

Headteacher: James Tibbles

Tel: 01227 830276

Email: office@bridge.kent.sch.uk

Web: www.bridge.kent.sch.uk

Bridge & Patribourne CEP School
Conyngham Lane
Bridge, Canterbury
Kent
CT4 5JX



Friday 15th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you today from the Windmill Hill PGL Centre near Hailsham where the Year 6 children are currently on their residential trip. Such trips are a perfect opportunity to build relationships and develop those 'soft' skills such as communication and team building, it also gives children the opportunity to try new activities and to conquer their fears – so far, we've been raft-building (with varying degrees of success!), archery, zip-wire, fencing and trapeze with more activities still to come. We are sharing the site with other schools and we have had many comments from the staff here about how well-behaved and respectful our children have been - which is always good to hear.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Year 6 team: Mrs Allen, Mrs Saint, Mr Wren, Mrs Andrews, Mrs Langsdon and Mrs Brooks for giving up their time to accompany the children. We've all had a lovely time but it'll be good to get home!



ArtsMark Gold

Whilst on the topic of extra opportunities... You will know that we do a great deal of Art at Bridge School and we invest heavily in this area of the curriculum. A couple of years ago, we started working toward the ArtsMark and I am pleased to be able to share that we were awarded 'Gold' for the quality of work that we do.



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

I would like to share some of the feedback we were given:



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



"You evidently value the Arts as an integral part of your curriculum at Bridge and Patricxbourne Church of England Primary School, and recognise their contribution to your Christian ethos and values of compassion, trust, generosity, forgiveness and service; as well as your strategic aim to promote creativity, excellence and resilience.

Revisions to your curriculum have ensured that it is well-sequenced so that you have seen improvements in the planning and teaching, with a focus on creating immersive opportunities through a broad and balanced curriculum and pupils' progression in skills. Children regularly showcase their achievements in the Arts in performances, recitals, at Young Voices and in your Summer Festival.

Your offer includes visits to arts venues and a wide range of opportunities to participate in exciting workshops, led by arts professionals. Your growing partnerships with arts and culture venues and professionals have inspired projects helping children to feel connected to their locality (such as your 'Murmurations' exploration of Folkestone bird migration in alliance with Creative Folkestone), and these have had measurable impacts on standards and on the engagement of pupils with SEND.

Your specialist arts leaders have been fruitful in strengthening teaching through coaching and continuing professional development, raising the profile of arts subjects within the school and boosting teachers' confidence. On this Artsmark journey, you have begun to consider diversity in and through the Arts ... so that your pupils are now being introduced to a wider range of artists, musicians and cultural traditions."

I am exceptionally proud of all of our work in the creative arts and music and it is heartening to have this recognised and celebrated. Huge thanks to all the staff but particularly Mrs C Smith, Mrs Tomsett, Mr Miles and Mrs H Brookes.

Parents will be aware of the pressure on school finances but, now more than ever, I feel strongly that we need to protect the creative arts at school.

Year R Baseline Assessment

Over the next couple of weeks, Mr Redpath and Miss Goddard will be conducting 'baseline assessments' on our new year children. These are very light touch and only take a few minutes, the children won't even realise that they are being assessed. These assessments will help us to determine what the children already know and what their next steps are. Information about these can be found on the Year R page of the school website but, if you have any questions, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher.

Parking

Over the past week, the school has received several emails and calls from parents and local residents about parking in the village: I have had reports of parents parking in disabled spaces, on pavements, over drop-kerbs and in front of a resident's drive way which meant that they were late for work.

We are all members of the same community and the school relies heavily on the good will of its neighbours – please could I urge all parents to show kindness and consideration when parking your cars.

We generally have some visits from parking enforcement towards the beginning of the year, so please also ensure that you are parking legally.

Clubs

Information about clubs will be coming home early next week and you will be able to sign your children up via the Arbor portal/app.

Please could I ask that, in the first instance, parents only select one club per child (in order to give everyone a chance) and then we'll open up for any additional spaces.

