



Dear Parents and Carers

7 December 2016

As children all over the world start their advent calendar, we have started our own 12 days of Christmas where every day the child who receives the most merits AND NO SANCTIONS in each year group gets a small reward. We have so many of our boys that do everything that is asked of them every day and never get any sanctions that we thought it would be only appropriate to give them the chance to compete with each other and win prizes.

Please enter into the spirit and remind your son that every day is a new day and he has 12 chances to win. Talking of rewards we will be sending home again electronic certificates to our 100% attenders and subject champions for the half term. These will not be done until the end of next week so continue to encourage him to try his best and keep up his attendance.

It is always nice to hear when our students make a difference in our community and this week I received a fantastic email from Mr Antell, Headteacher at Farnborough Road Junior school, thanking two of our boys for their help and commitment. "Matthew Fraser in Year 11 has been helping with football after school club for about 3 years and has now also started to help with athletics. He is reliable, trustworthy and a brilliant help!" and "Tristan Siebert in Year 7 has also been helping with athletics this term. He is also a fabulous help and a credit to your school." Well done and thank you to both of you for being such amazing ambassadors for the school.

I would like to finish my part of this newsletter by expressing my thanks to our Year 10 prefects who have stepped into the shoes of the Year 11s whilst they were doing their mocks. It is not always easy to rise to the challenge of being a student leader but they have really taken to the challenge and shown that they have the resilience, commitment and maturity required for the task. Well done and thank you!

#### YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING – THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 2016

A reminder that the Year 10 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday 8 December 2016 from 4.00pm to 6.30pm.  
Mr Bennett

#### YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING – THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER 2016

The Year 8 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday 15 December 2016 from 4.00pm to 6.30pm. Appointments can be made online and boys were given letters on Monday containing further details, including instructions on how to make appointments (attached).  
Mrs Nightingale

#### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas lunch will be served in the dining room on Wednesday 14 December. There will be traditional turkey with roast potatoes, pigs in blankets, brussel sprouts, carrots and stuffing balls. There will also be a vegetarian alternative. Dessert will be Christmas pudding or mince pie and white sauce.

#### STONEWALL SURVEY

A new online survey for LGBT young people goes live next week. The survey is being carried out **for Stonewall** by researchers in the Centre for Family Research at the University of Cambridge. The survey is about what life in Britain is like as an LGBT young person. There are questions across different areas, for example about young people's social and school life, plans for the future, inspiring role models, and other things about their life. The information from the survey will be written up into a report and published in 2017.

The link to the survey is at [www.stonewall.org.uk/stonewallsurvey](http://www.stonewall.org.uk/stonewallsurvey) where there is also more information for young people about taking part.

Our School Stonewall group meets Thursday lunchtime (week 2) in the Drama room and all pupils are welcome to attend.  
Mrs Jeffery

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## SPORTS REPORT

### Basketball

Well done to all our boys in the basketball teams who have made a very positive start to the season over the course of the last three weeks. Last night, our Year 9 team travelled to Stanley to compete in a Southport Schools tournament and the boys acquitted themselves very well given that we have had no Sports Hall to train in for quite a while now. The boys eventually finished in third place by winning one game, drawing one and losing one. Our Year 8 Team were winners of their respective competition at Range High School last Tuesday and the Year 7 Team finished joint winners with Stanley High School in their tournament two weeks ago. In their first wave of games against St. Mary's College, the Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 boys were all victorious and the Year 7 boys only narrowly lost their match. Good luck to all the boys who are set to play their second league against Chesterfield tonight and next week.

Mr Quirk

### Badminton

Birkdale A – Danny Hyde, Ben Wilkie, Owen Highton and Oliver Rimmer

Birkdale B – Sam McGlincy, George Carrington, Matthew Howarth, Albeedh Laith

On Thursday 1 December 2016 the U16 badminton team took part in the first round of the Center Parcs National Schools Badminton Competition 2016/17. The teams were in one group with all schools playing each other to determine who progresses. The schools involved were as follows: Birkdale High, Formby High and Stanley High.

Birkdale A won all of their matches with ease. They beat Stanley A and B, Formby and Birkdale B 5-0. Birkdale B won two of their matches by beating Formby 3-2, and managed to beat Stanley B 4-1.

Unfortunately Birkdale lost to Birkdale A 5-0 and lost a narrow tense match 3-2 against Stanley A which went down to the last rubber.

Therefore Birkdale were the winners of the tournament meaning Birkdale will progress to the next round of the Center Parcs National Schools Badminton Competition to represent North Sefton against all winners of each regions of Merseyside, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens and Wirral. Well done boys and good luck in the next round.

Mr Keary



Matthew Howarth, Sam McGlincy, Albeedh Laith, George Carrington



Ben Wilkie, Danny Hyde, Owen Highton, Oliver Rimmer

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## BIRKDALE HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE GARDEN AND ANIMAL CLUB

### You Tube Vlog

The You Tube Vlog is now ready. For all you grown-ups out there like myself who are slightly behind the times, it's short for video log apparently. The boys have been working really hard during lunchtimes and after school to produce our first video log. There have been a few 'diva' moments along the way, one boy even asked for his own Winnebago and hair stylist!

