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Friday 26th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's quite a 'meaty' letter this week, there's a lot of information which I hope you'll find useful.

Provision for Year R, 1 and 6

Next week, we will be welcoming back more Year 6 children and, from the 6th July, we will be able to create a new 'bubble' which will most likely be a mix of Year R/1 children. If you have a child in Year R or 1 and would like them to return from the 6th July, please complete the Google Form below by Wednesday 1st June.

Return for Year R and 1 children: https://forms.gle/zSNctuyB7R6fyNye9

Provision for Children of Critical Workers

Please continue to complete the weekly Google Form as we will need to know numbers for Breakfast and After-School Club. The Google Form for the 6th July is below and it would be helpful if this was completed by next Thursday.

If you have not used this provision before, please do not complete without contacting the school as we may not be able to offer a space due to high demand.

Childcare Provision (w/c 6th July 2020): https://forms.gle/T56zVghceqc86GQc8

End-of-Term Arrangements

Please note that term will finish on Tuesday 21st July although we will be inviting the Year 6 children back on the morning of Wednesday 22nd July for their final 'celebration'.

Arrangements for Next Year

Staffing News

We're very sad to have to say farewell to two members of our staff team: Mrs Weatherhead and Miss Goddard. It's a real shame that we aren't able to say good bye to them properly given the current circumstances but I know you will join me in wishing them well in their new schools.

We also 'nearly' lost a valuable member of staff in Mrs Hughes. Just before lockdown, she secured a position teaching Foreign Languages at Highsted Grammar School, but she wanted to stay with us (who wouldn't!) and therefore will still be working at Bridge one day a week supporting our Year 6 team.

Many of you will have had your children taught by Mrs Perfect over the numerous years that she has been at the school, most recently in our Year R class. She has made the decision that it's time now to spend more time with her husband and grandchildren (although I wonder if she might come to regret at least part of this decision!) Mrs Perfect is instrumental in supporting our Collective Worship across the school as well as organising our church services over the course of the year. Most parents will be unaware of this, but she is also our lead mentor for trainee teachers and has many commendations from Christ Church University about her abilities as a mentor. Without her, there would











certainly be less quality teachers at Bridge and the surrounding area. Thankfully, we're not losing her entirely and she will still be working at the school two days a week in Year 2.

We're very excited to welcome Miss Cowley to Bridge and she will be one of our new Year R teachers in September. Parents of the new Year R children met her via Zoom on Thursday and she has a wealth of experience in the Early Years which we are very much looking forward to utilising.

We are also welcoming Mrs Pearman to our staff team from September and she will also be working as a Teaching Assistant in our Year R team. Mrs Pearman is a qualified teacher and has, for the last six years, been working as a child-minder in the Canterbury area. We're all very pleased that she's joining our team.

Our final new addition is Miss Briggs who will be joining us to complete her teacher training in Mr Harris' class. Mrs Perfect and I interviewed her over the lockdown period and we were very impressed with her enthusiasm and feel that she will fit in well as part of the Bridge community.

We also have a few members of staff who are changing roles from September.

Some of you may know that Miss Smith, who has been working as a Teaching Assistant in Year R, is actually a qualified teacher and, as of September, will be job-sharing a Year 1 class with Mrs Cork.

This means that Mrs McLean will be undertaking a more specialised role across the school developing our provision for children with dyslexic tendencies and those who have been diagnosed with dyslexia. This is one of our prime SEN needs and will be a focus in the coming academic year.

Whilst on the subject of developing SEN provision, Mrs Long will be taking on more of our provision around Speech, Language and Communication Needs and will be doing more focused work with the younger children, particularly those in Year R and Year 1.

Those of you in Year 5 and 6 will have had experience of the fantastic artwork that the children have produced under the guidance of Mrs Smith and, from September, she will be working with classes as our Specialist Art Teacher.

Classes

I know that many of you will be anxious about September, particularly those with younger or more vulnerable children and I want to reassure you that we will be here to support you and your children as always. School will look very different in September and I will going into more detail about this in next week's newsletter but in the meantime, I just wanted to let you know that the children's emotional and mental health is just as high a priority to us as their academic attainment.

