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Friday 6th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and I trust that everyone had a good Christmas break. I know that many families were battling illness over the festive period and hope that this did not impact too heavily.

It is with some regret that I must start the year with some sad news. I was informed on Tuesday that, over the Christmas holiday, Pam Beecham died at her home in Bridge. Pam has been a friend to Bridge School for many years and began her time with us supporting the learning of our youngest children in the Year R classrooms alongside Dan Luck and Pam Clubb as a volunteer. She then continued to maintain contact with school as a reading volunteer and as a guest at various events, most recently at our Senior Citizen's Tea Party in December. Although I doubt that any of the children currently in the school would have strong memories of her, we are grateful for her service over the years.

Parent Consultations

In a few weeks' time, we will be holding consultations for you to meet with your child's class teacher. The times and dates are listed below and, as before, these will be held in school – Zoom consultations will be an option should you wish.

Bookings for these consultations opens at 9am on Monday 16th January.

Date	Year Groups	Times
Monday 30th Jan	Year 3	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Tuesday 31st Jan	Year 1	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Wednesday 1st Feb	All classes	4.00pm – 7.00pm
Thursday 2nd Feb	Year 5	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Monday 6th Feb	Year 2	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Tuesday 7th Feb	Year R	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Wednesday 8th Feb	Year 4	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Thursday 9th Feb	Year 6	9.00am – 11.00am 2.00pm – 5.00pm



Messy Church

After a prolonged period of absence, we're very pleased that Messy Church is back at Bridge School from Saturday 14th January. Revd. Estella and her team of helpers will be running craft activities for children from 4pm and there will be a short service before a shared meal.



A Reflection

I am sure that many of you (including myself) have taken down your Christmas decorations but it is today that marks the end of the Christmas season. Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Magi (Wise Men) to the baby Jesus in Bethlehem and the gifting of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Today, in our Collective Worship, we discussed what happened after Epiphany. You will remember that the baby Jesus' life was under threat by King Herod and so Mary & Joseph had to flee to Egypt where they sought refuge.

We asked the children to reflect upon how Mary & Joseph must have felt upon their arrival in a new country and the challenges that they must have faced and then I asked the children to consider if there was a modern day parallel that they could relate this to.

We know that there are people currently fleeing their countries and seeking refuge all over the world – the question was asked: *What does the Bible tell Christians about how to treat those flee their homes and have to live somewhere else?*

One of our school values is compassion and, regardless of religion or belief, we have a moral obligation to help those less fortunate than ourselves, those who are not thriving. We ended the worship reflecting upon the actions that we can take, be they small or large.

With very best wishes,

James Tibbles

January Update from Rev'd Estella

Here are details of church events and activities you might be interested in.

Thursdays in Term Time: Little Lambs Baby and Toddler Group 9-11am at The Pavilion on Bridge Recreation Ground.

Fridays in Term Time: Coffee and Chat with the offer of prayer for any personal needs. 8.45-9.45 at The Pavilion on Bridge Recreation Ground. (Previously this was in the Church but we are trying a different venue while the weather is cold).

Messy Church: Saturday 14th January 4-6pm at Bridge and Patricxbourne School Bible themed crafts, story, short celebration worship and a hot meal – suitable for families to attend together, children must be accompanied by an adult. If you have any special dietary requirements please can you notify us in advance.

Sunday Service at St Peter's Bridge: Sunday 22nd January 10am all welcome. If you are bringing your children please let me know so that we can ensure we have enough activities for them.

