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Friday 1st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've not been as lucky with the weather this week and I'm sure that, like my daughter, your children are also suffering from not getting out as much as we had been over the past few weeks. Thankfully you've all risen to the challenge of finding new things to do and teach your children vital life skills such as cooking, gardening and trampolining!

Year 1 and 2 consultations have taken place this week and the teachers have commented on how much they've like saying hello to the children- we're all missing them and we're hoping to put something in place for the week after next so that we can touch base and maintain those links between home and school – more information on this next week once it's all been arranged!

COVID-19 Update

Schools remain in the news this week with the Education Secretary saying on Wednesday that schools would be reopened 'in a phased manner'. When schools are to reopen, our priority will remain the safety and wellbeing of the children and staff. There at least to be some acknowledgement that social distancing in schools is 'very difficult' although I would argue 'impossible' is a more appropriate word, particularly with the younger children.

You would have seen Boris Johnson announce on Thursday that a plan on how we can get our children back to school will be set out next week and I hope to be able to tell you more about this plan in my next newsletter.

Parental Consultations

Next week, Year R, 3, 4, 5 and 6 teachers will be holding parental consultations with those families who were booked on the Wednesday evening before the school closed. Please note that we will be using the phone numbers that you have all provided the school so I'm hoping that no one has changed their number and not told us!

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm
3SA	3HA	4JH	4ST	RAM	RJP	6MB	6NA		
5JP	5JS								

School Closure: Educational Provision

Next week's learning is already on the school website and, as always, they can be found on the **Year Group** pages and also the **School Closure: Educational Provision** page. You will also see the videos that the teachers have prepared for the children on the **Year Group** pages as well.

Don't forget that there are also optional **Family Challenges** that you can complete and send in the results. This week, Laura Andrews has set two dance challenges (one for each Key Stage), there is a new Art Challenge from Mrs Smith and Mrs Allen and Mr Miles will also be setting a Music Challenge on Monday.



Please also keep an eye on our [School Closure: Web Links](#) and [School Closure: Virtual Trips](#) pages on our website for additional activities, which we are continually updating.

Year 5 Parent Meeting re: Transfer to Secondary School

Just a reminder that next week I am holding a session for parents of Year 5 children to discuss the process of transferring to secondary school (PESE) and the Kent Test (also known as the 11+). I was planning on holding two sessions but as yet, everyone wants to join the Wednesday session so it's looking like there will be just the one session.

This presentation will be recorded and placed on the school website for any parents who are unable to attend. As I said in last week's newsletter, it would be very helpful if any questions were emailed to me in advance and then I can answer them in my presentation. Parents can still ask questions 'live' but I will ask parents to submit their questions via 'chat'.

If you would like to join this session, please email me (headteacher@bridge.kent.sch.uk) and I will be sending the details and password for the Zoom session early next week.

VE Day

Finally, I think it would be a real shame if the celebration/commemoration of VE day this Friday went unrecognised and we have a number of links that you can use below if you would like to mark this with your children on Friday:

http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/england/pdf/how_to_make_your_great_british_bunting_step_by_step.pdf

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75>

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/teaching-remembrance>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-ve-day/z7xtmfr>

With best wishes



James Tibbles