



Dear Parents and Carers

28 February 2018



Nothing like a snow day to bring a bit of excitement to the week and yesterday certainly did that! We decided to allow the boys on the field at lunchtime for a snowball fight as the snow was still fresh, powdery and clean. The Senior Leadership Team and myself supervised them and I have to admit that the boys were an absolute credit. They all played in good fun and were all ready to get back into class by 1.05pm. The Year 11s even had a “walking talking” English mock period 4. “Walking Talking” mocks are one of the strategies we use to help prepare the students, by which an expert teacher will complete the mock paper on the big screen in the hall at the same time as the students and demonstrate the thought process and key actions behind getting not only the answer right but also maximum points. All students took part and it should help them to tackle more effectively their English mocks next week. These will be followed by Maths mocks the week after.

We know how crucial these two exams are and I would like to thank the staff for undertaking this as it will give the boys detailed, relevant and up to date information about their performance, revision and overall preparation.

Tomorrow is our World Book Day extravaganza in Years 7 and 8 when the boys get well deserved rewards for all the reading they have done so far during the year. The Maths department is not to be left behind and the week after we will be celebrating Pi (II) Day and will be attempting to break a world record. More details are included in the attached letter and you will need to return the slip by **FRIDAY 2 MARCH** for your child to be involved in the world record attempt.

On a slightly less fun note I would like to remind all our parents about uniform rules. You may have read in the news in the last few weeks that this has been a hot topic of conversation. We aim to keep our rules very simple and based on common sense but we expect all students to adhere to them. I have attached our full uniform policy for your information but it basically means: black leather shoes no trainers; no hair shorter than a #2, no tramlines or unnatural colours; plain black/blue coat; blazer, shirt in, top button done and tie on at all times). There is no excuse for any student not to comply with this code and adhering to it shows pride in being part of the school and readiness for the day ahead. Ties are available for sale in the office and for borrowing from Mr Boyce. We also

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provide pumps for students who do not have the correct shoes on. I would like to thank you in advance for ensuring that your child fully keeps to these rules.

WORLD BOOK DAY EXTRAVAGANZA – THURSDAY 1 MARCH 2018

Year 7 and Year 8 have an afternoon of fun to look forward to on World Book Day. How many Birkdale pounds will they earn? That depends how many points they have earned through Accelerated Reader and the accuracy of the scores on their quizzes. They will receive spending pounds to spend on a range of goodies - books will be on offer, of course! They will also receive activity pounds to spend on the exciting activities that will be on offer: literary villainous darts, word class Twister, 'Beware the Spider,' 'A spoonful of Sugar,' Quidditch and a book emoji quiz. We hope they enjoy it and realise that reading really does reap rewards!

Mrs Follett

WORLD BOOK DAY – THURSDAY 1 MARCH 2018

Tomorrow, Thursday 1 March 2018, is World Book Day and the Birkdale High School Library will officially open to students at lunchtimes and after school. This is primarily down to two Year 9 students, Daniel Morgan and Matthew Davies, who campaigned for the space to be open for all, and have worked hard to make that possible. All students can register for free as a Library Member from Thursday onwards, and are welcome to come and read or study as much as they want!

Dr Deeks

WORLD BOOK DAY: LITERARY CLUE CHALLENGE

As part of World Book Day, the English department is running a Literary Clue challenge! Hunt for clues to uncover who committed the crime, where and how. If you correctly name the person who did it, the object and location then you could win a prize! The competition is open to all year groups. See your English teacher for entry forms – the deadline is lunchtime on Friday 2nd March.

Mrs Keating

YEAR 7 & YEAR 8 PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Last half term, all Year 7 and Year 8 pupils took part in a public speaking competition, explaining their views on the vexed question of "Teens and Technology". The overall standard was extremely high, with some very clever and witty takes on the topic. In Year 7, classes were represented by Nathan Hopkins(7JM), Kevin Spencer(7JW) and George Harvey(7LK), with George winning outright. In Year 8, the class representatives were Ben Snape(8HAD), Ethan Marshall(8CMC), Harvey Hillier(8CMC) and Jakub Gluszko(8SK), with Jakub winning outright. Well done to all of them!

Mr McCarthy

PI DAY – WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH 2018

The Maths Department is organising a special celebration of Pi Day which is on Wednesday 14 March 2018. Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point and we will be attempting to break a world record, to create the longest human representation of pi digits. In order to do this we would need a donation of £1 per pupil to buy the t shirts to write the digits on, any remaining monies will be donated to the local charity Queenscourt Hospice. On the day we will line up on the field with the digits of pi written on t shirts and attempt to break the current record of 540 digits. We will take aerial photographs of the event. Letters will be brought home today (copy attached) and replies and £1 donation need to be returned to the office by Friday 2 March 2018.