Upcoming Events

Year R Parents' Welcome Service

All parents of Year R children are welcome to join us at St. Peter's Church, Bridge for a very short service which will take place on Wednesday 27th September at 2.30pm. This will be led by Rev. Estella and Rev. Miriam.

We will be walking the children back to school to collect bags and water bottles for home-time.

There will be a plea coming out for parent helpers to walk the children to the church and back.

Year R Phonics Workshop

One of the most important things that an education can provide is teaching children to read and we would like to invite all of our Year R parents to come to a short presentation with the Year R team who will explain how we teach reading at Bridge School and how parents can support at home. There is no need to book – you can just turn up! The session starts at 2.15pm on Monday 25th September.

Parent Consultations

In a few weeks' time, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher(s) to discuss how well your children have settled into school and how the school and parents can work together to get the best out of your child.

You will be able to book via Arbor from next Friday and details will be in next week's newsletter.

With very best wishes,



James Tibbles
Headteacher

September Update from Rev'd Estella

Regular Activities

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 8.45-9.45 at St Peter's Church Bridge. This is a really informal group. Drop in anytime for coffee and a chat with Revd Estella and Revd Miriam offering a listening ear and opportunity for prayer if this is wanted.

Services

Family Service: Sunday 16th September 4pm at St Peter's Bridge for Education Sunday

As a new school year begins join us as we give thanks for education and pray for all teachers, pupils and families, thinking about how we can be light for all involved in education.

Messy Church at Bridge School: Saturday 7th October 4-6pm - Bible themed crafts, story, and a short celebration worship together. – suitable for families to attend together, children must be accompanied by an adult. We usually serve a hot meal at Messy Church.

Communion Services: The Bridge Group Parish has a regular 10am Sunday Service in each week in one of our 5 churches. Contact bridgeoffice23@gmail.com or see our website for details <http://www.bridgechurchgroup.co.uk/>

Confirmation Service Saturday 18th November 7.30pm Canterbury Cathedral

An information session about confirmation is taking place at **St Peter's Bridge on Sunday 24th September at 4pm** after which sessions for those wishing to be confirmed will run on Sunday afternoons during October. If you would like to find out more about confirmation for yourself or your Secondary School aged children please do come along on 24th September or get in touch with Rev'd Estella using the information below.

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.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☆ Anabel C (Willow) for consistently working hard and persevering to produce an excellent story map. <i>Mrs Cork & Miss Smith</i> | ☆ Samuel T (Maple) for showing team spirit and consideration for others in P.E. <i>Miss Allison</i> |
| ☆ Orla D (Rowan) for her fantastic labelling of her Rosie's walk story map in English. <i>Miss Andrews</i> | ☆ Zander A-S (Holly) for excellent contributions to class discussions especially in RE. <i>Mr Ablett</i> |
| ☆ Leo S (Oak) for showing perseverance in English and Maths this week! <i>Mrs Amelia</i> | ☆ Lillian M (Sycamore) for being an excellent team player and leader this week at PGL. <i>Mrs Saint</i> |
| ☆ Elsie P (Pine) for always working hard and trying her best. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> | ☆ Oliver R (Sycamore) for facing his fear and going to the top of the giant swing. <i>Mr Wren</i> |
| ☆ Kaylon F (Chestnut) for working independently in our English lessons and remembering his finger spaces. <i>Mr Chamberlain</i> | ☆ Leila B (Poplar) for displaying kindness and friendship by making sure that other children were included at all times. <i>Mr Tibbles</i> |
| ☆ Jack W (Beech) for her excellent contributions and writing in English this week. <i>Mrs Dennett</i> | ☆ Millie G (Poplar) for excellent participation during PGL. <i>Mrs Andrews</i> |
| ☆ Gagandeep S (Hazel) for settling so well into year 4 and already showing such a great attitude towards her learning. <i>Mrs Harvey-Maw</i> | ☆ Elsa H (Poplar) for encouraging her team mates whilst on activities at PGL. <i>Mrs Langsdon</i> |
| ☆ Ewan C (Birch) for his excellent application during English and Maths lessons this week. <i>Mr Perfect</i> | ☆ Theo W (Poplar) for bravery during the raft building activity and pushing himself. <i>Mrs Brooks</i> |

Karate Achievement

I am always keen to hear about and celebrate our children's achievements outside of school and I heard this week about Darwin's and Elsa's success in a regional karate competition they both took part in over the weekend, coming home with some impressive trophies. Well done to you both!



