

Creativity, Excellence, Resilience

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Friday 11th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm looking forward to seeing what else 2020 can throw at us! As you know, we were unable to open on Wednesday due to a lack of water but I'm pleased that this was just the one day. Thank you all for your understanding on this day and apologies once again for the lateness of the notice on Wednesday morning.

COVID-19 Update

As I write this, I've just read that the government have announced that the self-isolation period for close contacts is to be cut to 10 days from Monday 14th December. It has not yet been confirmed but my initial understanding is that this will apply to current cases; in this instance it means that **3HA can return on Monday**. Welcome news to many parents I'm sure!

As you know, the government is quite the fan of the impromptu announcement (see above!) and, earlier this week, they also issued guidance that schools could move one of their INSET days to Friday 18th December "so that by the time we reach Christmas Eve, staff can have a proper break without having to engage with the track and trace issues". To be frank, I don't see any particular benefit to this and, whilst I have no doubt that parents would be supportive, I am aware that this would cause child-care issues therefore Friday 18th December will remain the last day of term.

Ethan Fanneran-Burley

Many of you will remember Ethan who attended the school and is now in Year 7. Over the past couple of years, he had taken part in the Superhero Series, a disability sporting event founded by Paralympian Sophia Warner ably supporting by his siblings who still attend Bridge School. The family has been chosen for the last few events to be part of the celebrity teams, from Strictly's JJ Chalmers last winter, to Paralympian Kadeena Cox in the summer and this past month, comedian Adam Hills.

Collectively all 5 teams have reached a staggering total of 220,000kms in their 'At Home Winter Wonderwheels' race around the world. As a family they reached about 130km over the month and we couldn't be prouder of all three children for their effort.

Ethan is part of a show called At Home with Winter Wonderwheels which will air on Saturday 12th December at 8.40am. This afternoon, we shared the trailer for this programme with the school and encouraged the children to watch this programme if possible. - <https://youtu.be/Wz5HS4dE9Ko>

Christmas Events

Christingle Services

Sadly, because of the current situation, it has not been possible to attend St Peter's church this year but I'm pleased to be able to tell you that, in the last week of term, we will be taking the children down to the church to take part in a Christingle Service.



Compassion, Trust, Generosity, Forgiveness, Service

We will, of course, maintain the integrity of our ‘bubbles’ at all times – there will be individual services for each year group and the surfaces will be cleaned in between each service. I’m very pleased that we are able to maintain this tradition at Christmas time.

Christmas Dinner

Just a reminder that, in order to offer a Christmas Dinner, we will need to spread this out across two days and ask all families to provide a packed lunch on the day that it is not their turn for Christmas Dinner. If you have not already booked your child’s Christmas Dinner please do this by Monday. Thank you in advance for your support in this.

Rapunzel: The Lockdown

The Christmas Panto is a tradition that we don’t normally have at Bridge School (as there’s usually so much else going on!) but this year, we’ve arranged for the children to watch Rapunzel: The Lockdown at 1.30pm until 2.40pm. If any of our families are shielding or self-isolating then you can still join in the fun by registering online ([link below](#)).

The PTA have arranged for children to purchase glow sticks and toys for a very reasonable £2 each. In the first instance, children can buy just one but if there are any left, children can buy a second glow toy if they wish. We’ll ask teachers to collect in the £2 at the beginning of the day.

[Register online](#)

Salvation Army Appeal

Final call for the ‘Giving Tree’ appeal – the Salvation Army are seeking gifts suitable for children aged between 3 and 15 which they can distribute to families who need a bit of help this Christmas. If you can provide a small gift, I know that it would be very much appreciated and can be dropped off at the school office.

Advent Calendar

I hope that you’ve been enjoying the contributions from children, staff and other school community members on our school Advent Calendar this year.



A Time to Reflect

This week, the children have been continuing revisiting the stories of the People of God focusing on Ruth, King Davis, Isaiah and John the Baptist. Today we discussed the addition of our final symbol to our Jesse Tree, Jesus in a Manger, in preparation for the Christmas story in next week’s worships.