The new classes are as follows:

New RAM	Miss Maw	New REC	Miss Cowley
	Mrs Pearman		Mrs Swinnerton
RAM -> 1CS	Mrs Cork/Miss Smith	RJP -> 1LA	Miss Andrews
	Miss Harvey		Mrs Hayter
1LA -> 2GD	Mrs Dennett	1KC -> 2FP	Mrs Franks/Mrs Perfect
	Mrs Smith/Mrs Upton		Mrs Munday
2GD -> 3HA	Miss Allison	2RF -> 3SA	Mrs Amelia
	Mrs Langsdon		Mrs Holdaway
3SA -> 4ST	3SA -> 4ST Mrs Saint/Mrs Tomsett 3HA		Mr Harris (Miss Briggs – student)
	Mrs Saunders		Mrs Crozier/Mrs Moon
4JH -> 5JS	Miss Smith	4ST -> 5JP	Mr Perfect
	Mrs Brooks/Mrs Pearson		Mrs Andrews
5JP -> 6MB	Mr Beard	5JS -> 6AT	Mrs Allen/Mr Taylor
	Mrs Corral/Mrs McInnes		Mrs Sopp

Transition

Following on from my letter yesterday, I am now in a position to provide more information about what we can offer children in Years 2 to 5.

We are inviting ½ a class in at time to spend two hours with their current class teacher and also meet their class teacher for next year. This will give the children an opportunity for 'closure' as well as the chance to meet their new teacher for September.

These sessions will hopefully take place outside but we recognise we can't guarantee good weather so they may also take place in the hall. This session will also give children an opportunity to pick up any things left over from their classrooms, hand back library books and to hand out school reports.

As staff will be still have a 'pod' for the final two weeks we would ask all staff to adhere to the '1 metre plus' social distancing during these sessions.

Class	Teacher	Date	Timings	Pupils
2RF	Rachel Franks	Monday 6 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – K
			1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: L – Y
2GD	Gemma Dennett	Tuesday 7 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – I
			1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: J – W
3SA	Sara Amelia	Wednesday 8 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – H
			1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: J – W
ЗНА	Helen Allison	Thursday 9 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – Ha
			1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: Hu – W
5JP	James Perfect	Monday 13 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – M
			1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: N – W
4JH	Joe Harris	Tuesday 14 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – J
			1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: K – Y
4ST	Susan Tomsett	Wednesday 15 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – Le
	Amanda Saint		1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: Li – W
5JS	Jo Smith	Thursday 16 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Surnames: A – G
			1.15 – 3.15	Surnames: H - W
RAM	Alice Maw	Monday 20 th July	9.15 – 11.15	Pupils who have not returned to
				school*
RJP	Julia Perfect	Monday 20 th July	1.15 – 3.15	Pupils who have not returned to
				school*
1KC	Karen Cork	Tuesday 21st July	9.15 – 11.15	Pupils who have not returned to
				school*
1LA	Louise Andrews	Tuesday 21st July	1.15 – 3.15	Pupils who have not returned to
				school*

^{*} Pupils who are in school will have their transition sessions at a different time.

Summer Holiday Club

We are now taking bookings for our Summer Holiday Club which will be run by Charley and Elena. You would have received a ParentMail from Mrs Readman and can book on the ParentMail system.

Kent Test

Just a reminder that registration for the Kent Test closes on Wednesday 1st July. On Monday, I wrote to parents with details of Kent's plan to postpone the test date by a month and this letter can be found on the **Transition into Secondary School** pages on our school website.

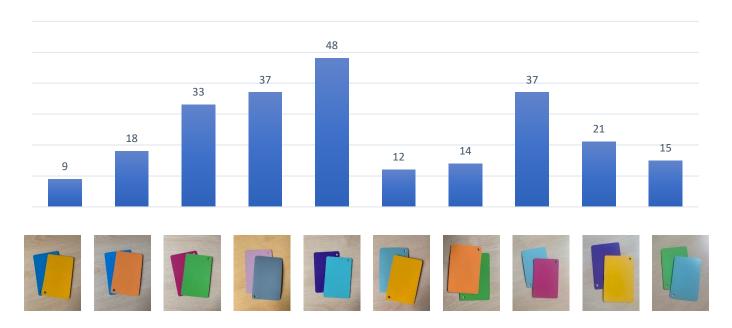
FSM Eligibility

Over the course of the lockdown, many of your financial circumstances may have changed and families may now be eligible for Free School Meals. This means that you will be eligible for the EdenRed vouchers over the summer holidays. The application process is very simple and the outcome is returned with 24 hours.

Apply for Free School Meals: https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals

Toilet Refurbishment

Last week, I invited families and children to vote on which colours they wanted their new toilets which are being refurbished over the Summer Holiday. The results are in with 94 responses received and our three winners are below.



Work starts in a few weeks' time and we're all looking forward to having better facilities for the children to use in September.

With best wishes,

James Tibbles