Upcoming Dates

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

[CALENDAR >](#)

Monday 18th September	Forest School Trip: Rowan Class (Miss Andrews)	
Tuesday 19th September		2.45pm: Meet the Staff (Year 1)
Wednesday 20th September	Penshurst Place Residential: Year 5	2.45pm: Meet the Staff (Year 6)
Thursday 21st September	Forest School Trip: Willow Class (Mrs Cork)	2.45pm: Meet the Staff (Year 2)
Friday 22nd September		

Monday 25th September	Creed Activity Centre: Birch Class (Mr Perfect)	2.15pm: Year R Parent Phonics Workshop
Tuesday 26th September		Sports Crew Training (select Year 5 pupils)
Wednesday 27th September	Creed Activity Centre: Hazel Class (Mrs Harvey-Maw)	2.30pm: Year R Welcome Service
Thursday 28th September		
Friday 29th September	Mandarin Trip: (select Year 6 pupils)	

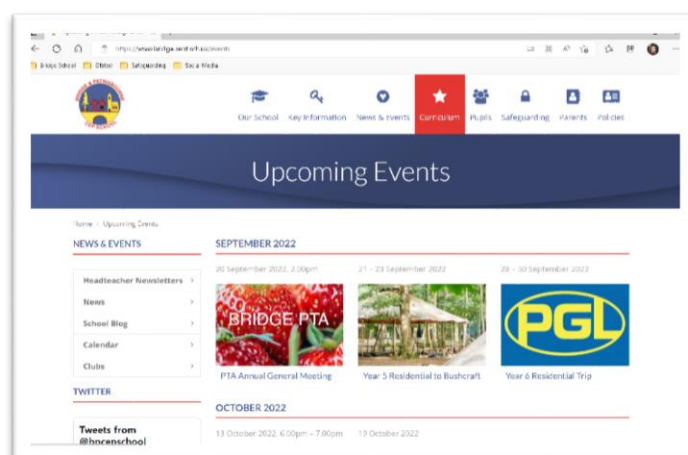
Monday 2nd October	Parent Consultations (this week and next week)	
Tuesday 3rd October	Handball Competition (select Y5 and 6 children)	
Wednesday 4th October		
Thursday 5th October		
Friday 6th October		

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.



Friends of St Peter's Church, Bridge

COFFEE & CAKE & CONCERT

Saturday 16th September 10:15 to 11:30

**Musical Morning with Canterbury
Saxophony**



Image by brgfx on Freepik

Come and hear the music of this unique local Saxophone Quartet, ranging from Gershwin to Reynolds and Goodwin to Hirsch with Matt Miles (who teaches music at Bridge and Patricxbourne School) on Tenor Sax, Ken peers on Soprano Sax, Eduard Heyning on Alto Sax, and Peter Cook on Baritone Sax.

Suggested donation £5 per person (incl. coffee and cake!), children free. All profits to the church.

Folkestone Book Festival Weekend family events

You can book these events online or email the box office at boxoffice@creativefolkestone.org.uk

Saturday 18 November, 10.30am

Nikky Smedley, *Over the Hills and Far Away*

Come and join the woman who played LaaLaa in the original *Teletubbies* in her latest guise as creator and teller of funny and fantastic stories. Hear who springs from Jamie's MONSTER TREE, meet INCAPABILITY BROWN, the greatest inventorentorator in the world and learn how TOM copes with everyone forgetting his birthday. It's a real storytelling treat, with plenty of opportunity for the children to join in and help with the tall tales. Nikki Smedley is the author of *Over the Hills and Far Away*, and one-time Teletubby. *Nikki Smedley lives in Dungeness, Kent.* Suitable for 4-7 year olds.

