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Friday 2nd December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are well and truly in the Christmas season here at Bridge School.

On Wednesday, we took the children down to St Peter's Church for Advent services which were primarily led by the classes themselves and on Thursday we hosted the Salvation Army band and songsters who were expertly accompanied by our school choir (we also had a few adult soloists/victims but the less said about that the better!)

I would like to thank everyone who came for their generosity, as a school we raised £570 for the Salvation Army appeal and this will go a long way to supporting vulnerable families this Christmas. They are also holding a toy appeal so, if you have items that are suitable for re-gifting, then you would be more than welcome to bring them into school for Morny to collect.

Today, we have the PTA and volunteers in school supporting the pupils in making Christmas decorations and the children have been enjoying Christmas games led by the Year 6 children and a hot chocolate café in Year 5. Thank you to all our parent volunteers and apologies for those who volunteered for the afternoon but weren't needed – we got through the activities a lot quicker than we thought we would.

There has been a wonderful atmosphere in school and we're all looking forward to the next two weeks.

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](#)

This is a final call for ballots as they must be submitted by 3.30pm on Tuesday 6th December.

Staffing News

I'm very pleased to inform parents that we have appointed Ellie Ramsden as a Teaching Assistant and she will be joining us from next week! Ellie has previously worked at Bridge School (before my time) before going to university and travelling and she really impressed during her interview - she will be working in 4AH for the remainder of the school year.

Road Safety

This week is Road Safety Week and Miss Smith has been organising some events so that the children could spend some time thinking about how to keep safe on the roads.

Reception looked at Kip the Bear and his friend. They were introduced to the road safety code through use of a story. Kip the Bear and his friend didn't know how to cross the road safely, and Kip's mummy had to help them learn the correct way in order for them to stay safe. Children learned: Stop, Look, Listen, Think and Hold Hands.



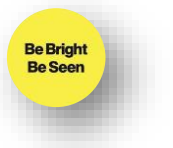
Year 1 – 3 watched the road safety video to become road safety superheroes! They had to complete three challenges. The first challenge talked about who could help them to safely cross the road (parents, grandparents, older brothers and sisters, lollipop person etc), and the second challenge looked at which places are safe places to cross (pelican crossing, zebra crossing etc). The final challenge was to learn the special road safety code which helps the children to cross safely. Stop, Look, Listen, Think and Hold Hands.



Year 4 – 6 thought about the possible distractions that we may encounter whilst we are near the road and what we can do to minimise these distractions. For example, if we are hungry and decide to eat while we are walking, this may distract us from seeing or hearing the cars around us, it would be far more safer to stop and sit on a bench to eat before continuing our journey. Year 6 had been learning about light and the use of reflective material and explained to the other children why this material shows up when a light was shone on it.



All children have bought home a reflective badge which they were encouraged to clip on to their bag or coat which would remind them to **'Be Bright, Be seen'**.



Christmas Events

An update on our upcoming Christmas events.

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. Hopefully you have all had the chance to purchase a pre-loved Christmas jumper today and we invite children to wear these on Thursday 8th Dec.

Year 2 Nativity

Preparations continue apace. A reminder that 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 'Wriggly Nativity' performance. This will be a seated performance and over the course of this week, parents have been booking tickets. Next week, we will be allocating seating. Please note that, in the interests of fairness, seating allocations will be random.

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.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas is coming and so is Christmas lunch! This will be served to the children on Friday 16th Dec.

The menu is as follows:

MEAT OPTION: Roast turkey, pigs in blankets, stuffing, roast potatoes, carrots, broccoli, Yorkshire pudding, gravy.

VEGETARIAN OPTION: Quorn fillet pasty with cranberry sauce and cheese, stuffing, roast potatoes, carrots broccoli, Yorkshire pudding, gravy.

DESSERT: Father Christmas ice-cream.

If you would like your child/children to have Christmas lunch, a payment item has been set up on Parent Mail, which can be found under 'Payment' and then 'Shop'. Scroll down and you will see the option. Please note that there will be **no payment required for children in KS1** but we still ask that parents book. This is purely so that we can get accurate number of lunches required.

Please kindly place your orders by Friday 9th December, so that the kitchen staff can organize catering requirements with the suppliers in advance of this very busy period.