Mrs Woodcock

YEAR 11 GCSE DRAMA PERFORMANCE EXAMS

Preparations are well underway for the GCSE Drama performance exams. Under the new specification students are required to perform 2 extracts from 1 play to an external examiner from AQA. This year students are all performing extracts from 'Two' by Jim Cartwright, a play set in a pub in the North of England in 1980s.

Important dates to note:

Technical/Dress Rehearsals p4 and 5 on Tuesday 20th March
Performance Exams p1-3 Wednesday 21st March

Please help your son to prepare for this assessment by ensuring that he has learnt his lines and attends all lessons/rehearsals leading up to the exam. Any questions then feel free to email me hjeffery@birkdalehigh.co.uk

YEAR 7 PARENTS' EVENING – THURSDAY 8 MARCH 2018

Year 7 Parents' evening will take place from 3.45pm on Thursday 8th March 2018. The online booking system can be accessed via our website: <http://www.birkdalehigh.co.uk>

Mrs Ellis

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YEAR 11 MATHS REVISION CLASSES

The revision classes started last week and it was great to see so many boys taking advantage of the 30 classes on offer. It would be fabulous to see even more boys attending. Below is the timetable of lessons available.

Mrs Thompson

DATE	CLASS 1 – U3 – GRADE 7+	CLASS 2 – U2 – GRADE 5	CLASS 3 – U1 – GRADE 4
21-Feb	Algebraic fractions	Trigonometry	Pythagoras
28-Feb	Indices & Surds	$y = mx+c$	Area & Volume
07-Mar	Locating turning points of quadratics	Simultaneous Equations	Charts & Diagrams
14-Mar	Trigonometry	Factorising/Solving	Averages
21-Mar	Histograms & Stratified Sample	Congruence & Similarity	Transformations
11-Apr	Expanding products of more than 2 binomials	Cumulative Frequency	Ratio
18-Apr	Iteration	Transformations & Vectors	Probability
25-Apr	Vectors	Fractions	Algebra
02-May	Rates of change	Worded Questions	Percentages
09-May	Area under a graph	Proportionality	Fractions

GEOGRAPHY COMPUTER ROOM

After school on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3.15pm – 4.00pm, Mrs Sinnott will be in 016 computer room. This time is for Geography study towards homework projects and catching up on lessons that you may have missed due to music lessons, mentoring or absence. It is also a time for you to work on the latest Geography project homeworks that have been set.

Mrs Sinnott

7AS CHARITY WORK

My very keen charity team, led by Jack Chard and Sam Sutton, have set up a stationery shop to raise money for our charity. Students in Year 7 can buy stationery items during Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday registration. The shop is also open at the end of most lunchtimes: 12.50pm – 1.00pm. The charity we are supporting is 'Mind: for better mental health'. Every year, one in four of us will experience a mental health problem and hundreds of thousands of people are still struggling. 'Mind' is available to give support and advice and more information can be found on their website www.mind.org.uk

Mrs Sinnott

SAM COOPER 11AM

Congratulations to Sam Cooper who has won the title of Royal Yachting Association North West Youth Champion for the second year in a row. He went to Grafham Water and secured seven 1st places, thus becoming the Inlands Champion. We are very proud of your achievement.



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CONOR HARTWELL10PZM

Conor Hartwell has received a letter from the Deputy Chief Fire Officer of Merseyside, personally thanking him for his prompt action following a road traffic accident when he immediately stepped forward to offer assistance to the people involved. Well done Conor, we are proud of you!

BADMINTON

Squad: Ben Wilkie, Owen Highton, Oliver Rimmer, Jack Swettenham, Travis Nolan, Jake O' Callaghan, Joe Rigby, Oliver Ball, Michael Turner

Birkdale travelled to Greenbank Sports Centre in Liverpool to compete in the u14 and u16 Merseyside Badminton Finals. The u14's unfortunately did not make it through their group stage after beating Wade Deacon but losing to a very strong St Hilda's team. The u16's played well to win all their group games but lost to Calday High School in the semi final in what proved to be a close match in all the rubbers. Well done and unlucky. Roll on next year. Mr Keary



GREEN MACHINE

Members of The Green Machine are joining in with The Great Big School Clean after school on Friday. We will be picking up litter around school and along Windy Harbour Road, snow permitting!

This week sees the beginning of FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT (26th February to 11th March) when "people across the world will join together to support the farmers and workers who grow our food".

