



# News and Information

Date: 21st January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a challenging start to the term for us all as COVID continues to have an impact, however, there are positive signs nationally that we may be at the beginning of the end. Within school, we have had numerous cases, including staff, since the start of the term. We currently have 32 positive cases. From everyone at Bierton, we wish you all a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming you back at school very soon but in the meantime, if you are well enough to do some home learning, check Seesaw for tasks and messages from your teachers. Thank you to Parents and Carers for supporting us with daily testing: this is our best method for slowing down the transmission. I will continue to update you of further positive cases in your child's class. I would also like to say a big thank you to all the staff at Bierton who have been absolutely amazing. Staff have had to be re-deployed in different roles and different areas of the school but have done so with a smile on their face and ensured that our provision has remained as high quality as physically possible. As Boris begins to lift restrictions again, we will remain with our current risk assessment for the time-being. I would also advise that parents continue to wear masks at drop-off and pick-up times to help keep our School community as safe as possible. I wish you all a safe and happy weekend.

Mr Gadsby

## School Council Update



We had our first meeting this half term Wednesday 12th January. During this meeting we discussed plans to create our own Children's Play Charter. We have asked the school council representatives to discuss with their classes what they think is important when we play. We will create the Play Charter in our next meeting on Wednesday 26th January.



## Key Dates coming up:

### February

Wednesday 2nd —FOBS Meeting

Friday 4th— Number Day

W.B. 7th—Children's mental Health Week

Tuesday 8th—Safer Internet Day

W.B. 14th—Diversity Week

Tuesday 15th—Reception & Year 6 photographs

Thursday 17th—Cine Night (FOBS event)

Friday 18th—School closes at 3:15pm for half-term

Monday 28th—School re-opens

### March

Friday 11th—Spanish Day

Friday 18th—Comic Relief Day

Monday 21st—Year 5/6 Trip to The Space Centre; Teaching Talons Workshop in school for KS1

Tuesday 29th—Parents Evening (3:30pm—6:30pm)

Wednesday 30th—Parents Evening (3:30—6:30pm)

Thursday 31st—School Disco (FOBS event)



## Words of the fortnight

Each fortnight, I will share some exciting vocabulary words. If your child uses them in their writing at school they will receive a dojo.

EYFS: **cheese**

Year 1 and 2: **beautiful**

Year 3 and 4: **gulped**

Year 5 and 6: **convivence**

## Vocabulary

### **inverted commas**

These are also called speech marks. **Inverted commas** are used in writing to show when some is speaking. They are also used to show that you are using a quote.

Rules for including speech in your writing:

- Open your **inverted commas** when the person starts speaking and close them at the end.
- Begin what is being said with a capital letter
- Use punctuation before you close your **inverted commas**.

**"How are you doing today?" asked Henry.**

**"I'm great!" said Ashton.**

# Literacy at Bierton

## Accelerated Reader

From year 2 onwards, we use Accelerated Reader for the children to complete quizzes on the books that they have read. AR Book Finder is a great website to help you to find out is a book is on Accelerated Reader and other information about the book.

You can use the quick search option if you know the title of the book and you want to check to see if there is quiz available.

The advanced search sections allows you to search using a range of criteria. Your child will have a reading range which is their ZPD; this is a range that is assessed each term. This site allows you to search for books that are at that level and would be suitable for your child. You can search for a particular author, age or series of books. It will then come up with all the books that match that criteria that are on Accelerated Reader. There is also an option to include the topic/theme of the books which is really useful as the results will contain books that your child might enjoy.

<https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/>

Quick Search **Advanced Search** Collections

Title

Author

Series

Publisher

ISBN

Quiz Released  Any Time Quiz Type  Any Quiz Type

Interest Level  Any Interest Level

ZPD Range/ATOS Book Level  through  [Show Lexile® Measure](#)

select an Interest Level first

Additional Criteria  All Topics

All Subtopics

Fiction and Non-fiction

Sort  Relevance

## Book Review

Rapunzel is a classic story and there have been lots of different versions of the story over the years. This book offers a different twist to the classic story. Rumaysa is kidnapped by a witch when she is a baby and held in a tower forced to spin straw into gold. The story is about how she secretly keeps some of the gold thread to create a gold hijab that she can use to escape. This is a lovely story about bravery and friendship.



