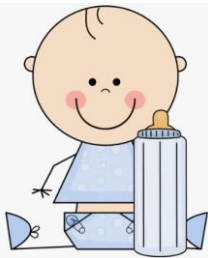
Freja- 'The elf has been drinking our milk!'



Hatfield Foodbank

If you are experiencing difficulties, please speak to Miss Hall or Miss James and we will support you with getting a code to access the Foodbank.

Staffing Update



Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Gethin-Golder for a while as she leaves us to go on maternity leave. We wish her and Mr Gethin-Golder a calm welcome to parenthood and that they enjoy every moment with their new arrival.



I welcome Miss Cole to our teaching team. Miss Cole will be teaching Year 2 for the remainder of this academic year.



Year 4 Visit to Stream Woods.

Fortunately, it was a dry and sunny day when Year 4 went to Stream Woods. The children have been investigating how local woodland is used and can be affected by humans. There was even time for a play in the park.



Contact Details



If you have changed any of your contact details recently, please could you update the office with your new contact details. These may include:

- Mobile number
- Home address
- Email address
- Emergency contact details

There are some pupils who only have one emergency phone contact on their records. Please provide the office with a second contact if necessary.



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

The data below shows attendance for this term so far. It's quite concerning really in some classes. Lots of learning is missed here.

	Year 6	95.66%
	Year 3	95.63%
	Year 4	92.68%
	YR	92.3%
	Year 5	91.43%
	Year 2	89.49%
	Year 1	88.87%

Our whole school attendance figure for the term so far is at **91.7%**. This is becoming more of a concern and is significantly below the national average to date which stands at

Attendance

Attendance is still a concern across the country. It is part of the government's national agenda to improve pupil attendance in educational settings.

This document was released last year; it includes a summary table of the roles and responsibilities of parents, schools and the local authority.

[Summary table of responsibilities for school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\)](#)

Please speak to Miss James or Miss Hall if we can support you by helping you to ensure your child is in school.

From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child. #AttendanceCounts”

Contact us...



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94.6%. Thank you to those of you for ensuring your child attends school daily and is punctual. There have already been many unauthorised holidays or long weekends.

Term Time Holidays

Families are reminded that Amendments to the 2006 Pupil Registration (England) Regulations, which came into effect on 1st September 2013, removed all references to family holidays and extended leave for holidays in term time. The amendments make clear that Headteachers may **not** grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

