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Friday 25th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'd like to start off with some thanks this week. Last Friday, was the quiz night in aid of SUDC and the PTA and, from what I saw, everyone had a wonderful evening. The evening raised approximately £3000 which is split between the two charities and particular thanks are due to Emma Haynes and Paul & Hayley Steer for their organisation and planning this event. Congratulations to the winning team (the teachers tale didn't disgrace themselves too much!).

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Children in Need collection last week; we raised a total of **£529** for this charity.

Staffing News

Year 1

I'm very sad to inform parents that Mrs Sarah Jones has made the decision that she will be leaving Bridge School at Christmas. Mrs Jones has been at the school for a number of years, initially as a teaching assistant in Year R and then as a class teacher in Year 1. Having come back from maternity leave, she has decided that she wants to spend more time with the newest addition to her family.

We are indeed fortunate that we have a qualified teacher ready and waiting! Mrs Usher has been working as a part-time SEN teacher at Bridge and she will be increasing her hours to pick up some teaching in Year 1 alongside Mrs Cork.

Year 4

Whilst we're on baby news, Mrs Harvey-Maw will be starting her maternity leave in January and we have appointed Miss Thompson. For the remainder of the year, she will be teaching Tuesday to Friday in 4AH with Mrs Perfect in there on a Monday (and also a Tuesday to ensure crossover).

Minibus Drivers

Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to help with minibus driving, we have had a number of people come forward. We are planning to arrange the relevant training for the new year. We would still welcome more volunteers who have a clean D1 category driving license.

Parent Governor Election Update

On Tuesday, I sent out a letter inviting parents to vote for two vacancies on our Governing Body. If you have missed this, you can find the details on our dedicated school website page: [Parent Governor Election](#)

Please note that all ballot papers must be submitted **by 3.30pm on Tuesday 6th December**.



Chocolate Orange Appeal

You may recall last year, Bridge School supported a campaign established by Chris Lamb who, as a way of cherishing his son's memory and to thank NHS staff for all their work, decided to give a Chocolate Orange to as many of them as he could.



Once again, I have been contacted by one of our families who, given their own experience and support from the NHS, would like to support this campaign. Their plan is to collect as many Chocolate Oranges as possible from now until the 10th of December, after which they will deliver them to NHS, Emergency Services, and Care settings in the local area.

It will be a much-deserved thanks to those who provide essential services, doing an incredible job 365 days a year, caring for us and our loved ones, and always being there when we need them. If you would like to donate then we will be collecting Chocolate Oranges for the next two weeks; these can be handed in at the school office.

Christmas Events

An update on our upcoming Christmas events.

Salvation Army Concert

This coming week, we welcome the Salvation Army band who come and perform for our community whilst raising money for their charitable work. Some of our children will also be invited to perform alongside the band. This is a great community event and a perfect way to start to get into the Christmas spirit. Some parents have asked about purchasing tickets but we will instead be charging on the door - £4 per person with all monies going to the Salvation Army. Attached alongside this letter, you will find a poster you would be welcome to display - paper copies can also be obtained from the school office.

Christmas Bazaar/Crafts

Next Friday, the PTA (with some volunteer elves!) will be making Christmas decorations with the children which they will be able to bring home. This was an activity that we ran last year and was very well received – the PTA will be asking for a voluntary donation to cover the costs but no child will be excluded from this activity.

We have changed the arrangements for cakes and hot chocolate in order to relieve pressures on parents at this time. Class teachers have been given a budget to purchase 'goodies' for the children and, over the course of the day, the children will be visiting the Year 5 classes who are setting up a Christmassy hot chocolate café.

We will still be selling the Christmas jumpers at the end of the day on Friday.

Christmas Jumper Day

Each year, we raise money for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day but we are very aware of people's finances and the environmental impact of people purchasing items of clothing that may not be frequently worn. In the week before Christmas Jumper Day, i.e. w/c 28th Nov, we will be collecting donations of Christmas jumpers that no longer fit your children. These will then be 'sold' after school on Friday 2nd December ensuring that these items of clothing are re-used and monies raised for charity.

Year 2 Nativity

Preparations continue apace. As I write last week, there are two performances which will take place in the church on Tuesday 6th Dec (2pm) and Wednesday 7th Dec (9.30am) – given that space in the church is limited please can I ask parents to limit themselves to two spaces per family per day?

Senior Citizen's Tea Party

The school has a proud tradition of inviting in our 'older' members of the community to listen to some Christmas songs whilst being offered an afternoon tea and we're pleased that this is back after an enforced COVID-related absence. If you have family members or friends in Bridge or the surrounding villages we would like to extend a warm welcome to

Bridge School from 1.30pm on Thursday 8th December. Alongside this newsletter is a poster which again, you would be welcome to display or share – paper copies can be collected from the school office.

