

Newsletter 26th September 2024

Year 3 Marwell Zoo Trip

Few things give me greater pleasure in my role than hearing that Berrywood children have had a very enjoyable and successful school trip. Thank you and well done to Mrs. Brown and all the amazing Year 3 team of teachers, support staff, and parent helpers for making this Tuesday's visit to Marwell Zoo so fantastic. Thank you also to the Year 6 parents for turning out in such good numbers for the PGL information evening, also held this week. The residential is such a landmark experience for the children, and we are incredibly proud of just how many of our pupils are able to fully take part every year.

Education really is about so much more than academic achievement, as important as this is too. The deepest lessons we learn often come from the opportunity to embrace new challenges and experiences, especially when these are offered in an encouraging and supportive environment. I can state with confidence that the ambitious breadth of our curriculum seeks to make this reality for our children on a very regular basis.

Secondment Update

As many of you will know, I am currently continuing my secondment at Fair Oak Junior School. In October, this will reduce from four days a week to three. Returning for my Berrywood days every week brings with it the pleasure of seeing the fantastic children of this school, most of whom thankfully seem to still remember me! My huge thanks go to the whole school staff, and especially to Mrs. Adams for the awesome job she is doing as acting head teacher in my absence.

Berrywood Fireworks Night, Sunday, 3rd November 2024

Blink and you miss it. Here we are again planning for the upcoming fireworks night. This is a massively important fund-raising event for our school, and one that has long been a much treasured community event.

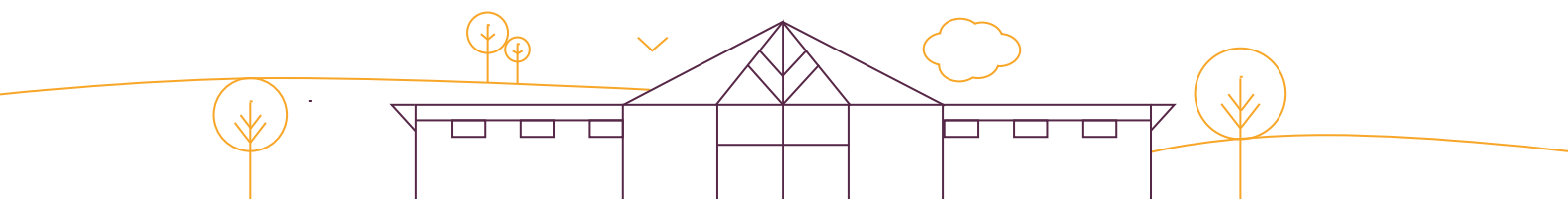
2000 Tickets for this event will go on sale from midday on Monday, 14th October, at pta-events.co.uk/bsa.

- Adults £9 each
- Children £5 each
- Under threes go free!

Please note that entry to this event is by ticket only. Tickets **will not** be available for purchase on the day.

Gates open at 4.45pm, and the fireworks show will begin at 6.00pm. Stalls, activities, and refreshments will be available until 5.50pm, after which they will all close in order to allow the volunteers running them the opportunity to watch the fireworks. Please make sure you arrive early enough to avoid disappointment! Please look out for social media posts for further details.

Want to save some money by volunteering?



We are offering free entry + one additional free adult ticket (total value £18) to any parent wishing to run a stall. You would need to arrive at school to help with the setup at 4.15 and run the stall until 5.50pm. If you are interested in this opportunity, then please email berrywoodbsa@outlook.com.

We look forward to hearing from some of you and to seeing many more of you there in the evening!

Essential Letters & Sounds PHONICS Workshop for Parents

Next Thursday we have two phonics workshops for Year R parents:

- 9.00 – 9.30am
- 5.30 – 6.00pm

Please come to the school reception, and Mrs. Adams will be glad to greet you. These sessions are a brilliant way of helping you to support your child's early reading. So important! We hope to see a healthy number of you there.

'Pizza Thursday' Next Week

Please note the change of menu next Thursday when we will be serving our ever-popular and delicious pizza! If your child is in Year R, Year 1, or Year 2, then you can really help us out by ordering a school meal that day. It is a little convoluted, but essentially our free school meal funding is calculated for the year based on the uptake on what is known as 'census' day. The more school meals served that day, the more it benefits our overall budget!

Early Drop-Offs

Recently, we have noticed earlier and earlier times for children and families arriving at school in the morning. Occasionally this has been as early as 8.05am. Please be mindful that the classroom doors do not open until 8.30am, and especially as the weather turns colder, it is not a good idea for our children to be starting the day in this way.