



21 September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to start this newsletter with a quote from an email I received yesterday from a parent who attended our Open Evening on Monday night:

"I felt compelled to contact you this evening to say how impressed we were this evening with your Open Evening. Every single Birkdale pupil we came across showed exceptional behaviour & they were all polite, sociable & incredibly helpful, particularly the young men in the "live animals " science room".

We had over 300 boys in attendance for Open Evening. Every single one of them was a credit to the school, to themselves and to you and I would like to thank you for allowing them to take part and support the school in that way.

On a more practical note our new bus route started this week and seems to be proving very popular. It is something that the boys have talked to me about for some time now and it was good to finally be able to provide them with a direct bus all the way to the Churchtown and Crossens areas. I hope to be able to announce very soon, a morning route that will bring your son directly to school via the same areas.

Still on a practical note, work around the school is about to start. We know it will bring some disruption but we hope to keep it to a minimum. In 10 weeks time the school will look very different with new doors, new windows and a new external envelope to the English block and Science back elevation. This will help to weather proof classrooms, regulate temperatures in winter and summer and hopefully will provide your son with a much more pleasant and engaging school environment. We hope to start phase two next summer and I thank you for your patience and support whilst these crucial improvements are taking place.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Many thanks to all parents for their support and patience with the school uniform shop over the Summer. This was the first time as sole suppliers we have sold our uniform over the Summer and there were some issues which we will address for the future. The rationale for running the shop ourselves is to provide quality uniform to our families at the best possible price whilst giving our students the experience of real life retail and business experience. Now that term has started we will once again revert to operating and processing orders on a Friday lunchtime so please bear this in mind when ordering uniform. Should you have any queries or concerns over your son's uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school and once again thank you for your patience and support during the busy summer period.

Mr Cunliffe

SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Details of school clubs and activities which take place before and after school and at lunchtimes are attached to this newsletter. All clubs are free to attend.

Mrs Sharples

BBC COMEDY CAPTIONS COMPETITION

Well done to Nathan Crewe, Ben Gaskell, Solomon Palmer and Jamie Johnson whose captions have made it through to the final of the BBC Comedy Captions Competition. Their entry has made it into the top 15 in the country and is now going to be judged by 7 BBC judges. We are now facing an anxious two week wait to see if we have been lucky enough to win the top prize - a visit to the school by a BBC film crew and comedians along with a trip down to London to visit the BBC studios. Well done to all four boys for getting into the final... what a fantastic achievement in itself... and fingers crossed for the judging!

Mrs Follett

YEAR 11 APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHOPS – 3 & 7 OCTOBER 2016

Apprenticeship workshops will be held on Monday 3 and Friday 7 October. They will be run by Fred Fortune and Elaine Meredith, our careers advisers. The aim is to provide information of what an apprenticeship is and how they work; but also to support those pupils who wish to apply with their applications. If you wish to take part in these workshops please give your name to Miss Bailey by Friday 30 September.

Miss Bailey

Registered office address:

Windy Harbour Road, Birkdale, Southport, PR8 3DT
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mail@birkdalehigh.co.uk www.birkdalehigh.co.uk



SPORTS REPORT

Fraser Cooke

Fraser has been taking part in the Triathlon England Northwest series throughout the summer. From his performance in the series, he was selected to represent the Northwest of England in the Inter-Regional championships, held in Strathclyde Country Park in September. Thirteen regions were represented including Scotland and Wales. The course was based on the one used in the 2014 Commonwealth Games where the Brownlee Brothers competed and won, for England. The event consisted of an open water swim, a tough technical bike and a run along the banks of Strathclyde Loch. Fraser was 4th out of the swim and a good transition set him up well for the bike section, which is his weakest element. After a very strong run, Fraser finished a very creditable 13th. The NW were very well represented, with his NW team mates coming in 1st and 20th out of a field of 39. A fantastic achievement Fraser, well done.

