

# Weekly Parents Bulletin



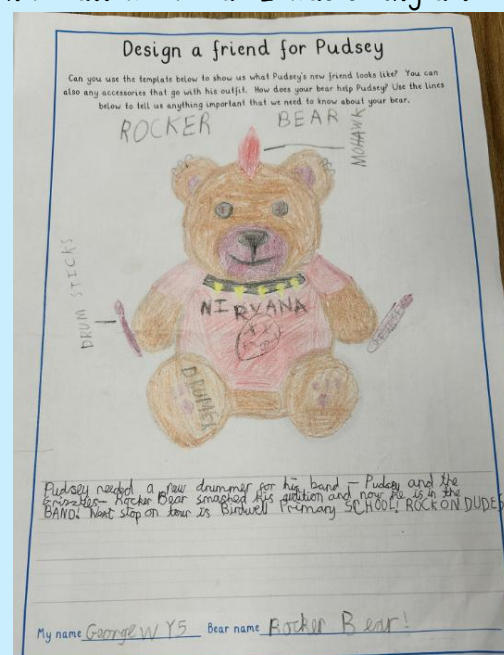
## Autumn 2 Week 2 News

### Welcome Back to School

This morning, I started to realise the size of the task I had set myself, in choosing a winner for the design a friend for Pudsey bear competition. It had been slowly dawning on me all week that I was seeing a lot of (really good) bear designs but it wasn't until they were all together, I realised how difficult it would be to choose a winner!

We had army bears, ninja bears (to protect Pudsey), sweetie bears, Bear-inem (the rap bear), a mining bear who could dig up gems for Children in Need, a pirate bear, nighttime bear (to help sad children sleep) and even a robber bear who would steal

money for Pudsey! Thank you for that morally-dubious contribution, Isabella Armitage, I loved it! In the end, I went with an entry that had clearly taken the designer an awful lot of time in thinking of the little extra touches for their design, who's bear really represented their interests and who had also tried to think about what the bear's role would be in helping Pudsey. They even invented an imaginary back-story for their bear! Our winner is...



Rocker Bear, by George Wildman

A huge thankyou to everyone who took part. I loved looking at your designs and talking to everyone through the week about their ideas. We raised lots of cash for Pudsey and had fun doing so. Thank you everyone!

Take a look at some of the other entries on the next page...

### Attendance (Target 97%)

Reception	96.5%
Year 1	96.6%
Year 2	96.5%
Year 3	96.8%
Year 4	95.4%
Year 5	96.2%
Year 6	96.1%
Total	96.3%

### After School Clubs

Mon	Forest School	Mrs Barrott
	Mindfulness	Mrs Millington
	Young Voices	Mrs Rees
Tue	Sports Club	Shawny
	Graphics Club	Mr Swallow
Thu	Dance	Shawny
	Yoga	Mrs Moody

Sign up for after-school clubs on the Arbor app now or contact Shawny directly for Fitness & Dance (poster attached)



## Our Friends for Pudsey!





# Save the Date

I have attached the Save the Date document for the whole school year. Please note the corrections in yellow.

## Parent Forum

Thankyou to the volunteers who have stepped up as parent forum representatives so far. We are pleased to welcome:

Year 6: ?  
 Year 5: Sarah Sheridan  
 Year 4: ?  
 Year 3: Amy Briscoe  
 Year 2: ?  
 Year 1: ?  
 Reception: Rachel Dronfield



### What's a Parent Representative?

It is a parent, in each class, who volunteers to relay questions from the class community to the school and who reminds parents in the class of upcoming dates. To make it manageable, we will meet, as a group, every half term to raise issues and also celebrate what's working well. As you can see, we could still use more volunteers, please let me know if you would be willing to represent your child's class.

## Attendance

Whilst we are still not quite back to normal, attendance improved in every single class this week and we were less than a percent off target in almost every class!

Congratulations to our first attendance winner...

Each week, every child who attends 100% for that week will have their name entered into the prize draw for that week. On Friday, in our celebration assembly, we will draw a name out of the box and that person will win a cosy night in hamper-so they can charge their batteries over the weekend! Every name entered in the draw will also be eligible to win the star prize at the end of the term...the more times your name is in the box, the more chance you have of winning!



## Lunch Menu

Autumn / Winter Term (Week 2)				
All our kitchens operation under a Nut-free environment				
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
Calzone with wedges (V)	Chicken pasta bake with garlic bread	Sausage and Yorkshire pudding with mashed potatoes	Beef burger with wedges	Harry Ramsdens fish and chips
Creamy broccoli and cheese pasta bake (V)	Breaded Quorn burger with diced potatoes (V)	Quorn sausage and Yorkshire pudding with mashed potatoes (V)	Herby Quorn sausage roll with wedges (V)	Crispy fingers and chips (V)
Jacket potato with a choice of cheese (V), beans (VE), or coleslaw (V)	Jacket potato with a choice of cheese (V), beans (VE), coleslaw (V) or tuna mayonnaise	Jacket potato with a choice of cheese (V), beans (VE), coleslaw (V) or tuna mayonnaise	Jacket potato with a choice of cheese (V), beans (VE), coleslaw (V) or tuna mayonnaise	Jacket potato with a choice of cheese (V), beans (VE), coleslaw (V) or tuna mayonnaise
Served with a choice of seasonal vegetables (VE)	Served with a choice of seasonal vegetables (VE)	Served with a choice of seasonal vegetables (VE)	Served with beans (VE)	Served with a choice of Peas or beans (VE)
Chefs choice of home bake (V)	Brownie (V)	Fruit Jelly (V) or Yoghurt (V)	Parkin (V)	Fruity Friday (VE) or Yoghurt (V)
Please be aware that we are unable to guarantee a completely food allergen-free environment, as foods containing allergens are used in our kitchens				
Weeks Commencing: 17th Nov / 08th Dec / 19th Jan / 09th Feb / 02nd Mar / 23rd Mar		Available daily: Unlimited vegetables (VE) Unlimited fresh water. Selection of fruit (VE). Bread basket (V).		