If you have read a great book recently and would like to share your review please let me know. You can send me your review to [year34team@biertoncombined.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:year34team@biertoncombined.bucks.sch.uk) or bring it to my classroom. Maybe your review will appear in the next newsletter.

# Phonics at Bierton



## New phonic groups

Due to the assessment process before Christmas, your child may have changed phonics group. This might mean they have a different phonics teacher or they might be reading a different colour reading book. By continuing to assess and change the phonics groups, we can make sure that each child has the teaching at the level they need.

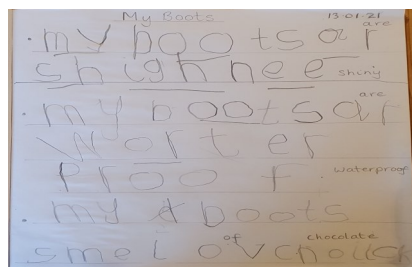


## Phonically Plausible Spelling

A word is phonetically plausible if it can be identified for what it is, even if it is not spelt correctly.

Children learning to write will create phonetically plausible versions of words before they learn the correct spellings. This is because they only have a limited knowledge of phonic sounds which they can use.

Examples of Phonically Plausible writing:



## Vocabulary

Each fortnight, we will share a phonics term with you.

This week's term is consonant cluster

A consonant cluster is a group of consonants with no vowels between them. i.e bl, gr, fl,

## Using alternative sound in spelling.

One of the most difficult aspects of teaching spelling is understanding that a sound in a word (phoneme) can be spelt in different ways.

This is something the children begin to understand as they learn different ways to spell different sounds. This is during year 1.

Initially, children will experiment using different sound in their writing. Children will often seek advice and reassurance as to which letters to use within a word.

As children become more confident with this, they will develop a greater understanding of spelling patterns and groups of words which have the same groups of letters.

Children naturally learn to spell more words correctly by reading. If children can recognise more words in their reading and they are likely to spell them correctly.

Children can use this spelling chart to recognise and select the letters they need to write words and develop their spelling skills.

During year 1, the children should experiment with the range of sounds with in their writing. By the end of year 2, the children should have a deeper understanding of which sounds are placed within a word in order to select the correct sound.

### Complex Speed Sounds

#### Consonant sounds

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci		
					c		se			
					ce					

b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch
bb	k	dd	gg		g	pp		tt	wh			tch
	ck				ge							
	ch				dge							

#### Vowel sounds

a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow
	ea				a-e	y	i-e	o-e
					ai	ea	ie	oa
						e	i	o
							y	

oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure
u-e			oor	are	ur	ow	oi			
ue			ore		er					
ew			aw	au						



## Fluency Facts

Each fortnight, we will share some fluency facts for you to learn and recall with your child. If your child can recall the fact when asked by a teacher, they will receive a dojo.

Early Years	<b>Parts and wholes</b> Recognising that parts can make a whole. <b>2 and 3 make 5 altogether</b>
Year 1 and 2	<b>Different ways of making 7 and 9</b> Examples: <b><math>0 + 7 = 7</math>, <math>1 + 6 = 7</math>, ...</b> <b><math>0 + 9 = 9</math>, <math>1 + 8 = 9</math>, ...</b>
Year 3 and 4	<b>Multiplication and division are inverse operations.</b> Focusing on the x3 and x4 times tables. Examples: <b><math>3 \times 4 = 12</math></b> <b><math>4 \times 3 = 12</math></b> <b><math>12 \div 3 = 4</math></b> <b><math>12 \div 4 = 3</math></b>
Year 5 and 6	<b>Fractions, decimals and percentages</b> <b><math>1/2 = 0.5 = 50\%</math></b> <b><math>1/4 = 0.25 = 25\%</math></b> <b><math>3/4 = 0.75 = 75\%</math></b> <b><math>1/10 = 0.1 = 10\%</math></b> <b><math>1/5 = 0.2 = 20\%</math></b>

# Maths at Bierton

## Maths Mastery

Within our last updates, we have explained some of the elements of a mastery approach in the teaching and learning of maths at Bierton. This update provides further information:

### Speedy teacher intervention to prevent gaps

Those children that have not met the expected outcomes or have gaps in their understanding, will be helped by receiving short, immediate extra time on maths later in the day or at the beginning of the following day. This is a positive opportunity to consolidate their understanding and short practice activities at home could also support children. Many classes in the school are also now offering pre-teaching interventions in the morning to prepare children for that day's learning.