Mr Keary



Sam Cooper

Throughout the winter over seven weekends Sam has been training hard in his Topper dinghy "BGF#25", with the National Squad. This has taken him all over the country, from Cumbria in Scotland down to Plymouth on the South Coast. This is mainly due to the lack of racing in the winter season. However the racing season has been busy for Sam as he has been sailing in regional, national and International competitions all over the country.

Sam has performed well in the North West Topper traveller Series, which has yet to finish. He has won several of these events and is hoping to do well at Bolton SC and at Leigh and Lowton SC as these will be the last two events.

A great achievement this year was winning the National Series overall, due to his consistency of results in the top three at several of the events. These have included sailing at Rutland Water, Weymouth National sailing academy, Datchet, Grafham Water, Plymouth and Carsington Water.

At the very beginning of the school holidays Sam competed in the Topper World Championships, in Ballyholme (Northern Ireland). By the end of the qualifying rounds on day three Sam was in the lead. The qualifiers saw a variety of sailing conditions with little or no wind on some days and strong winds towards the end of the week. By the end of the week with a number of top 10 results in the Gold Fleet, Sam finished in 3rd position overall having led all the way up until the very last race. A very creditable performance.

The Topper National Championships were held in North Berwick, Scotland, the programme included six days of racing, however due to the extreme wind conditions racing only occurred in two of them. Sam qualified for gold fleet in fourth position and on Day five the championship racing started. Sam finished in third and first in difficult and increasingly heavy conditions. The Race officer had to abandon after race two due to 30+ knot gusts on the

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racecourse. So after a very short set of Championship races Sam finished 1st Overall. Congratulations on a fantastic year so far Sam. Well done.
Mr Keary



SEXTING POWERPOINT – EDUCATING PUPILS ON THE SAFE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

During form time this week Year 8 pupils will have been shown a PowerPoint about Sexting – explaining what this is, what the law says about it, the effects it can have on young people, what to do if you are sent inappropriate images and messages and who to talk to for help and support. This PowerPoint will be available for all parents to view on the school web page.
Mrs Nightingale

YEAR 9 PARIS TRIP

The interim payment of £90 for the Paris trip is now due as a matter of urgency as the deadline was Tuesday 20 September. Also there are two additional spare places on the trip. Anyone interested should see Mr Glew as soon as possible.
Mr Glew

FORM CAPTAINS



Mrs Brook is pleased to announce that Form Captains have now been selected for years 8-11. Year 7 Form Captains will be elected towards the end of this half term. Student Voice is a really important element at Birkdale High School and all the young men can help to communicate the message of their form in a mature and proper manner. The role of Form Captain allows students to take on extra responsibilities, such as extra duties and presentations. There is a drop-in session for anyone wishing to communicate their views in G13 every Friday lunchtime. Student Council will be announced shortly. Great work so far!
Mrs Brook

XPRESSIONS APP (FREE OF CHARGE) FOR ALL PARENTS

View your child's information on your mobile phone! Now available for all parents to ensure communication between the school and yourselves is easier and more effective. The app is completely free of charge to you and can be installed on your mobile phone or tablet. Xpressions will give you an insight into your child's school day.

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You will be able to see your child's attendance record, timetable, school calendar, behaviour, achievements and the details of the school. During this time we ask that you make sure your details are correct on our Management Information System (MIS) especially your e-mail and mobile number as this is required to provide security to our system. If you would like any additional information please visit <http://parents.groupcall.com/setup/>
Please see attached document for installation support.

Mr Moss

READING CLUB

A final reminder for all pupils that Reading Club will re-commence for this academic year on Monday 26 September, 3.15pm – 4.00pm, in G16 (Mrs Keating's English classroom). Thereafter, Reading Club will meet weekly. Reading Club's purpose is to encourage pupils to read for pleasure and consequently improve their reading skills and is open to all year groups. A friendly, supportive atmosphere is provided by the Teaching Assistants Mrs Bradley and Mrs Stirling who run Reading Club.