Year R Nativity

I hope that our Year R families are looking forward to a 'Wiggly Nativity' performance. This will be a seated performance and you will be able to book up to two spaces for each performance from Monday morning. Please note that, in the interests of fairness, seating will be randomly allocated.

Carols in the Village

Not all of our community are able to make the journey to Bridge School and so, on Thursday 15th Dec, we will be visiting Bridge Haven, Mansfield Court and other locations around the village to share some festive joy.

Wednesday 30th Nov	Advent Services at Church	Thursday 8th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day Senior Citizen's Tea Party
Thursday 1st Dec	Salvation Army Concert (eve)	Tuesday 13th Dec	Year R Nativity (pm) Gulbenkian Carol Concert (eve)
Friday 2nd Dec	Christmas Bazaar/Crafts (pm)	Wednesday 14th Dec	Year R Nativity (am)
Tuesday 6th Dec	Year 2 Nativity (pm)	Thursday 15th Dec	Christingle Services (<i>now Mon</i>) Carols in the Village (pm)
Wednesday 7th Dec	Year 2 Nativity (am)	Friday 16th Dec	Christmas Dinner

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.

☆ April B (1CJ) - for her excellent writing about her superhero. <i>Mrs Jones</i>	☆ Simone S (4AH) for her brilliant use of relevant vocabulary in her maths reasoning this week. <i>Mrs Harvey-Maw</i>
☆ Leo S (1LA) for always trying so hard in his phonics lessons. <i>Miss Andrews</i>	☆ Eleanor A (4ST) for applying herself studiously to all her learning but especially her reading this week. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i>
☆ Belle L (2SA) for a super recount of the Great Fire of London. <i>Mrs Amelia</i>	☆ Thomas R (5HA) for being my star writer this week, writing an amazing diary entry. <i>Miss Allison</i>
☆ Charlie P (2GD) for his amazing retelling of the story of the Great Fire of London from the point of view of a cat. <i>Mrs Dennett</i>	☆ Theo W (5JS) for his effort, enthusiasm and contributions in our first Mandarin lesson. <i>Miss J Smith</i>
☆ Joel D (3JA) for always working hard in lessons and striving to achieve his best. <i>Mr Ablett</i>	☆ Isaac J (6JP) for his excellent knowledge and contributions during a range of lessons about World War 2. <i>Mr Perfect</i>
☆ Ines R (3LC) for completing every lesson to the best of her ability and for being a positive role model. <i>Mr Chamberlain</i>	☆ Amit A (6JW) for solving complex maths investigations involving multiplying and dividing fractions. <i>Mr Wren</i>

**Join us for a carol concert
at Bridge School with music from the
Salvation Army and the pupils of Bridge
School.**

Salvation Army Christmas Concert

£4 donation on the door.
All monies raised will go towards
supporting the work of the Salvation
Army this Christmas.

01/12/2022

TIME: 7PM
BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Upcoming Dates

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

[CALENDAR >](#)

Monday 28 th Nov	Christmas Jumper Collection (all week)		
Tuesday 29 th Nov	Year 1 to 6 Speed Stacking Competition	Football Match at home vs St Stephens Junior School	
Wednesday 30 th Nov	Advent Services at Church		
Thursday 1 st Dec		Football Match at St. Stephen’s Junior School	Salvation Army Concert
Friday 2 nd Dec		PTA Christmas Crafts & Parties	

Monday 5 th Dec	RGR Visit to Yew Tree Farm		
Tuesday 6 th Dec	2pm: Year 2 Nativity		
Wednesday 7 th Dec	9.15am: Year 2 Nativity		
Thursday 8 th Dec	RKG visit to Yew Tree Farm	1.30pm: Community Tea Party	
Friday 9 th Dec			

Monday 12th Dec	Christingle Services in school		
Tuesday 13th Dec	1LA visit to Marlowe Theatre	Year R Nativity (pm)	Gulbenkian Carol Concert
Wednesday 14th Dec	Year R Nativity (am) 1CJ visit to Marlowe Theatre		
Thursday 15th Dec		Carols in the Village	
Friday 16th Dec <i>Last day of term</i>		Christmas Dinner	

Events for Parents

I know that parents appreciate a great deal of notice for significant events in the school calendar and therefore we have created an [events](#) page on our school website which has important dates for the whole school year.

We will do our very best to ensure that the dates published on the website are adhered to but there may be circumstances outside our control which means that there are changes.

If there are dates of other events you would like to know then please ask and we will publish these as well.

