Borrow Wood Primary School Newsletter
Date w/c 5th October 2026
Issue 5

Weekly Update

ERF The children have really enjoyed our Welly Wednesday sessions so far this year. This week, they have made nature crowns from autumnal resources. It is amazing to see their collaborative efforts, engagement and interactions during these sessions! Well done to everyone in the ERF!

Nursery This week in Cherry Class we have been reading the story The Colour Monster. We have been naming different feelings and understanding that all feelings are OK. The children have loved standing in front of the classroom mirrors looking at the expressions on their faces.

EYFS This week in Reception, we have been learning all about our bodies and our five senses, exploring how we use our senses to discover and understand the world around us.

Year 1 This week Pear Class have been reading Martha Maps it Out and learning what geography is. We have enjoyed a song about seeing the world from a birds eye view and learnt the four compass points. The children have all made their own 'map' of school and their own Earth from a paper plate 🗺️

Year 2 This week, in Music, Apple Class have created different sounds with our voices and bodies that we can use in our new class text 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. There were some wonderful creations and the children worked well in their groups.

Year 3 This term, we have been developing our football skills. The children have all made great progress in their passing and dribbling and have shown excellent determination during lessons. Keep up the fantastic work, Year 3!

Year 4 Fir class got the ukuleles out for the first time and practiced a range of strumming techniques. We also used our Slow Time and Hunting skills after learning about them from Jalal in Varjak Paw.

Year 5 In Sycamore, we have continued our study of *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 2: The Little Train of the Caipira* by Heitor Villa-Lobos. The children have begun composing their own melodies while developing their ability to maintain a steady rhythm when playing instruments. They have shown growing confidence in combining rhythm and melody to create their own musical ideas.

Year 6 On Tuesday, year 6 went on their first school trip of the year to Magna Science Adventure Centre. They had a fantastic day with lots of 'hands on' interactive learning experiences on the themes of: Air, Earth, Fire & Water.
Much fun was had by all and the gift shop was pretty amazing too!

Mrs Bartlett's Box

Next Friday it is World Mental Health Day. I just wanted to take a moment to remind everyone that we are here to support our children in the best way we can and that often means supporting parents too. Our doors are open for conversation and signposting, and we will always try our best to help. Parenting is hard and its okay to need a break/vent/laugh/cry/bar of chocolate! One of my favourite quotes for when it all feels a bit much is '*it's okay if the only thing you did today was breathe*'. Be kind to each other, and yourselves, and have a lovely weekend.



Mrs Bartlett
Head Teacher

My Happy Mind

This week, we launched our new PSHE scheme My Happy Mind. As well as dealing with all parts of the PSHE curriculum, My Happy Mind goes deeper and teaches the children all about their brain and how they can use it at its BEST! Over the coming weeks, they will be learning about the hippocampus, amygdala and pre-frontal cortex in age-appropriate ways.
We also chose this scheme as there is an app available that can support parents with a variety of different topics at home. You can sign up using this link https://www.learn.myhappymind.org/Customer-Parents-Resources-Activation-Code and then using the code **146847.** We would love to hear your feedback.

World Mental Health Day

To celebrate World Mental Health Day, we are inviting the children to wear yellow or green on Friday 9th October. It could be just one item or the full outfit!

Parents' Evening

Just a reminder to book your Parents' Evening slots (Bookable through Arbor).

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Swimming

Next term, the pop-up swimming pool will be returning. Children in year 3 and the ERF will have first priority with year 4 children then taking remaining spaces. There will also be after-school clubs for Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6. If your child is in year 3 or year 4, please complete the form to share your child's water confidence and swimming ability (this will also be sent on Dojo) Swimming Proficiency 26-27 – Fill out form. If your child is interested in attending the after-school club, please see attached letter.

ELITE Swimming

Elite Swimming After School Club

Dear Parent/Carer,

Elite Swimming Derbyshire (School Swimming Provider) are delighted to inform yo be running after-school swimming lessons for your children.

Monday - Year 1/2 Swimming
Tuesday - Year 5/6 Swimming
Wednesday - Year 5/6 Water Polo
Thursday - Year 3/4 Water Polo

Costs: £8.00 each session
Times: 3:30pm-4pm (Dismissal 4:10pm)

This block will start on - 2nd November 2026 (3 Weeks)

Over the lessons the children will work on different skills and fundamentals, includi confidence, basic strokes, fun games and much more. Children will need their swim (attached poster) and a drink (no fizzy pop).

The group will be collected by the coaches in school, ready to begin swimming at 3: All groups will be dismissed from reception at approximately 4:10pm

If your child has a one-to-one support assistant, an individual healthcare plan requires any additional support, please indicate this clearly on the booking fo

If you would like your child to take part, please visit the link here - to use our bookir online. https://next-level-sports.classforkids.io/

The booking system will close on the 30th October. If you would like to book your after this date, please email millie.nextlevelsports@gmail.com

Kind Regards,

Elite Swimming Derbyshire

ELITE Swimming

Elite Swimming Kit requirements

Elite Swimming Derbyshire (School Swimming Provider) would like to share with you the recommended kit/equipment list your children need to enjoy the lessons with us.

