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Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week, the Year 5 children have been on their residential visit to Bore Place and I've heard from the accompanying staff that they were all an absolute credit to themselves and the school. Over the three days the children have shown true resilience and Miss Smith and Miss Allison have told me that they were a real pleasure to be with. Everyone came back very tired but happy! Well done to all the Year 5 children and thank you to Miss Smith, Miss Allison, Mr Langsdon, Mrs Allison, Mrs Andrews and Mrs McInnes, Mr Moon and Mr Taylor for all their hard (and sleep-deprived) work.

### COVID Update

Parents may be aware that we had our first pupil test positive for COVID this week. Thankfully this appears to be an isolated case but I think it's appropriate to highlight what recommendations I have been making to parents who have contacted me directly.

A frequent question is what action to take when a sibling tests positive for COVID, especially as there seem to be a number of cases in our local secondary schools. The guidance states that children should continue to attend school although I would certainly encourage regular and more frequent use of LFD tests to ensure that children are not unknowingly bringing in the virus.

Personally, I would also book a PCR test to reassure both myself and members of my family but that is a decision for individual families.

Some families have asked if they should isolate whilst awaiting a result of a PCR test. I would hope that, if symptomatic, the answer is obvious (yes!) but there is no requirement to isolate if asymptomatic (although I would not penalise any family that chose to do so).

If you have any questions then please feel free to contact me directly.

### Birthday Sweets/Cakes

Can I please remind parents that we have asked that sweets/cakes are not brought into school when it is your child's birthday. We do have children in school with severe allergies and we are a 'Healthy School'.

### School Health Screening

Earlier this week, parents of children in Year R and 6 should have received a letter from the Kent School Health Screening Team via ParentMail.

- Vision Screening will take place for Year R children after January unless parents opt out by 12<sup>th</sup> November
- Health & Weight checks will take place for Year R and 6 children unless parents opt out by 12<sup>th</sup> November
- Hearing Screening will take place for Year R children whose parents opt in by 12<sup>th</sup> November.



## Harvest Services

Don't forget that on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October we will be taking the children to celebrate Harvest at St. Peter's Church in Bridge and parents are welcome to join us. I have been asked if grandparents can join us but given the number of parents likely to attend, I'm not sure that this would be wise.

Please could I also ask all attendees to ensure that they have taken an LFD test on the day.

- Year 2 and 3: 9.30am to 10.15am
- Year R and 1: 10.30am to 11am
- Year 4 to 6: 11.15am to 12pm

Please could we have any Harvest donations in school on the last week of term please. Children can take these directly to their classroom and we'll be hoping to deliver these to the Canterbury Food Bank on the Wednesday or Thursday.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Year 6 Kent Test Results

On Thursday parents of Year 6 children who took the Kent Test will be receiving their results. Although it's an INSET day on the Friday, I will be making myself available to meet with parents via Zoom on the Friday morning should any parents wish to discuss next steps. These are appointments specifically for parents who had hoped that their child would reach the threshold of the Kent Test and have not done so.

A ParentMail will be sent out on Thursday for parents to book appointments.

## Next Term

As we approach the end of the term and begin to consider/plan next term, there is an update that I need to share with parents.

In November, I will be away from school for just under two weeks as I will be undertaking training for my new role as an Ofsted Inspector. With the strong team that we have at Bridge, I have no doubt that Mr Taylor is more than capable of running the school in my absence and I'm equally sure that he's looking forward to having the office to himself!

Going forward I feel that this will be of a significant benefit to the school and I am personally looking forward to having more insight into how Ofsted operates. I would like to reassure parents that this is not a 'job' but rather a 'role' that I am undertaking – this will only mean periodic absences from school for two days at a time whilst I am conducting inspections.

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"> <li>☆ <b>William (1CS)</b> for fantastic maths work. <i>Mrs M Smith</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Raef (1LA)</b> for his excellent maths this week - learning to use part whole models. <i>Miss Andrews</i></li> <li>☆ <b>George C (2FP)</b> for service. George is such a kind friend and is always ready to help others in need. <i>Mrs Franks</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Neivie B (2GD)</b> for being a good friend at playtime especially to people who have no one to play with. <i>Mrs Dennett</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Daisy R (3JA)</b> for her excellent effort in maths this week, using column subtraction to answer tricky calculations. <i>Mr Ablett</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Erin B (3SA)</b> for using amazing alliteration in English this week and consistently showing excellence in all her work. <i>Mrs Amelia</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Sanjibini D (4JH)</b> for producing an outstanding piece of artwork and for always trying her best. <i>Mr Harris</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <b>Olivia L (4ST)</b> for her service and commitment to her reading. She has really impressed all of us recently. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Abdallah A (5HA)</b> for his intuitive, mature and caring attitude towards all of his peers. Well done! <i>Miss Allison</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Charlie B-J (5JS)</b> for showing resilience, trying new things and for continually making the adults laugh! A true role model for 5JS. <i>Miss J Smith</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Alex C (5JS)</b> for fully engaging in all activities and asking interesting and purposeful questions. <i>Mr Moon</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Freddie K (6NA)</b> for independently writing an inspiring letter to the Government regarding climate justice. <i>Mrs Allen</i></li> <li>☆ <b>Alex R (6JP)</b> for writing an excellent and thoughtfully worded introduction to his persuasive leaflet about Mexico. Well done! <i>Mr Perfect</i></li> </ul> |
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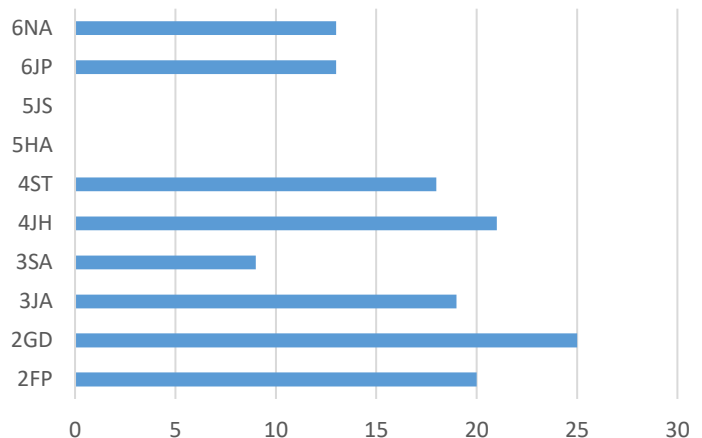