There is a good article about this in this week's "First News", a copy of which is in the Hub. "Fairtrade means a fairer deal for farmers and a ban on using children as workers." To find out more, please look at www.fairtrade.org.uk

All boys and staff are welcome to join in with the Green Machine's Veggie Debate after school (3.15-4.00 pm) on Wednesday 21 March in the Media Hall. Refreshments available. Everyone welcome! Mrs Bradley

Yours faithfully

Mr G Bourgade
Headteacher

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Dear Parent

On 14th March 2018, Birkdale High Maths Department will be celebrating pi day with the boys. Pi Day is celebrated around the world. Pi (Greek letter "π") is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159.

Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point.

We will be attempting to break a world record, to create the longest human representation of pi digits.

In order to do this we would need a donation of £1 per pupil to buy the t shirts to write the digits on, any remaining monies will be donated to the local charity Queenscourt Hospice.

On the day we will line up on the field with the digits of pi written on t shirts and attempt to break the current record of 540 digits. We will take aerial photographs of the event.

This will be a fun and exciting opportunity and we will hopefully break the record.

The event will be photographed and possibly filmed and we therefore want to check that we have your permission to:

- Film and take photographs of your child
- Share this film/photos with local news organisations for them to publish (no children's name or details will be given)
- Post the film/photos on our website and Twitter account (no children's name or details will be given)

If you would like to volunteer to be a steward for the event please can you tick the box on the reply slip below, the event will take place from 9 - 10.30am

Please complete and sign the attached form and enclose a £1 donation.

Thank you for your support.

The Maths Department

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I am happy for my son _____ in form _____ to take part in the Pi day celebration and have enclosed a £1 donation.

I understand that films and photos may be taken and I give permission for my child to be filmed and photographed and for these images to be distributed in accordance with school policy.

I would like to volunteer to be a steward at the event (please tick)

Signed _____

Name _____

Date _____

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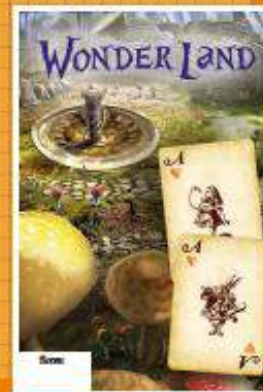
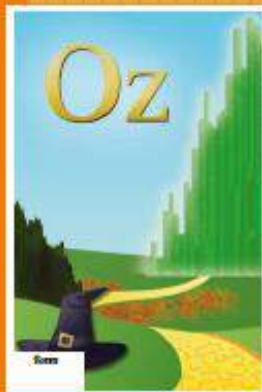
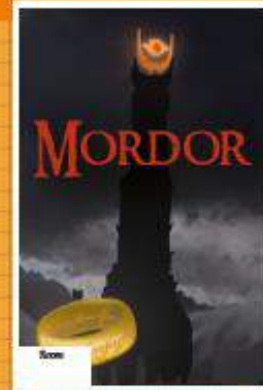
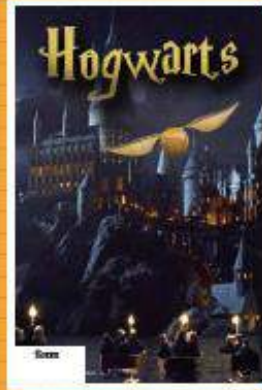
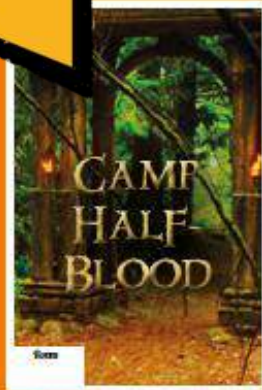
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WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

1 MARCH 2018

Literary Clue Challenge



Literary Clue



	<input type="checkbox"/>
Character	
Albus	
Katniss Everdeen	
Dorothy Gale	
Percy Jackson	
Harry Potter	
Frodo Baggins	
Weapon	
Bottle labelled 'Drink Me'	
Sword and arrow	
Bucket of water	
Amulet/stone	
Golden wand	
A sword named 'Sting'	
Location	
Wonderland	
Harlem	
Oz	
Camp Half Blood	
Hogwarts	
Mordor	

Student name: _____

Who did it? _____

With what object? _____

Where? _____

**Deadline: 2nd
March**

Can you solve the crime?

Find the clues to correctly name who did it, the object used and the location to win a prize!

See your English teacher for details.

