



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you all and may I wish you happiness, success and good health in the year ahead. It has been wonderful to welcome the pupils back into school this week and hear stories of their adventures over the holiday period. The Spring Term promises to offer much for the pupils to enrich and enhance their learning, with educational visits, a guest author, a new themed day centred around mental well-being and a host of other activities planned, the term ending with the Years 5 and 6 play and House Music. Once again, we look forward to welcoming you to join us for these events.



Warm regards,

Mrs S Morris
Headmistress

NATHAN TIERNEY



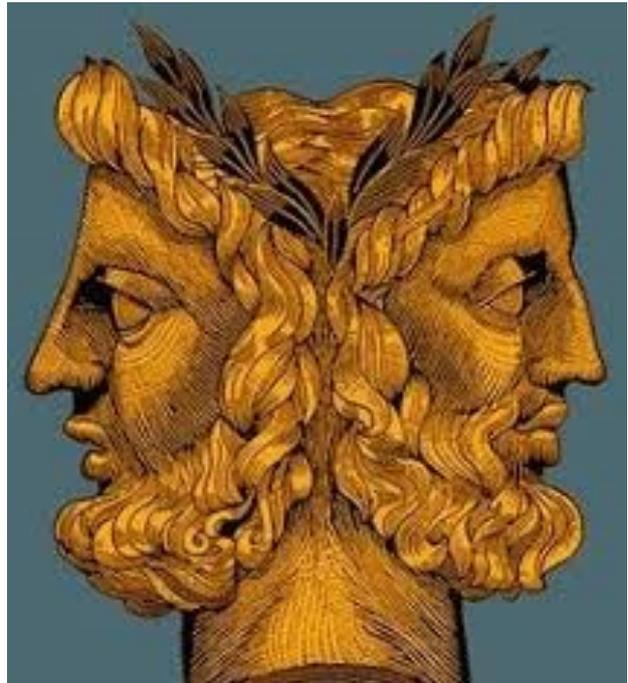
We are delighted to report that Nathan Tierney in Year 2 has been selected for the Staffordshire County U8 tennis squad. An impressive achievement. Well done, Nathan!

YOUNG VOICES



Information and tickets for Young Voices will be sent home on Tuesday, 15 January.

ASSEMBLY FOCUS: Celebrating a New Year



With the arrival of a new year comes the making of resolutions for many and, it was pleasing to hear of the sensible and achievable goals set by our pupils in assembly this week. During the assembly, we explored the reason why January is the month that marks the start of the new year, discovering stories of Roman gods and goddesses behind the months' names and learning about Janus, the god of openings and new beginnings. Amongst his responsibilities were keeping homes safe in Roman times and closing the door on the old year and opening a new door to the year ahead. The pupils were encouraged to reflect upon the year that has passed; its memories, its highlights and its moments of achievement as well as to look ahead with excitement to new opportunities to be enjoyed in 2019.

HEADMISTRESS' SEND-UP



Pamela Cox Bradshaw—Creative Writing

We are proud to share with you the writing which won Pamela her send-up.

DIAMOND by Pamela Cox Bradshaw

An iridescent beam bounced off the swamp-like lake as the bitter air engulfed the vast expanse. Night neared as the sun descended like a sliding egg yolk. A light vapour cleansed the air of smoke and stench as panic thronged the plain.

Crackle, snap, thud. Once proud oaks had been obliterated by the elegant mass of destruction that had torn through the verdant countryside. What had once been a charming blanket of rhododendrons survived as a flat, muddy puddle.

Sirens echoed through the once peaceful country. Screams penetrated the black smoke. An odious scent lingered in the Arctic air while the metallic sound of machines dominated the scene.

Like bees to honey, swarms of people covered the area but, as night approached, so did the frost. Cars seemed to chatter in the cold as they made their way down the lanes leading to the diamond.

MUSIC EXAMINATION RESULTS

Congratulations to the following pupils for their music achievements:

NAME	SUBJECT	INSTRUMENT	RESULT
Isaac Ahmed	Prep Test	Piano	Pass
Sophie Davenport	Prep Test	Piano	Pass
Luke Sheldon	Prep Test	Guitar	Pass
Fleur Jarvis	Grade 1	Singing	Merit
Phoebe Johnston	Grade 2	Singing	Pass
Mae McConnachie	Grade 2	Singing	Merit
Catherine Clews	Grade 3	Singing	Merit

STAFFING NEWS

Assistant Site Manager



Mr Simon Shakespeare has taken up role this week as the school's Assistant Site Manager. With a wide experience of schools and a varied skills set, we are delighted to welcome him to the team.

Head of Mathematics

I am pleased to announce that, further to the recruitment process at the end of last term for a new Head of Mathematics, Mr Ian Morgans has been appointed to the role and will join the school in September. Mr Morgans may be remembered by some families after his time teaching English at Birchfield some years ago. Since leaving the school, he has enjoyed a range of roles at schools within the maintained and independent sectors delivering both English and Mathematics to a range of year groups and abilities. His experience and knowledge of 11+, Common Entrance and Scholarship preparation will be valuable and he is looking forward to leading the subject across the school.

Bursar

In respect of the Bursar role at the school, we will no longer be taking forward Ms Banister's application and will be re-advertising the position shortly. For any queries, please do not hesitate to email bursar@birchfieldschool.co.uk as previously and your question will be followed up immediately.

NEW PUPIL NEWS

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our newest pupil, Rhys McRobbie-Smith, who joined Year 2 at the beginning of this week. We look forward to helping him settle in quickly and become part of the Birchfield community.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Friends of Birchfield School Calendar is still available for purchase at The School Office, at a cost of £7.00.

MALVERN COLLEGE COACHING WORKSHOP



On Wednesday pupils were delighted to welcome Malvern College to Birchfield to run sessions in both rugby and netball. Children in Years 5 to 8 thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to develop their skills and benefited from further expert coaching. This was a great start to the Spring Term.

MOUTH GUARDS

Please note that all pupils are required by law to wear mouth guards for certain sports. Now the rugby season has commenced please ensure that your child has an adequate mouth guard. If you are using a shop-bought mouth guard, please can you ensure that this has already been fitted at home as staff cannot be responsible for this. Thank you for your co-operation in this important matter.

School Matron

		WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK
Date	Time	Event
14/01/2019		Spring Term Club timetable begins
16/01/2019	14:30	U13, U11 A and B Netball v Packwood (a)
	14:30	U12 Hockey v Yarlet (a)
	14:30	U10 A and B Rugby v Old Hall (a)
17/01/2019	14:30	U9 Hi-5 Netball v Packwood (a)
	14:30	U9 and B Tag Rugby v Shrewsbury High Prep (h)

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Clubs and activities will commence on Monday, 14 January. Unless you have been advised otherwise your child has a place in their chosen club.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club is available daily from 7:30am to 8:00am. Please book with Mrs Ackerley: aackerley@birchfieldschool.co.uk

LETTERS SENT OUT/CLARIONED THIS WEEK:

Attain Magazine—all pupils
 Food Order forms—all pupils
 Trip to National Space Centre letter (Leicester) - Year 2
 Wrekin College Maths Challenge letter—named pupils
 Learning Enhancement letter—named pupils
 Maths letter—Years 7 & 8
 Allergies Update letter—all pupils

Telephone: 01902 372534
 Email: office@birchfieldschool.co.uk
 Website: www.birchfieldschool.co.uk

Birchfield Preparatory School,
 Harriot's Hayes Lane, Albrighton,
 Near Wolverhampton, WV7 3AF

