Creativity, Excellence, Resilience

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Friday 5th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

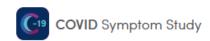
I'm sure, like us, you've been counting down the days to next Monday and I'm sure that there are a great deal of mixed emotions being felt by everyone. In the main, we are returning to the protocols that were in place prior to Christmas and this means that we are still asking parents to wear face coverings as they walk through the school grounds; children should wear their PE kits to school on their allocated PE days, etc.

I would also highlight that, as we are trying to maintain a good level of ventilation, the school is not as warm as it normally would be so we'd recommend extra layers!

Alongside this newsletter is version 5 of our New Normal document with changes from version 4 identified in red for ease of reference. As always, if you have any questions then please call or email the school office.

COVID Symptom Study

As the children fully return to school on Monday, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you that Bridge School is part of the COVID Symptom Study.



We are asking all parents to join the COVID Symptom Study now, by downloading the free app and taking less than 1 min a day to report how your child/children are feeling each day. With all parents reporting daily via the app, the app will provide a powerful tool for helping the school and parents understand COVID in the community and help keep our students safe. Importantly, the information you report will be invaluable to critical scientific research into COVID in children and for public health purposes - the Study will be sure to share any findings from their research with you.

The app is available to download from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Simply create a profile for yourself and for your child/children. To join our school network in the app and receive personalised COVID insights about our school, go to Edit Profile for your child's profile > School Network > enter our school's Unique School Network Code (see below) > select the Bubble that your child belongs to.

Our Unique School Network Code is APSCU29. To avoid outsiders joining, please do not share this code with anyone who is not a parent of our school.

For more information including full instructions on how to join and use the COVID Symptom Study app please head to: https://covid.joinzoe.com/schools

All data collected in the app is used anonymously for informing other parents in your child's school and your child's school, and anonymously for research and for public health purposes only. ZOE takes data security and privacy very seriously and enforces best practices to ensure all data is protected. ZOE is required to protect all data by law. As the work that ZOE does takes place in the UK, the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation applies.











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Reading Volunteers

Given the fact that case numbers are currently low (and contingent on them remaining low), we would very much welcome parental help as Reading Volunteers in school. This would have to be carefully managed to avoid 'bursting of bubbles' but, if this is something that you would be willing to help with, then please drop Morny a call or an email (morny.starling@bridge.kent.sch.uk) and we'll be in touch.

Professor Robert Winston

On the 17th March, Professor Robert Winston will be holding a virtual talk to the children of St Edmund's School and they have kindly extended an invitation to the children of Bridge & Patrixbourne to join this event. He will be talking about how the brain works and linking this to the theory of growth-mindset and I don't doubt that the children will learn a lot from this opportunity.

This is a remote event so we be accessing this via Zoom from school and will run from 2.30pm to 3.30pm. This means that children will have to remain in school until this time, i.e. not leaving part way through.

This is open to all Key Stage 2 children and, if your child would like to be a part of this, then please email Morny in the school office (morny.starling@bridge.kent.sch.uk)



Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RHSE)

Last week, we sent home information about how we plan to teach Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RHSE). Comments and feedback from parents, governors and staff are welcomed. I would invite you to read through the materials and, if you wish, please contact Mr Perfect via the school office with any comments you may have. All comments should be received by the school by Friday 26th March.

Celebration

Earlier this week I heard that one of our pupils, Anesu, had written to the Prime Minister after being inspired by David Attenborough's series 'Our Perfect Planet' and had received a response.

I'm always pleased to hear of our pupils advocating for others or causes. I have copied his letter below and also attached the response from the Office of the Prime Minister.

Well done Anesu – we're very proud of you.

Have a good weekend and we'll see you on Monday!

With best wishes,

James Tibbles Headteacher Dear Boris Johnson,

I am Anesu and I am 9 years old. I am writing to you because I am worried about Climate Change.

People are burning fossil fuels and releasing Carbon dioxide into the air which is warming the planet.

This means the weather would become unpredictable and forest fires will be more frequent. Also, the trees are vital against Climate Change which means you need to stop cutting them down. They store Carbon inside and release oxygen, which is helping the planet. Ice is melting and falling into the sea because of the warming temperature and sea levels are rising, which causes floods. Also, this is making more freshwater fall into the sea, which is slowing down water currents and disturbing marine life.

We can help stop Climate Change by using solar panels, as the sun has almost unlimited energy. This can help us stop using fossils fuels and make a difference. We also need to plant more trees to absorb the CO2 in the air.

Sincerely,

Anesu