This is just an introductory video to enable pupils and parents to get a hint of what the club is all about.

Special thanks to Lewis Rose 9PZM for editing all the media footage, designing the club's front page for You Tube and basically all things technical. Also, Daniel Sanders 8JQ for his great work with the footage of the animals with the school's video camera.

### Thank you

The club has always been a joint effort by the pupils and myself. The Animal Club exists because of the dedication from all the boys who attend, especially those boys who are willing to take the animals home on a regular basis. This can be the biggest issue for me, having the animals cared for whilst the school is closed for the holidays. A big thank you goes to two boys in particular, Aidan-Reece Slinger 10EJ (who has been attending the club for the last four years) and Henry Maw 8JCS, who have always made themselves available to take the animals home. If it were not for reliable members such as these boys, we could not boast the number of animals we have at the club and it would not be as successful as it is.

Thank you to all parents who have ever allowed their son to take an animal home for the holidays. With your support the club will continue to thrive.

You can show your support for the Club by subscribing to the video log. Please use the following link to view our video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwd9Fw5R4tg&safe=true>

Alternatively, search "Birkdalehsanimals" and you will see this image.

Mr Leece



Congratulations to Sam Bellamy, Lucas Goodman, Carter Birch and Ben Mawdsley who attended their first screening for the Pauline Quirk Academy at Bellevue cinema. It was a great red carpet event and hopefully the first of many!

### BPA NEWS

#### Bags2school

Thank you for all your bags - we have received £168. As they say "every little helps"!

#### BPA Meeting

Tonight – Wednesday 7 December is the next BPA meeting. It starts at 7.30pm and lasts around an hour. Everyone welcome.

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## BPA 200 Club

The draw will take place tonight at the meeting - fingers crossed for those who are members - we will update you next week on the winners. If you are interested in joining this fundraiser for just £2 a month please email [bpa@birkdalehigh.co.uk](mailto:bpa@birkdalehigh.co.uk) for details.

## Cake Sale

Friday 16 December sees us selling cakes to raise funds. Any cakes would be gratefully received and please remember to send some change in with your son.

As always, thank you for your support for the BPA.

Yours faithfully

**Mr G Bourgade**  
**Headteacher**

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# BIRKDALE HIGH SCHOOL

Headteacher:  
Mr G Y Bourgade

5th December 2016

Dear Parent/Carers,

Our Year 8 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016 between 4.00pm and 6.30pm.

Each appointment will last 5 minutes, so please try to limit your discussions to your allotted time slot. Where possible, please try and select consecutive appointments in the same locations. We have organised for a trial of a new online booking system and have attached the information on how to access this and make the appointments.

If you have any problems please call the school office and we will be able to make the appointments for you.

Please note the following for the Science appointments:

If your son is in 81A make an appointment with Mrs Z Flood  
If your son is in 81B make an appointment with Mrs S Woodley  
If your son is in 82A make an appointment with Mr J Woodley  
If your son is in 82B make an appointment with Mr C Spallen  
If your son is in 82C make an appointment with Mr S Burcher  
If your son is in 82D make an appointment with Mr S Bennett

The online booking system will be going live on 7<sup>th</sup> December and will close at 12pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

It is essential that both you and your son make every effort to attend the Parents' Evening. Your son is expected to wear full school uniform.

I look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs S Nightingale**  
**Head of Year 8**

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## Birkdale High School

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Mr G Bourgade  
Headteacher

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Web site: [www.birkdalehigh.co.uk](http://www.birkdalehigh.co.uk)

5<sup>th</sup> Dec 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have organised for a trial of a new online booking system for our Parents' Evenings. Our next event is on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December** for Year 8.

Go to <http://www.parents-booking.co.uk/birkdale>

PLEASE NOTE: You need to type this address into your website browser's 'address bar'. Do not try to 'Google' this website address or use a search engine as that will not work. This is a common mistake on phones and tablets especially.

Login to see which appointments are available and select one that is convenient for you.

#### You will need:

- Your child's legal first name and legal surname
- Your child's date of birth

The system is live on **7 December 2016** and will be open to take your bookings until **12pm on 15<sup>th</sup> December**.

Once you have logged in, we suggest you use the 'Automated Booking' wizard to make your appointments. You will be asked to enter your availability and choose which teachers you want to see before being shown the most efficient order for visiting those teachers on the night.

#### Troubleshooting Tips –please read before booking!

- To log in you need to enter the details we have on record for you and your child. If you have recently changed your title or surname, for example, and not informed us, we will be expecting you to log in with the details we have on record
- The email address you enter is only used to receive a confirmation of your appointment. If the system gives you an error when you log in, it will not be the email address that is the problem
- If you have several children to make bookings for, use the 'Change Child' button on the blue bar (above the school's name) in the very top left corner of the Parent's Booking Page to swap between your children. *This does not apply to the Booking Wizard, where your children are tabbed above the teacher names*

If you are unable to book at home, please call into the office where a member of staff will help you.

We would welcome your feedback on the new online booking system, please send comments to [sboss@birkdalehigh.co.uk](mailto:sboss@birkdalehigh.co.uk), please add **Booking System** in the Subject line.

Best wishes,

Mr Moss  
HOD of ICT