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Friday 24th November 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well.

I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our Year 5 and 6 students who took part in the basketball tournament at Canterbury Academy last week. Despite some tough competition, our team showed great sportsmanship and determination, and we are proud to announce that they came in 4th place! Well done to all the children who participated, you did us proud!



You can read Seb's match report on our school blog.

I would also like to extend a special congratulations to the children who took part in the Infant Agility competition this week. They showcased their agility, speed, and coordination, and represented our school with great enthusiasm!

Some quotes from the children:

My favourite bit was the Hurdles. I'm really happy that I came to do Infant Agility. I did really well at the Speed Bounce. Ella

I loved the Jumping and Bowling. I got 3 strikes! Hubert

I really enjoyed the Chest Push and I kept trying. Isla

I liked challenging myself and competing against other teams. Jack



Mr Wren runs for charity

I am competing in an event called HYROX in London on Saturday 25th November and I am looking to raise £2500 in memory of my ex-pupil Miles Stockwell, who so sadly lost his battle with bone cancer on New Year's Eve 2022, aged just 15.

Bone Cancer Research Trust #TeamMiles is raising vital funds, so that children and young people in the future can look forward to kinder treatment options and better outcomes.

For those who don't know what HYROX is, it is effectively fitness racing. It is 8 1km runs that are punctuated with 8 other fitness challenges such as rowing machine, lunges, burpees etc.

My justgiving page is: [James Wren is fundraising for Bone Cancer Research Trust \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/JamesWren)



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



Advent Services

I would also like to invite all parents to our Advent services on Wednesday 29th November. It will be a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a community and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Children will be attending in their house groups and the times are below.

9.30am: Zborowski, Hadrian and Shirley

10.30am: Behn, Fairservice and Lovelace

Salvation Army Concert

Every year we host 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 evening event starting at 7.30pm and a perfect way to start to get into the Christmas spirit. Tickets will be £4 and payment will be cash on the door.

Children in Year 5 and 6 are more than welcome to join us, please could you sign your child up on the trips section of Arbor so that we have an idea of numbers – thank you.

Generosity

As we approach the festive season, it is time to spread some holiday cheer and give back to those in need. We have a range of opportunities for our families to show their generosity and bring warmth and joy to those less fortunate during this special time of year.



Next week, we will be collecting Christmas jumpers for Save the Children. If you have any old or unwanted jumpers that are still in good condition, please consider donating them to our collection. Other parents will then be able to purchase these from the playground after school on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December for a donation to Save the Children.

In the spirit of giving, we will, once again, be collecting chocolate oranges to show our appreciation for the hard work and dedication of the NHS workers. Last year, we did this under the banner of Team Chocolate Orange, the inspirational initiative created by Chris Lamb. Chris's son, Elliott, spent a lot of time in hospital with a number of significant health complications but sadly passed away just before Christmas in 2010, aged 4 years. Chris wanted to do something positive to cherish Elliott's memory and embarked on a mission to thank NHS staff for the care they provided.



These small tokens of gratitude will go a long way in brightening their day and letting them know how much we value their efforts. Please consider donating a chocolate orange to this worthy cause.

Additionally, we will be collecting toys for the Salvation Army present drive. Every child deserves a special gift during the festive season, and your donations will help make this possible. If you have any new or gently used toys that you would like to contribute, please bring them to the school office.

Finally, we will continue our tradition of collecting for the Canterbury foodbank. As we all come together to celebrate with our loved ones, let us not forget those who may be struggling to put food on the table. Any non-perishable food items that you can spare will be greatly appreciated and will make a huge difference to those in need. Alongside this newsletter is a list of products that would be appreciated by the foodbank.

Thank you all for your continued support and generosity. Together, we can make a positive impact in our community and spread joy during this festive season.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead.

James Tibbles

James Tibbles
Headteacher



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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| ☆ Tommy N (Willow) for a fantastic phonics and counting. Well done Tommy! <i>Miss M Smith and Mrs Cork</i> | ☆ Henry P (Hazel) for showing great attitude in all areas of his learning this week and producing some wonderful work. <i>Mrs Harvey-Maw</i> |
| ☆ Edie B (Rowan) for her fantastic superhero character description in English. <i>Miss Andrews</i> | ☆ Finn F (Birch) for his excellent re-write of the story 'Weslandia'. It was a pleasure to read. Well done! <i>Mr Perfect</i> |
| ☆ Alex L (Oak) for his amazing recount of The Great Fire of London in full detail. Well done! <i>Miss J Smith</i> | ☆ Isabelle S (Holly) for a phenomenal diary entry from the perspective of Katherine in Hidden Figures. <i>Mr Ablett</i> |
| ☆ Oliver T (Oak) for a brilliant narrative recount of the Great Fire of London packed with wonderful vocabulary and detail. Well done! <i>Mrs Amelia</i> | ☆ Louis E (Maple) for really making the effort to read regularly and for lots of successful AR quizzing. <i>Miss Allison</i> |
| ☆ Henry E (Pine) for his enthusiasm and leadership skills at forest school. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> | ☆ Neil K (Poplar) for always being able to show his workings in maths accurately and methodically. <i>Mrs Allen</i> |
| ☆ Barnaby C (Beech) for his positive attitude towards his reading both at home and school. <i>Mrs Dennett</i> | ☆ Amelie T (Sycamore) for her amazing lead vocals during the Battle of the Bands. <i>Mr Wren</i> |
| ☆ Reggie A (Chestnut) for following instructions carefully. <i>Mr Chamberlain</i> | |

Please note that we have been advised that Buzzers are not able to run a holiday club over the Christmas break this year.

Upcoming Dates

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

[CALENDAR >](#)

Monday 27th November	<i>Christmas Jumper donations all week</i>
Tuesday 28th November	Speed Stacking (Year 2, 4 and 6)
Wednesday 29th November	Advent Services <i>attending in houses</i>
Thursday 30th November	Dodgeball competition
Friday 1st December	

Monday 4th December	
Tuesday 5th December	Year 2 Nativity Performance at church (2pm)
Wednesday 6th December	Year 2 Nativity Performance at church (9.30am)
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 8th December	

Monday 11th December		
Tuesday 12th December	Year R Nativity performance (2.15pm)	Gulbenkian Christmas concert
Wednesday 13th December	Year R Nativity performance (9.30am)	
Thursday 14th December	Christingle Services in school	Carols in the Village
Friday 15th December	Christmas Dinner	

Year 2 Nativity

This week, as I've been showing prospective parents around, I have heard the Year 2 children practising songs for their nativity performances in a few weeks' time.

The Year 2 children will be giving two performances which will take place in the church on Tuesday 5th Dec (2pm) and Wednesday 6th 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 we can, once again, do this. 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 7th December.

Year R Nativity

I hope that our Year R families are looking forward to a the Year R's performance of 'Hey Ewe!' in a few weeks' time on Tuesday 12th December (9.30 am) and Wednesday 13th December (2.15pm) – doors will open 15 minutes before each performance.

This will be a seated performance and you will be able to book up to two spaces for each performance from Monday 20th November. 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 14th Dec, we will be visiting Bridge Haven, Mansfield Court and other locations around the village to share some festive joy.

BLOG

22 November 2023



Key Stage 2 Ball Games Club

It has been a pleasure to teach a

15 November 2023



Canterbury Light Parade 2023

Last Friday, a group of Bridge pupils

14 November 2023



Craft Club

Children from Year 1-3 have been getting crafty at Craft Club after

**Thank you for all your donations
for Children in Need - £518
raised.**