Birkdale High School



**Birkdale
High School**

Aspire - Thrive - Succeed

Uniform Policy



Birkdale High School Uniform Policy

<i>Date of Policy:</i>	<i>June 2016</i>
<i>Members of staff responsible:</i>	<i>Assistant Headteacher (Mr Pryor)</i>
<i>Review date:</i>	<i>June 2018 – every 2 years</i>

PERSONAL PRESENTATION

It is the policy of this school that all students wear a school uniform. This ensures that we have a code of dress which is both smart and practical and in which there is no social or financial distinction.

Our school image is important to us and, since first impressions often count, we want our students to present a smart, business-like appearance. This is important on all those occasions when they need to present a positive image, not only of the school community, but also of themselves as individuals.

The school expects all students to conform to the policy in terms of personal presentation.

However, the school values the fact that the vast majority of our students are proud to wear the Birkdale uniform and to present a positive image of the school and themselves.

In all cases students not conforming to what the school considers to be acceptable will be disciplined, which may include isolating them until the issue has been resolved.

UNIFORM

A large number of items can be purchased from the school shop. A list of these items and the cost can be found on the school website.

Compulsory

White shirt (which is long enough to be tucked in), long or short sleeved
Tie – This must be a school issue tie only. No alternative ties will be permitted
Black school trousers
Navy blue blazer with school badge
Black or dark grey socks

As of September 2015 the school's policy relating to footwear is as follows:

Sensible black, plain shoes must be worn that are leather or leather looking. Shoes that are fabric or suede will not be permitted. Similarly, boots, training/sports shoes or sports brands will not be permitted. Shoes must be plain black with no logos, stripes or additional colours present (including the sole of the shoe) and the laces must be black. Ideally shoes with Velcro fastenings should not be worn. If shoes with Velcro fastenings are worn they must conform to the parameters set out above.

Students that wear shoes to school that do not comply with the policy will be issued for appropriate footwear by the school for the day.

Outdoor Coat: Plain black or navy. Hooded tops and sports tops are not permitted as alternatives to wearing an outdoor coat.

Optional

Navy Blue jumper with school badge. No other jumper/hooded top should be worn underneath the student's blazer.

All students are expected to wear their uniform correctly. Full uniform must be worn when travelling to and from school with the shirt tucked in at all times. The top button must always be fastened and the tie fastened up to the top button with six stripes showing.

Students must not wear any of the following items of clothing or footwear:

Sweatshirts, baseball hats, trainers, casual shirts, boots. This is not a definitive list and any item of clothing which is a clear breach of the school uniform requirements is not permitted.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME.

Hairstyles:

Hairstyles which are extreme in any way are not acceptable such as:

Shaved heads, patterned shaving or contrasts in colour

No vibrant and/or unnatural colours are allowed

Hair extensions and braiding are not allowed

No haircuts shorter than a No 2 are allowed

Students and parents unsure about the appropriateness of certain haircuts should approach the respective Head of Year **before deciding** whether to have their hair cut in that fashion.

Watches are the only items of jewellery that students are permitted to wear. The wearing of makeup is not permitted.

PE kit:

BOYS' INDOOR KIT

White polo shirt with school badge

White ankle sports socks

Navy blue shorts with school badge

Sports shoes with black rubber soles

BOYS' OUTDOOR KIT

Navy blue rugby shirt with school badge

Navy blue football socks

Navy blue shorts with school badge

Football boots with studs are essential for boys' outdoor lessons as training shoes do not provide a sure footing on wet grass. Correct kit must be worn for all lessons and students may shower after every lesson if they wish. Pupils must wear shin pads when they are timetabled to play football. Similarly, students must wear a gum shield when playing rugby.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL ITEMS OF PE KIT ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME.

Confiscation

If any student is seen to be wearing any item of clothing that does not conform to the uniform requirements, and/or is wearing jewellery other than that permitted, the teacher concerned will confiscate the offending items. Items of jewellery will be put in an envelope, with the student's name on, and it will be placed in the school safe. Items of confiscated clothing will be placed in the school office with the student's name on it. Students can collect confiscated items at the end of the school day from the Main Office. If items are confiscated from the same student on more than one occasion in any half-term,

parents/carers will be asked to collect the confiscated item(s). Please refer to the confiscation policy for further guidance.

Additional equipment

Equipment: Students need a **school bag** in which to carry books and equipment. This needs to be big enough to carry A4 size folders and books. They are expected to provide basic equipment for lessons including:

PEN, PENCILS, RUBBER, CRAYONS, RULER ideally in a pencil case. (All of these items can be purchased from the school shop).

READING Students in Years 7 – 10 are expected to bring a reading book with them every Friday for ERIC. In Year 11 students are expected to have appropriate revision material with them for silent study every Friday morning.