• Swimwear such as a Swimming costume and swimming shorts	
• Swimming hat and goggles	
• All jewellery must be removed(no earrings, bracelets or necklaces)	
• A towel and spare bag	
• Flip Flops/ Crocs or Sliders	
• Hair must be tied up	
• Dressing gown/Robe	

Health Prospectus (purple book)

Derby City Council has sent out updated information and support for parents to access a variety of different resources, including health and well-being. Please see attached. https://www.derby.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/public-health/your-childs-health-welbeing/

Back To School Discos!

The Friends of Borrow Wood are pleased to announce our first events of the year: Back to School Discos!
Reception, Y1, Y2: Fri 9th Oct
Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6: Fri 16th Oct
Both run 16:15-17:15 - giving the children time to go home and get into their party clothes!
Sign-up here by Friday 2nd October: https://forms.gle/aTMFfN1LaN5bY9Bv6
Contact friendsofborrowwood@gmail.com with any queries.

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Safeguarding

Earlier this week, we had a safeguarding audit in school. The Trust were pleased with our processes and the children could confidently explain what they would do if they were worried and how they are kept safe in school. Please see attached our safeguarding poster, so that you also know who you can speak to in school if you have any concerns about a child.

Many of our KS1 children reported that they had access to smartphones at home and sometimes came across people saying unkind things when playing games such as Roblox. Some children said this made them unhappy and that they usually just ignore it. If your child does access any online games, please speak with them about what they play and remind them who they can talk to at home if they see or hear something that makes them unhappy.

Attendance

It is starting to get to the time of the year where viruses are going round schools and everyone is becoming unwell. The Government has recently sent out some guidance to remind parents about what illnesses can come into school and what illnesses should stay at home (see attached). We have got off to a great start with our attendance this year and I would love to keep it that way! We will keep encouraging hand-washing in school and cleaning of common touch points, if you can keep up the positive reinforcement of school routines and the Calpol doses at home. We will always contact you if we think a child is too ill to be in school.

Is my child too ill for school?

UK Government NHS

Does your child have a high temperature (38ºC or more)? YES Keep them off school until it goes away. NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.	**Cold sores** Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.	**Impetigo** They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.	**Ear infection** If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.
Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	**Conjunctivitis** Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.	**Ringworm** See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.	**Measles** They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.
	Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	**Scarlet fever** They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.	**Vomiting & diarrhoea** Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).
	Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.	**Chickenpox** Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	
	Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.		

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

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BE YOUR BORROW WOOD BEST
BRAVE ENGAGED SUPPORTIVE TRUSTWORTHY

Menu week commencing 5th October 2026

WEEK 2	MEAT FREE MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita Pizza with Baked Potato Wedges	Chicken tikka masala with 50/50 rice	Roast Chicken with Mashed Potato and gravy	Italian pasta Bolognaise	Crispy battered fish & With Chunky Chips
Vegetarian Main dish	BBQ Bean & Cheese wrap with 50/50 Rice	Quorn Lasagne with herby dough balls	Quorn Fillet with mashed Potato	Quorn Mince Bolognaise	Vegetable Fingers With chunky chips
Pasta of the day	Tomato & Basil Pasta	Cheesy pasta	Chicken pasta	Creamy tomato pasta	Tomato and basil pasta
Accompaniments	Sweetcorn & Brocolli ..... Salad Bar	Peas & Colslaw ..... Salad Bar	Carrots & Cauliflower ..... Salad Bar	Broccoli and Green Beans ..... Salad Bar	Peas and Baked Beans ..... Salad Bar
Desserts	Jelly	Chocolate Muffin with Custard	Pancakes & Orange Wedges	Chefs Cookie	Fresh Fruit & Ice Cream
Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Or Yoghurts
Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection

Calander dates Autumn 1

8th September Year 6 height and weight
29th September Year 6 Magna trip
8th October Flu vaccinations
9th October PTA Reception/KS1 disco
16th October PTA KS2 disco
14th & 21st October Parents evening

Calander date Autumn 2

w/c 2nd, 9th & 16th November Swimming
20th November Children in Need
23rd November Individual Photographs
26th November Wear what you want day
4th December Christmas Fair
14th & 15th December KS1 Nativity

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 - 2027 TERM DATES

Autumn term

Friday 4th September 2026 to Friday 23rd October 2026
Monday 2nd November 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026

Spring term

Monday 4th January 2027 to Friday 12th February 2027
Monday 22nd February 2027 to Friday 26th March 2027

Summer term

Monday 12th April 2027 to Friday 28th May 2027
Monday 7th June 2027 to Monday 26th July 2027

INSET DAYS 2026-2027

Friday 4th September
Monday 7th September
Friday 27th November
Friday 12th February
Monday 26th July