### Challenge provided by going deeper not accelerating

Those children who have mastered the skill, concept or method that is being covered will be presented with higher order thinking activities.

## Thank you!

We would like to say a massive thank you to The Griffin Trust, who kindly donated money to the school in order to purchase new maths resources that support our mastery curriculum. The children will be using them in classrooms very soon and it will help develop their



## Class Challenges

The classes who come first (highest percentage of children playing) in either Times Table Rock Stars or Numbots each fortnight will win extra playtime!

Well done to **Ash and Pine (Numbots)** and **Cedar and Sycamore (TTRS)** for topping the leaderboards. One of your fluency will be spent having extra playtime!



## Teacher Challenges!

On **Thursday 13th January**, Mr Glanney will complete a Rock Slam against any willing opponents on Times Table Rock Stars. If you would like to compete, please challenge him by **Wednesday 3rd February**.

Anyone who completes the challenge will receive a dojo and anyone who beats him will receive 5 dojos!

**Well done to who Stephen C who beat Mrs Soffe! He gets 5 extra dojos!**

## Vocabulary

This week's words are:

### Division

Division is splitting into equal parts or groups. It is the result of "fair sharing".

We use the  $\div$  symbol, or sometimes the  $/$  symbol to mean divide:

$$12 \div 3 = 4$$

$$12 / 3 = 4$$

If there is an amount left



We will be celebrating Number Day on Friday 4th February.

Further information will be sent via

# Bierton Out of School Club

Leader: S. Cooper

Do you need child care before and after school? If so, BOSC currently has places available. For further information please do not hesitate to contact Sharon Cooper or the school office for a registration form. Once filled in please return to it school marked for the attention of Sharon Cooper. Your child/children will then be added to our on-line booking system.

Booking is half termly and paid for on checkout once you have ticked all the sessions you require. Please note the sessions are available on a first-come first-served basis.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to call me.

Breakfast Club is from 7:45am each morning and after school club runs until 5:45pm

## Outstanding work in our community



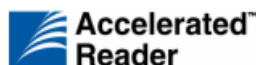
A special mention this week needs to go to Jude who has kindly donated all of these fantastic toys to the Florence Nightingale charity. I'm sure these toys will help to raise invaluable funds for the charity. Amazing work Jude—you have certainly let your light shine and helped to inspire us all!



# Let's Celebrate!

## Spelling Shed

Top classes	Top scorers KS1	Top scorers KS2
Walnut	Gracie	Amelia B.
Spruce	David	Tommy
Holly	Corey	Lassya

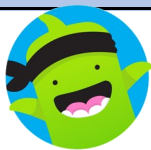


	Top Classes (% of pupils playing)	Highest Number of Coins	Biggest Improvement in Studio Speed	Fastest Current Studio Speed	Most Improved (Accuracy)
<b>Key Stage 1</b>	1st: Cedar 2nd: Cherry	1st: Pranshu D 2nd: Harvey A-L 3rd: Jasmine S			1st: Emilia W 2nd: Corey P 3rd: Keon B-G
<b>Key Stage 2</b>	1st: Sycamore 2nd: Pine 3rd: Walnut	1st: Emma L 2nd: Pahal P 3rd: Tommy S	1st: Ethan AI 2nd: Ella G-Y 3rd: Isaac L	1st: Micah F 2nd: Zachary E 3rd: Tommy S	1st: Dina N 2nd: Sean A 3rd: Skye E

**Current Rock Heroes:** Amelia B, Zachary E, Maxwell Sa, Micah F, Toby H, Sumaiyah K and Tommy S



Class	Number of quizzes (last 14 days)	Class average pass rate (last 14 days)
Cedar	145	84.8
Cherry	54	85.8
Hazel	114	88.7
Holly	119	89.4
Pine	95	90.4
Spruce	161	89.9
Sycamore	51	86.8
Walnut	46	88.0



Key Stage 1		Key Stage 2	
(last 14 days)			
Top Classes	Highest Number of Coins	Top Classes	Highest Number of Coins
1st: Ash 2nd: Alder 3rd: Cherry	1st: Marvin T 2nd: Arya B 3rd: Oscar E	1st: Pine 2nd: Hazel 3rd: Holly	1st: Lassya T 2nd: Ethan L 3rd: Likhith T