Tuesday 6th Dec	Year 2 Nativity (pm)	Tuesday 13th Dec	Year R Nativity (pm) Gulbenkian Carol Concert (eve)
Wednesday 7th Dec	Year 2 Nativity (am)	Wednesday 14th Dec	Year R Nativity (am)
Thursday 8th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day Senior Citizen's Tea Party	Thursday 15th Dec	Christingle Services (<i>now Mon</i>) Carols in the Village (pm)

With best wishes,



News and Blogs

Highlights from the School Life section on the website.

[READ ALL BLOGS >](#)



[Year 6 chair project update!](#)

Our DT projects consist of four steps – explore, design, make and evaluate. Year 6 are designing chairs for an Action-man sized person. Pupils have been given a brief and have chosen their target customer and the style of chair they will make.



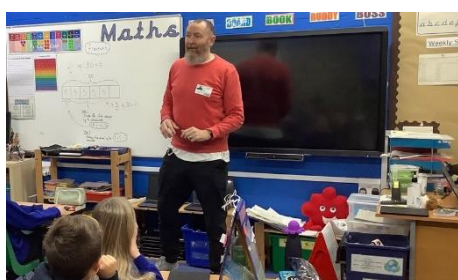
[Year 3 Shadow Puppet Theatres | Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School](#)

As part of our science learning around Light and Shadows, the children of Year 3 became puppeteers today and investigated the pattern between the distance of a torch and the size of the shadow created. The children recognised that the closer the torch, the bigger the shadow, as more light was being blocked by the puppet. We all had great fun experimenting with our puppet theatres and these are now on their way home for the children to continue exploring with!



[Cabinet of Curiosities | Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School](#)

The Cabinet of Curiosities is open! Sometimes known as 'wonder rooms', cabinets of curiosities contain small collections of extraordinary and interesting objects. Our 'wonder room' is curated by our librarian, Mrs Haynes.



[Visit from Architecture Lecturer - Robert Nice | Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School](#)

Before beginning to construct their final chairs later this week, Year 6 were privileged to be visited by an architecture lecturer today! Robert Nice, one of our parents, works at UCA in Canterbury teaching architecture; he generously gave up his time to come into school and chat with pupils about their chair designs prior making them.



[Year R colour-wheels | Bridge & Patrixbourne CEP School](#)

Year R having been learning some colour theory this term. Pupils have been learning all about primary colours and how to mix secondary colours while making their own colour wheels. The children have worked independently, followed instructions, practised paintbrush skills and developed their fine motor skills.

Christmas

at The Salvation Army

We'd love you to join us!
Here's what we've got planned...

Toy Service | Sun 4th Dec | 10am

Start the festive season in the spirit of giving by bringing a new, unwrapped toy for our Toy Appeal during this all-age service.

Community Carol Concert | Sun 11th Dec | 4pm

Come and sing all your favourite carols with The Salvation Army band and musicians, featuring a very special guest in a red suit!

Carols by Candlelight | Sun 18th Dec | 6pm

Share in a reflective atmosphere of readings and music, in a service that focuses on Jesus: Light of the World

Advent Worship | Sun 27th Nov - Sun 25th Dec | 10am

Join us each Sunday morning as we lead up to Christmas with hope-filled services of music, prayer and reflection



The Salvation Army, Canterbury Corps

Whitehorse Lane | CT1 2RU

01227 472 781 | canterbury@salvationarmy.org.uk

The Salvation Army is a Christian church and registered charity in England (214779)



Upcoming Dates

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

[CALENDAR >](#)

Monday 5 th Dec	RGR Visit to Yew Tree Farm		
Tuesday 6 th Dec	2pm: Year 2 Nativity		
Wednesday 7 th Dec	9.30am: 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 (2pm)	Gulbenkian Carol Concert
Wednesday 14th Dec	Year R Nativity (9.30am) 1CJ visit to Marlowe Theatre		
Thursday 15th Dec	Carols in the Village		
Friday 16th Dec <i>Last day of term</i>	Christmas Dinner		

Monday 2nd Jan <i>Bank Holiday</i>			
Tuesday 3rd Jan			
Wednesday 5th Jan			
Thursday 6th Jan			
Friday 7th Jan			

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.