Juice and biscuits are served to revive pupils and pupils are welcome to bring their own reading material or we have a stock for them to select from. A merit is earned per attendance of Reading Club and end of term parties are held for regular attendees as a means of reward. We look forward to seeing our returning regular attendees and will warmly welcome any newcomers. If you have any queries regarding Reading Club please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Bradley or Mrs Stirling.

Mrs Bradley and Mrs Stirling

WHISTLES IN SCHOOL BAGS

Thank you to all parents who have discussed with their sons the issue of the schoolbags with attached whistles. These have been the cause of some antisocial behaviour and a text was sent to all parents asking them to remove the whistles from the bags. Thanks to those parents who have already done so and we would ask all parents to discuss this issue with their sons.

Mr Pryor

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING – FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2016. 10.30am – 12pm

Please see details of our forthcoming MacMillan Coffee Morning attached to this newsletter – all welcome to join us to raise money for this very deserving cause.

Mrs Jeffery

BPA 200 CLUB

BPA 200 Club Winners - September 2016:

- 1st Prize: £96 Kate Nicholas
- 2nd Prize: £48 Susan Boylett
- 3rd Prize: £33.60 Debra Kokkoris
- 4th Prize: £14.40 Carolynne Berry

The winner of the £50 uniform credit is Helen Beadell.

Winnings can be collected from the school office from Thursday morning.

Yours faithfully

Mr G Bourgade
Headteacher

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What's on today?

All clubs and activities are free to attend.

	Before School	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 8.15 - 8.45 am. Quiet work, homework help and reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All year groups welcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open for quiet work and reading. 12.25 – 1.00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invitation holders only. See the TA's if you would like an invitation. • GCSE Music work and practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Music Room. ○ Mr Waring. • Duke of Edinburgh Drop in session. For support with your D of E Award. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm. ○ Room B2. ○ Mr Milner. • Technology Open Access. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catch up with your technology work or complete your projects. ○ Open to all year groups. ○ 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm. ○ Room B4. ○ Mr Milner. • Creative Writing Club. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open to all year groups. ○ Room G16 (English classroom). ○ Mrs Keating. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 3.10 pm – 4.00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiet work, homework help and reading. ○ All year groups welcome. • Reading Club. Reading for pleasure through which reading skills are developed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3.15 pm – 4.00 pm. ○ All year groups welcome. ○ Room G16. ○ Mrs Stirling and Mrs Bradley. • Cookery Club. Bring your own ingredients and cook whatever you want. All year groups welcome. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3.15pm – 4.45pm. ○ Food Tech Room. ○ Mr Ascough.

- **The Green Machine.** A club for anyone interested in recycling and looking after the world.
 - All year groups welcome.
 - Meetings held once a month.
 - Room O2
 - 12.25 pm – 1.05 pm
 - See Mrs Bradley or Mrs Marshall.

- **Basketball Club.**
 - 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm.
 - All year groups welcome.
 - Mr Quirk.

- **Fitness Suite.**
 - 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm.
 - All year groups welcome.
 - Mr Thorne.

- **Maths Help.**
 - Room U1
 - All year groups are welcome.

- **Drone Club.**
 - See Mr Bennett (Science Teacher) for more information on days and times.

	Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Hub. Open 8.15 - 8.45 am. Quiet work, homework help and reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All year groups welcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Hub. Open for quiet work and reading. 12.25 – 1.00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invitation holders only. See the TA's if you would like an invitation. ● STEM Club. For Year 7 – 10 to enjoy and engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Room G1 or G4. ○ Mr Burcher. ● GCSE Music work and practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Music Room. ○ Mr Waring. ● Technology Open Access. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catch up with your technology work or complete your projects. ○ Open to all year groups. ○ 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm. ○ Room B4. ○ Mr Milner. ● Accelerated Reader Drop-in Sessions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Year 7 and Year 8. ○ The library. ● Maths Help. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Room U1 ○ All year groups are welcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Hub. Open 3.10 pm – 4.00pm. Quiet work, homework help and reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All year groups welcome. ● Accelerated Reader Drop-in Sessions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Year 7 and Year 8. ○ The library

	Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 8.15 - 8.45 am. Quiet work, homework help and reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All year groups welcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open for quiet work and reading. 12.25 – 1.00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invitation holders only. See the TA's if you would like an invitation. • STEM Club. For Year 7 – 10 to enjoy and engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Room G1 or G4. ○ Mr Burcher. • Jazz Band Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12.35 – 1.10 ○ Music Room ○ Mr Waring. • Technology Open Access. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catch up with your technology work or complete your projects. ○ Open to all year groups. ○ 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm. ○ Room B4. ○ Mr Milner. • Celebrate. Christian Club. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12.25 pm – 1.05 pm. ○ Room O8 (Mr Glew's room) ○ Open to all year groups. You do not have to be a Christian to attend. ○ Mrs Bradley. • Accelerated Reader Drop-in Sessions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Year 7 and Year 8. ○ The library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 3.10 pm – 4.00pm. • Quiet work, homework help and reading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All year groups welcome. • Maths Help. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Room U1. ○ For KS4 (Y9, 10 and 11). • Ancient History Group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open to all year groups. ○ Room O2. ○ 3.10 pm – 4.10pm ○ Mrs Marshall. • Debating Club. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For year 9 and 10. ○ Library. ○ Mr McCarthy. • Accelerated Reader Drop-in Sessions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Year 7 and Year 8. ○ The library • Hardware Club. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about programming and hardware, Arduino, Raspberry Pi. Use one of our projects or come to get help with your own. • Room U5 • Open to year 9,10 and 11 • Mr Bennett (IT Technician)

• **Inter-form.**

- 12.30pm – 1.00pm
- Mr Keary.

• **Fitness Suite.**

- 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm.
- All year groups welcome.
- Mr Quirk.

• **Maths Help.**

- Room U1
- All year groups are welcome.

	Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 8.15 - 8.45 am. Quiet work, homework help and reading. ○ All year groups welcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open for quiet work and reading. 12.25 – 1.00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invitation holders only. See the TA's if you would like an invitation. • STEM Club. For Year 7 – 10 to enjoy and engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Room G1 or G4. ○ Mr Burcher. • Stonewall Group (Week 2). A forum to discuss LGBT issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open to Year 10 and 11. ○ Drama Room S3. ○ Mrs Jeffery. • GCSE Music work and practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Music Room. ○ Mr Waring. • Technology Open Access. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catch up with your technology work or complete your projects. ○ Open to all year groups. ○ 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm. ○ Room B4. ○ Mr Milner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 3.10 pm – 4.00pm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quiet work, homework help and reading. ○ All year groups welcome.

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Key Stage 3 Art Club.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ For Year 7, 8 and 9.○ 12.25pm – 1.05pm○ Art Rooms.○ Mrs Carrington and Mrs Sinclair.
● Basketball Club.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm.○ All year groups welcome.○ Mr Quirk.
● Maths Help.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Room U1○ All year groups are welcome. | |
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	Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 8.15 - 8.45 am. Quiet work, homework help and reading. ○ All year groups welcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open for quiet work and reading. 12.25 – 1.00 pm ○ Invitation holders only. See the TA's if you would like an invitation. • Science Fiction Film Club. ○ Room G1 or G7. ○ All Year groups are welcome. ○ Mr Woodley. • GCSE Music work and practice. ○ Music Room. ○ Mr Waring. • Scrabble Club. ○ Open to all year groups. ○ G16 (English classroom). ○ Mrs Keating. • Student Voice drop in session. ○ Room G13. ○ All year groups welcome. ○ Ms Darlow. • Fitness Suite. ○ 12.30 pm – 1.00 pm. ○ All year groups welcome. ○ Mr Quirk. • Maths Help. ○ Room U1 ○ All year groups are welcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hub. Open 3.10 pm – 3.45pm. ○ Quiet work, homework help and reading. ○ All year groups welcome.