Tickets

£12 Standard

£8 Concession

£5 Cost of Living



Saturday 18 November, 12:30-2:30pm

Free Family Drop in workshop at Block 67/Glassworks studio in Mill Bay, no need to book!

Story Crowns with Nikky Smedley

Following on from her storytelling event at Folkestone Book Festival at Folkestone Quarterhouse why not come and join Nikky Smedley for a fun-filled creative workshop at Block 67.

Nikky's storytelling crown pulls the stories 'Out of the air, into her brain, out of her mouth, into your ears' and now you can make your own! With your crown in place, Nikky will help you discover what other stories are out there - ready for the telling!

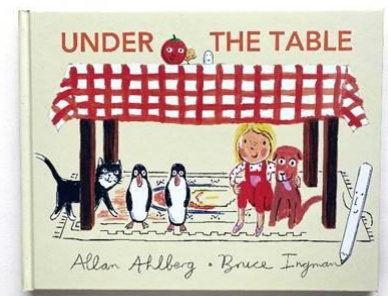
Storyteller website: <http://www.thestoryteller.me.uk>



Sunday 19 November, 12pm

Bruce Ingman: Making pictures for picture books

Bring all the family along to discover how award-winning illustrator Bruce Ingman plans and plots his illustrations for his collaborations with the author Allan Ahlberg. Described by Sir Quentin Blake as 'an unexpected talent that mixes innocence and sophistication . . . in something that's distinctly his own', Ingman has collaborated with the legendary Ahlberg for over 20 years producing bestselling titles including, *The Pencil*, *The Runaway Dinner* and this year's long-awaited sequel, *Under the Table*. He has co-written a book on Dick Bruna, the creator of the iconic rabbit, Miffy, for the celebrated series, 'The Illustrators', and is Head of the MA in Children's Literature: Children's Book Illustration at Goldsmiths, University of London. He will be joined on stage by Walker Books' designer Daniel Devlin for a Q&A session.



Tickets

£12 Standard

£8 Concession

£5 Cost of Living

Sunday 26 November, 10.30am

Olaf Falafel: Art, Farts and laughter

Join Olaf Falafel – comedian, author, illustrator and winner of the Edinburgh Festival Funniest Joke Of The Fringe – for a hilarious event. He'll be reading from his debut chapter book series *Trixie Pickle Art Avenger* as well as other books from his back catalogue. This event will definitely contain jokes, farts and drawing!



Tickets

£12 Standard

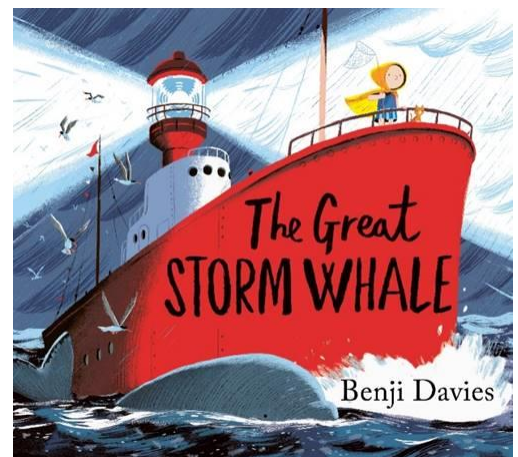
£8 Concession

£5 Cost of Living

Sunday 26 November, 12pm

Benji Davies: The Great Storm Whale

A long time, many storms ago... Wrap up warm and meet Benji Davies, author-illustrator of the award-winning *The Storm Whale* about a little boy Noi who saves a beached whale. On the tenth anniversary of this modern classic, Davies revealed that a visit to Whitstable inspired the beautiful illustrations of fisherman's houses that form the backdrop of this story. Find out what happens next to Noi, as he returns in the fourth book of the *Storm Whale* series, *The Great Storm Whale*.



Tickets

£12 Standard

£8 Concession

£5 Cost of Living