# Our DT curriculum

You may have noted, on our Save the Date document, that this term is DT focussed at Birdell. I had the pleasure of covering Year 6 yesterday and it was great fun exploring the way that cams worked and the impact that different profiles had on a mechanism. This is part of the design focus that they follow in designing and making a toy for Reception class children. It is easy to forget what a great curriculum we have at Birdwell and I thought this was a nice chance to share a little of what that looks like in practise.

Each class in school has a different project that they are working on. Ask you child about theirs!



## Bicycle maintainance

Our Year 5 pupils will be completing their Bikeability training soon. They will demonstrate and improve their riding skills and build up to road riding sessions with the Bikeability team, to improve their road safety and traffic awareness. To coincide with this, we have arranged for the maintenance team from Bike Works, to attend school on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>, of that week, to carry out **free** bicycle maintenance and repairs **for anyone** in our school. Any bike brought to school that day will be serviced for free!

## EYFS Remembrance collage

We were treated to as lovely Remembrance display by our reception class this week. What a lovely way for the children to learn about this special day and find out about why poppies are used to remember.





# Spanish Open evening

Mrs Atkinson really pulled out all the stops this year and the school hall looked fantastic. Thank you to Mr Crouch and Mrs Dodsworth for helping to set up too. Mrs Atkinson teaches Spanish across Key Stage 2 and she invests an incredible amount of time (and her own money) in bringing the Spanish curriculum to life. She Spanish food on offer, the incredible picture puzzles and learning about Spanish culture are all additions to the curriculum that Mrs Atkinson has made her self and that are unique to Birdwell. It was lovely to see the quality of the work on display and great to see everyone getting into the spirit of the event. I was also very impressed that the only empty space I could see on Jake Brunt's plate of Spanish food, was the hole in the centre of his calamari ring! Thank you everyone and thank you Mrs Atkinson for making the event such a success..



# Join the team

We are looking for a new SMSA (lunchtime supervisor) to join our school team.

**School Meals Supervisory Assistant | GRADE 1 | Birdwell Primary School**

## **BIRDWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **SCHOOL MEAL SUPERVISORY ASSISTANT**

#### **GRADE 1**

**5 hours per week, Permanent**

**To commence from 24.10.25**

Birdwell Primary School is looking for an enthusiastic and reliable person with a courteous, friendly, and approachable nature to join our lunchtime team. The post is 5 days per week, Monday to Friday, from 12.00-1.00pm, term time only. If you have an interest in working with children, giving back to our local community or would like a part-time job as a stepping stone into further job opportunities in schools, then this may be the ideal opportunity for you.

Our school is committed to inclusion and equal opportunities. Our school is dedicated to ensuring our school is a place where everyone feels welcome and all our children can feel like they belong. Our engaging and relevant teaching practices ensure that Birdwell Primary is a school where children can achieve their best.

#### **Our ideal candidate will:**

- Be professional, organised and flexible.
- Have excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Enjoy working with children.
- Have an ability to prioritise.
- Possess a calm, courteous, professional manner.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times both inside and outside school.
- Be first aid trained or willing to undertake Paediatric 1st Aid training.
- Work well as part of a team.
- Have a good sense of humour.

#### **We can offer:**

- A dedicated, effective and supportive staff team;
- Excellent opportunities for developing core skills;
- A positive environment based on our core values of We're Respectful, We're Ambitious, We're Proud: We're Birdwell
- Motivated, well-behaved children.
- A high-quality learning environment with good resources and facilities.

**HCAT offer an extensive range of opportunities, incentives and benefits including:**

- Membership of either the South Yorkshire Pension Scheme (Support Staff) or Teacher Pension Scheme (Teaching roles)
- Access to free Financial Advice
- Access to the VIVUP benefits website including Cycle to Work, car leasing and technology schemes and discounts on retailers, holidays, days out, etc.
- Free Flu Jabs available, discounted Local Gym and Health Clubs and access to our Employee Assistance helpline for free and confidential advice, physiotherapy, and weight management.
- Flexible working arrangements wherever possible
- Training and development opportunities

Visits to school are welcomed by appointment. Please contact Diane Sykes on 01226 742957 or [diane.sykes@hcacademytrust.education](mailto:diane.sykes@hcacademytrust.education) if you would like to make an appointment to visit or to request an application form.

We shall also supply:

[Job Description](#)

[Person Specification](#)

[Exposure Profile](#)

Closing date for receipt of applications: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025.

Please note only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Birdwell Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This post involves working with children and therefore if successful you will be required to apply for a disclosure of criminal records at an enhanced level.