Groupcall Xpressions App

View your child's information on your mobile phone!

An exciting new service is now available for parents to ensure communication between the school and yourselves is easier and more effective. **Groupcall Xpressions** is a new service created by the award-winning school communication company Groupcall Limited.

The app is completely free of charge to you and can be installed on your mobile phone or tablet. It currently supports both Apple iOS and Android devices (with Windows mobile to follow) and you'll be able to see information for your children.

What do I need to do now?

Please ensure we have your correct mobile number and email address on our school database to ensure you can use the new app. Forms are available from the school office to check and update your details or simply email them to the school. You'll need to make sure you keep these details up to date in future to maintain access to the service.

What happens next?

1. Install the Xpressions App



2. Once installed, open it and enter your e-mail address and click 'Next'

3. Enter your mobile number and click 'Next' (If your details do not match the school records you will see the text 'incorrect answer' in red)

When you have entered details correctly you will receive a text message to your mobile phone containing a 6 digit code.

4. Enter this code into the app

5. Press 'Login'

If you do not receive a code, use the 'Resend Code' function. However there can be delays due to mobile phone providers, so please wait for at least 5 minutes.



Once installed and set up you will be able to see the following information:

- Free messages sent by the school delivered directly to the app
- Updates regarding selected partner systems, used by the school such as homework, catering and library systems
- Attendance records and absences
- Marks and grades*
- Achievement records
- Behaviour events
- Timetable
- School calendar
- Notification timeline for all of the above.

*Enhanced Service being developed



Birkdale
High School

Aspire - Thrive - Succeed



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 30th September 2016

Media Hall - Birkdale High School

Time: 10.30-12.00

Refreshments, Entertainment, Raffle, Activities
for pre-school children....

*If you can contribute raffle prizes please hand these into **reception** by
28th September.*

*Cake donations can be brought in **on the day** as there will also be a
cake sale for students at break and lunch ☺*

Enquiries to hjeffery@birkdalehigh.co.uk



BPA

200 CLUB

BIRKDALE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Name: _____ Pupils Name: _____ Form: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Tel: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Name of Account To Be Debited: _____ Date To Commence: _____

Amount £ 2.00 per month

Date: 1st of Every Month

Place a tick in the boxes to confirm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

On completion of the above please return to: BPA C/O Birkdale High School, Windy Harbour Road, Southport, PR8 3DT

FOR BPA USE

Membership No:

Date First Payment:

Standing Order Reference:



Please retain this section & set up your standing order either direct through your bank or your online banking.

Standing Order Instruction: Please Debit Account No: Sort Code:

Amount: £2.00 On 1st Of Every Month Until Further Notice.

Account to Be Credit: Birkdale Parents Association 200 Club

Account No: 73448649 Sort Code: 20-80-33

Reference: Your Name/BPA

Signed:

Date:





BPA

BIRKDALE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

200 CLUB



**Would you like to be
in with the chance
of winning up to
£300?**



**Pay just £2.00 a month and you could be in with a
chance of winning up to 4 cash prizes every 3 months**

**Half the contribution goes to actively enhancing your sons schooling
Half the contribution goes to PRIZE MONEY!**

IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION

FACTS:

THE MORE MEMBERS THE HIGHER THE PRIZE FUND!

BETTER ODDS THAN THE LOTTERY!!!

YOUR SON AND HIS SCHOOL BENEFITS



**Just a few of things the BPA have
contributed to are:**

**Animal Cages, Awards Evening,
Science Garden Benches and Paving, Ovens in Food Tech,
Defibrillator, Football Nets, Rugby Posts and Camera Equipment
to name just a few.....**

200 CLUB

**All you need to do is complete a membership form, set up your
standing order and wait and see if a cheque lands on your doorstep!!**

Want to know more, contact Kate Ball via email:

bpa@birkdalehigh.co.uk

