Headteacher: James Tibbles

Tel: 01227 830276

Email: office@bridge.kent.sch.uk Web: www.bridge.kent.sch.uk Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School Conyngham Lane Bridge, Canterbury Kent CT4 5JX



Friday 4th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the course of the week, we have seen the number of confirmed COVID cases in our children drop quite dramatically but we have still had quite a high level of staff absence over the past two weeks which has impacted on the day-to-day operations of the school.

Every day over the past two weeks, we have had at least 10 members of staff absent. Thankfully, with the support of our fantastic team we have managed to keep going and managed to avoid the dreaded remote learning (I have no doubt we're all breathing a collective sigh of relief about this!)

The staff of Bridge School have shown exceptional flexibility and resilience over the past two weeks and I want to publically thank them all for their understanding and support. There are three members of staff in particular I would like to highlight - Mrs Sopp, Mrs Langsdon and Mrs Hellyar; these three stepped up and without this, three classes would have gone to remote/online learning. They have been superstars. Please do express your gratitude to them.

Children's Safeguarding & Welfare

One of the most important aspects of everyone's role at school is ensuring that the children in school are safe and secure - both physically and emotionally. Whilst everyone in the school has responsibility for this, we do have a dedicated **Safeguarding & Welfare Team** who coordinate this work and meet weekly to discuss how we can best support children through difficult times.

There will always be times that children struggle as this may be for a variety of reasons but, in order to best support the children, open and frank conversation is vital. If you feel that there is something affecting your child (or even has the potential to) then please do let your child's class teacher or a member of the safeguarding team know.

Next week is Safer Internet Day and we will be teaching the children some important lessons about keeping safe online which we will be sharing with you in next week's newsletter.

Parent Workshop – Multiplication Tables

Following a request from parents, Mrs Cork has produced a parental workshop video on the teaching of multiplication tables. This is aimed at all parents and highlights the importance of rapid recall of multiplication facts which a lot of children have not yet grasped.

When you watch the video, it would be greatly appreciated if you could leave a comment as feedback as to how useful you found it.

Maths Workshop for Parents - Multiplication Tables | Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School











Parent Readers in Year R

You will know that one of the most important things that children learn at school is how to read and historically we have always been very successful in teaching children the fundamentals of reading (i.e. the letters and sounds).

As a school, we recently adopted a phonics programme called Little Wandle and you can find information about this on our school website: Phonics | Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School

As part of this programme, we are looking to increase the amount of reading that happens in school and this is where we are seeking parental support. We have a good number of parents who volunteer for an afternoon or morning and read with individual children over the course of a few hours but what we are also looking for is parents who are willing and able to spend 45 minutes supporting reading in the morning, three times a week; specifically between 9am and 9.30am on a Monday, Thursday and Friday.

In this time, you would be reading with a small group of children to support their fluency in reading a specific book which enables them to practice the letters and sounds that they have learnt in their phonics lessons.

Training on Phonics and Reading will be given to all volunteers and will likely take place over two afternoons (days to be determined).

This is a good opportunity for any parents potentially looking to develop their knowledge and skills in reading or someone who may be looking for a Teaching Assistant role in the future. Most importantly, it would be a huge benefit to the children who will be reading more regularly.

It is important that we maintain consistency for the children and we are asking volunteers to commit to these three mornings for the term. If you are able to support us with this then please contact our KS1 Phonics/Reading lead, Mrs Harvey-Maw (alice.maw@bridge.kent.sch.uk).

Road Closure

We have received notice that Bifron's Hill will be closed on the first week back at school after half-term. There will be a diversion in place so traffic may be a little more congested than normal.

Thank you for your ongoing support, it is very much appreciated by all the staff.

With best wishes,

James Tibbles Headteacher





Upcoming Events

All dates and events can be found on our 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 7 th February	
Tuesday 8 th February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 9 th February	Schools Health Team in school (Year R and 6)
Thursday 10 th February	
Friday 11 th February LAST DAY OF TERM	

Monday 21st February		
Tuesday 22 nd February		
Wednesday 23 rd February		
Thursday 24 th February		Year 6 Football Match vs Canterbury Academy
Friday 25 th February	Parent ASD Coffee Afternoon	

Monday 28th February Parental Consultations

Tuesday 1 st March		
Wednesday 2 nd March		
Thursday 3 rd March	Year 4 Roman Day	Year 6 Football Match vs. Blean School
Friday 4 th March		

Monday 7 th March	
Tuesday 8 th March	Year 3 to 6 Cross Country Competition
Wednesday 9 th March	
Thursday 10 th March	
Friday 11 th March	

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.

- Akira S (1CS) for persevering with a challenging math task. Keep up the great work and excellent attitude. Mrs Cork
- ☆ Jack M (1LA) for his fantastic maths this week, learning to add by making 10. Miss Andrews
- ☆ Pelham B (2FP) for his excellent knowledge in science and for his enthusiastic contributions to our learning this week. Mrs Franks
- ☆ Tillie W (2GD) for her confidence in maths this week when solving division and multiplication problems. Mrs Dennett
- Leeroy A (3JA) for his excellent contributions to team work in topic this week! Mr Ablett
- Rupert P (3SA) for his endless enthusiasm and thoughtful contributions in RE recently. Mrs Amelia

- Nanaha S (4JH) for working exceptionally hard this week and producing excellent ideas in English. Mr Harris
- ☆ Charlotte H (4ST) for her super Kuba design and learning facts about artist and author Faith Ringgold. Mrs Tomsett
- ☆ Mishel B (5HA) for fantastic improvising on the Djembe Drum. Mr Miles
- ☆ Jonah S (5JS) for using a fantastic metaphor when describing the Amazon river and for showing true sportsmanship in Basketball this week. Miss J Smith
- ★ Elada M (6NA) for her amazing vocabulary and style throughout our poetry lessons. Mr Wren
- Finlay C (6JP) for writing a great rhyming poem that included a variety of the Boomtastic writing lenses during morning work. *Mr Perfect*

Buster Book Club

Well done to **1LA and 2GD** who have won this week's Buster Book Club competition.