Buster Book Club

This week, as part of our Buster Book Club, we are celebrating not just the total number of minutes read but also the number of children who have read in each class.

Obviously, Year 5 could not take part this week.

Well done to 2GD who were the class with the greatest number of children who had read and had their book signed at least three times this week.



Reminders (these have already been mentioned in previous newsletters)

Rag-Bag Scheme for Bridge Village Playgroup

Bridge Village Playgroup are starting up a 'rag-bag collection' and collecting all unwanted clothes, shoes, bags and belts, which the council will then recycle and make a cash donation back to the preschool. We don't yet have a collection date for this but please bear this in mind and maybe have a clear out of those pre-loved clothes?

Flu Vaccines

We have had parents asking about the NHS Flu Vaccination programme and just a heads-up that this is currently scheduled for November 24<sup>th</sup>. More information will be coming out closer to the time.

Applying for Secondary Schools (Year 6 parents)

Applications for secondary schools are open and close on Monday 1st November (the link is below). If you would like any advice about this then please do not hesitate to contact me.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places#tab-2>

It's Good to Grow

Thank you to those parents who have registered with our school for the Good to Grow scheme at Morrisons. By collecting tokens for us, we can get free gardening equipment for our developing Forest School and Outdoor Learning Area.

If you have not yet registered, or just wish to find out more information about the school, then you can do so here: [Morrisons It's Good to Grow \(itsgoodtogrow.co.uk\)](https://www.morrisons.co.uk/itsgoodtogrow)

The scheme closes on the 24<sup>th</sup> October so there's not long to go!



Year R and 1 Phonics Talk

We were planning a short talk to Year R parents about the teaching of Phonics to take place before the half-term break. We have had a slight change of plan and will be running sessions for Year R and Year 1 parents which will now be after the half-term break. Dates will be finalised and shared with you before half-term.

From Revd. Estella

Bridge Toddler Group

For those of you with little ones, Little Lambs Toddler Group meet in Bridge Pavilion each Thursday during term time and are looking for volunteers to help serve refreshments. For more information email [bridgeoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeoffice23@gmail.com).

Friday Prayer Group

'Every Friday from 8.45 join us in Bridge Church for coffee, chat and prayers. Members of the ministry team will be there to listen and lead us in prayer'

Latest Blog Posts

Highlights from the week's selection of blog posts.

[READ ALL BLOGS >](#)

11<sup>th</sup> October 2021



**Cultural Objects from Around the World**  
Throughout term 1, Year 6 have been practising their observational drawing skills and working from cultural objects and photographs of cultural objects.

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

12<sup>th</sup> October 2021



**Year 5 Residential**  
Year 5 have enjoyed their first day at Bore Place. We have completed orienteering where we explored the grounds, made our own pizzas where we picked our own vegetables and salad from the garden...

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

13<sup>th</sup> October 2021



**Year 6 Colour Pastel Drawings**  
Year 6 have been practising their observational drawing skills and working from cultural objects from around the world. The objects included masks from Africa and Indonesia as well as puppets from South-East Asian countries.

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021



**Year 5 Residential – Day 2**  
Well, another amazing day on the farm! After a great nights sleep we began the day with a stroll to the meadow to observe the humane mammal catchers to see if we had been lucky and we had been!

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

Upcoming Events

All dates and events can be found on our school calendar (it's working now!)

**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!

<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Fire Safety Talk		
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>			
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Harvest Services in Church		
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<i>Staff Training Day</i> <i>School closed to pupils</i>	Kent Test Results to parents	
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	<i>Staff Training Day</i> <i>School closed to pupils</i>	Select Year 6 Parental Consultations w. Mr Tibbles	

<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>			
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>			
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	Year 5 Journey into Space Day		
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>			
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>			

<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November</b>			
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November</b>			
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>			
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Book Fair in	11am: Remembrance Service	
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Book Fair in	PTA Quiz Night (evening)	4pm: Messy Church on Saturday

<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Book Fair in	NSPCC Stay Safe Assembly	
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Book Fair in	<i>Basketball Competition</i>	
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	3SA Trip to Maidstone Museum		
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	3JA Trip to Maidstone Museum		
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Children in Need		