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Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a great couple of days in school with all the children back. I personally quite like the 'shortened week' before the children come back on Monday as it gives the children time to settle any anxieties before we hit the ground running next week.

Urgent: Allergies

With the Year R children joining us next week, can I take this opportunity to remind all parents that nuts and nut products should not be brought into school. We do have children in school with allergies and so it is vital that we all adhere to this.

Works over the Summer Holidays

Mr Moon has been hard at work over the summer break making the premises even better for the children. We have a new room in which children and staff can use for small group work, work on our Outdoor Learning area has begun and we finally have a new and improved outside learning area for the Year R children.

Thank you to Mr Moon and Bourne to Garden for all your hard work.

Holiday Club

I've also had a good amount of feedback about our summer holiday club and I'd like to thank all the staff involved, particularly Elena who led this over the break.

A New Arrival

I'm very pleased to announce the arrival of a baby boy to James Perfect and his wife. He was born last Friday and mother and baby are doing very well. Mr Perfect is currently taking two weeks of parental leave and will be back in school the week after next. I'm sure you will all join me in offering him our congratulations and best wishes.

Those of you with children in 6JP will already know that Karen Evans is teaching this class in the meantime and I'm very pleased to welcome her back to the school.

New Staff

Please join me in welcoming Laura Booth (Bridges Bees Assistant), Sandra Fawke (Assistant Cook), Jody Whelan (Cleaner) and Andy Rogers (Assistant Caretaker) to our Bridge School family. I hope that they'll be very happy with us here.

Children's Birthdays (Sweets and Cakes)

This also means that we are unable to accept sweets and cakes in school for children's birthdays but we are discussing ways in which we can highlight children whose birthday it is in worship and/or in class.



COVID Protocols

If you haven't already, I would recommend that parents read our updated [COVID-19 Protocols](#). Most of these remain from what was in place last year. As before, these will be reviewed and updated regularly and all updates will be highlighted in our weekly newsletter.

School Dinners

Just to remind all parents that children in Key Stage 2 are not automatically eligible for Free School Meals. This is obviously a change for those who have children in Year 3 and I wouldn't want any families to unknowingly incur any debt.

Information about [School Meals](#) can be found on our website and next week's menu is **Week 2**.

Updated Contact Details

If, over the summer, parents have changed their phone number or any other contact details then please could you let the school office know, preferably by emailing office@bridge.kent.sch.uk

Meet the Team Sessions

Normally, at the beginning of each year, we hold a parent session where you can meet your children's teachers. This year, we will still be holding these but we are going virtual and these will be held online via Zoom. More details will be in next week's newsletter.

News from the Sadie Bristow Foundation

For a village community from Bridge Primary School and Bridge Tennis Club there have been a number of juniors who have had fantastic tennis success; this is amazing from a grassroots tennis area. Sadie dominated her age groups, amassing 50 county and regional tournament wins; playing for county; the nation's No. 1 ranked girl. Jake, her training partner and friend, competing around the UK and playing for county.

Iris is now continuing that success. Coming from Bridge School to the club via the Sadie Bristow Foundation programme pathway, Iris is competing across the UK – representing her county and climbing the rankings in her age group. During the summer, Iris has won both a county and a regional tournament; represented the county and at the end of August won the 9u Kent Championships and was also a semi-finalist in the 10u event.



Sadie's Foundation will continue to strive to help Iris and all other juniors start up in the sport and progress as much as they wish to can. It's great to be part of the Bridge community with the juniors; with the club and school supporting.

Well done Iris – we're all very proud of you.

Clubs

Now that 'normal service' has resumed (mostly), we will be restarting our after-school clubs in a couple of weeks' time. From the parental survey, it was clear that these had been sorely missed and whilst everyone was very understanding of the reason we could not provide these, I'm sure the children will be looking forward to their return. We may not have as many sports clubs to begin with as Mrs Pearson is recovering from an injury sustained over the summer holiday and I would like to give Mr Perfect the chance to spend more time at home with his new baby this term.

We will look at external providers but these are unlikely to be in place for this term.

More information on this in next week's newsletter however...

Choir

We will be holding two choir clubs on a Thursday: one for Year 3 & 4 children in preparation for their performing at the Gulbenkian Carol Concert in December and a Year 5 & 6 club for those children who wish to attend the Young Voices Concert at the O2 in January. These are two great events and are thoroughly enjoyed by the children who take part. Whilst attendance at the choir clubs is open to all in those year groups we do have a limit on numbers for the events and can only take 30 children so we will be looking for a certain level of commitment from those who sign up.

Wishing you all a good weekend recovering from the back to school routine!

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Tibbles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J' and 'T'.

James Tibbles