For church or pastoral matters you can contact me anytime on 01227 206272 or email estellalast@gmail.com. For matters relating to school or my role as Safeguarding Governor please use Estella.Last@bridge.kent.sch.uk

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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| ☆ Max H (RKG) for making excellent choices. <i>Miss Goddard</i> | ☆ Ruby M (3LC) for having a great start to the term and for being very focused when multiplying and dividing by 4. <i>Mr Chamberlain</i> |
| ☆ Archie L (RKG) for creativity and resilience when making his 'Baby Bear' book. <i>Miss Goddard</i> | ☆ Efi B (4AH) for being resilient and working hard with more independence – especially in Science. <i>Mrs Thompson</i> |
| ☆ Theomel R-C (RGR) for working really well with his partner to perform a variety of different and quick tricky static balances. <i>Mr Redpath</i> | ☆ Hugo P (4ST) for creativity in his English this week. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> |
| ☆ Harry R (RGR) for working really well with his partner to perform a variety of different and quick tricky static balances. <i>Mr Redpath</i> | ☆ Ubran M (5HA) for showing great enthusiasm for his research learning and reading at home. <i>Miss Allison</i> |
| ☆ William H (1CJ) - for his consistent effort and positive attitude towards his learning. <i>Mrs Cork</i> | ☆ Olivia L (5JS) for working extremely hard on her spellings this week and for always being so helpful around the classroom. <i>Miss J Smith</i> |
| ☆ Leo S (1LA) for his fantastic writing about his Christmas holiday. <i>Miss Andrews</i> | ☆ Cara P (6JP) for developing a more mature approach to school life and demonstrating increased resilience when undertaking her learning – well done. <i>Mr Perfect</i> |
| ☆ Ava W (2SA) for consistently trying her best and pushing herself out of her comfort zone, especially in Maths. <i>Mrs Amelia</i> | ☆ Alex C (6JW) for his thoughtful and carefully considered contributions to discussions in RE lessons. <i>Mr Wren</i> |
| ☆ Oscar H (2GD) for his positive attitude and amazing reading this week. <i>Mrs Dennett</i> | |
| ☆ Niamh N (3JA) for showing excellent effort in all areas of her learning and being helpful to her peers. <i>Mr Ablett</i> | |

News and Blogs

Highlights from the School Life section on the website.

[READ ALL BLOGS >](#)



Year 1 ice fun December 2022

Cold but exciting times!

The Year 1 children got to experience an afternoon outside in the icy conditions - we spotted some exciting footprints in the snow and they guessed which animals they were from. We had squirrels and different birds visiting and the children left food for them to help them survive.



Stormy seas - Year 1

Before Christmas, Year one watched a performance of The Storm Whale and The Storm Whale in Winter at The Marlowe Theatre. This term, they are reading the book The Storm Whale as part of their class project.

Throughout the term in art, pupils will be creating collage pictures inspired by the book. To start the project this week, they have been making the backgrounds using oil pastels and paint.



Throwing shapes on the dance floor - Year R

Year R pupils have been practising their gross motor skills this week. Inspired by happiness and bubbles, we concentrated on making large round shapes using both arms.

Starting in the classroom, we practised a short dance which involved creating imaginary bubbles (circular movements with both arms) and then popping them.



Year 3 Egyptian Necklaces - DT


The Year three topic last term was Ancient Egypt. Within Design Technology, pupils designed and made necklaces inspired by Ancient Egyptian art.

This was a textiles project and the main feature on each necklace is a rectangular shaped piece of weaving. Pupils also explored making tassels and paper beads.

Upcoming Dates

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

[CALENDAR >](#)

Monday 9th Jan		
Tuesday 10th Jan		Football Match vs St Stephens
Wednesday 11th Jan	Creepy Crawly man in Year 2 (am)	
Thursday 12th Jan		
Friday 13th Jan		Messy Church (on Saturday) 

Monday 16th Jan	5JS trip to The Beaney	
Tuesday 17th Jan	4AH trip to The Beaney	Year 5/6 Dodgeball Competition
Wednesday 18th Jan	4ST trip to The Beaney	
Thursday 19th Jan	Young Voices at the O2	Football Match vs Aylesham School
Friday 20th Jan		

Monday 23rd Jan		
Tuesday 24th Jan		Football Match vs Canterbury Primary
Wednesday 25th Jan		
Thursday 26th Jan	Year 6 Trip to Buggy Malone	
Friday 27th Jan		Football Match vs Blean School

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.