² *In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while[a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.)³ And everyone went to their own town to register.*



⁴ *So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.*

⁸ *And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.*

Luke 2: 1-8

With best wishes,

James Tibbles

Celebration

Star Pupils

Each Friday, we celebrate children who have impressed the adults in school either through their learning or demonstrating one of our Christian values.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Olivia O (RAM) for her amazing recall of phonics sounds and applying that to her super blending. <i>Miss Maw</i> ★ Jack W (REC) for his super writing in his letter to Santa. <i>Miss Cowley</i> ★ Njasha M (1CS) for always having a positive attitude towards her learning. <i>Miss Smith</i> ★ Sadie M (1LA) for her excellent writing of the nativity story this week. <i>Miss Andrews</i> ★ Leo C (2FP) for a complete and accurate retelling of the nativity story. <i>Mrs Franks</i> ★ Niklas W (2GD) for his detailed retelling of the nativity story and his resilience in solving maths problems this week. <i>Mrs Dennett</i> ★ Darius I (3HA) for his contributions in Teams lessons this week. <i>Mr Taylor</i> ★ George S (3SA) for his excellent writing about Tutankhamun and enthusiasm whilst learning about Ancient Egypt. <i>Mrs Amelia</i> ★ Ben S (3SA) for his artistic talent in creating his beautiful peacock feather bauble. <i>Mrs Holdaway</i> ★ Elliot R (4ST) for working hard in maths to show his workings. <i>Mrs Saint</i> ★ Edie W (4ST) for always working hard, particularly focused on her maths today. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Bella M (4ST) for being such an enthusiastic reader at home and at school which shows in the progress she is making. <i>Mrs Saunders</i> ★ Jonah S (4JH) for participation and sharing his ideas, especially in Maths and History. <i>Miss Briggs</i> ★ Charlie B-J (4JH) for his superb presentation this week and always being kind and caring. <i>Mr Harris</i> ★ Ellie S (4JH) for her participation in Maths this week and making excellent progress using the 9 times table. <i>Mrs Moon</i> ★ Jack G (5JP) for continuing to challenge himself in Maths and work exceptionally hard. <i>Mr Perfect</i> ★ Isla M (5JP) for being extremely generous with her time and for helping both her classmates and adults during DT. <i>Mrs Pearson</i> ★ Lily (5JS) for effectively using the advice given by adults to help her in her work, especially in Maths. <i>Mrs Smith</i> ★ Levi D (6NA) for excellent contributions to class discussion, during our Treasure Island setting descriptions. <i>Mrs Allen</i> ★ Zeina B (6MB) for producing two stunning posters in RE and for displaying a positive approach to learning in all areas of the curriculum. <i>Mr Beard</i> |
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Buster Book Club



Well done to **3SA** who won the class 'Buster Book Club' award again this week having read a total of 626 minutes between them (an average of 21 minutes each) and to **5JS** who read a total of 1147 minutes (an average of 387 minutes each).

Times Table Rock Stars



We've also been tracking the number of children engaging in Numbots and Times Tables Rock Stars. Well done to **3HA** and **5JP** as they both had the greatest level of engagement this weeks, i.e. how many children have been playing.

Upcoming Events

All dates and events can be found on our new school calendar.

[CALENDAR >](#)

You are also able to ‘subscribe’ to the calendar (there is a link underneath the calendar) which means that you can have the school calendar on your phone or tablet and any updates will automatically appear on your device!

Monday 14th December

Tuesday 15th December Christingle Services
(Year R to 2; Class 3SA)

Wednesday 16th December Christingle Services
(Year 4 to 6; Class 3HA) KS1 Christmas Dinner
(KS2 Packed Lunches please) Christmas Panto

Thursday 17th December KS2 Christmas Dinner
(KS1 Packed Lunches please)

**Friday 18th December
(Last Day of Term)** Christmas Parties in class



Christmas Holidays

Monday 4th January

Tuesday 5th January

Wednesday 6th January

Thursday 7th January

4pm: FGB Meeting

Friday 8th January

Monday 11th January

Tuesday 12th January

Wednesday 13th January

Thursday 14th January

Friday 15th January

Monday 18th January

Tuesday 19th January

Wednesday 20th January

Thursday 21st January

Friday 22nd January