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Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Last weeks' comments on illness were obviously poorly timed as I seem to have 'jinxed' the school. We have had quite a lot of illness amongst the staff this week including a resurgence of COVID which seems to be hitting people harder than previously.

Thankfully – this doesn't seem to have affected the children too much as their attendance is generally good. Hopefully, as the weather improves and gets warmer, we will see the situation improve.

All the staff have pulled together to ensure that lessons have been covered but I would like to make special mention to Morny who has been on the gate a couple of days this week and also to Helen in the kitchen who was running the kitchen single-handedly on Monday and Tuesday (I stepped in to help and I've never been bossed around so much!)

### Safer Internet Day

Next Tuesday, the children will be taking part in learning linked Safer Internet Day and, as a starting point for parents, I would recommend these [resources from the UK Safer Internet Centre](#). I would also advocate for open conversations between parents and children about what their children are accessing online.

On the [safeguarding section](#) of our school website, you will find a more resources around Online Safety and we will be adding to these over the course of the next week. It would also be helpful to hear from parents which resources you would find useful in talking to your children about keeping safe online.

### Parent Emails

Following discussions with teachers this week, it has come to my attention that our teachers are spending a significant amount of time dealing with emails from parents who may have queries or concerns. I strongly believe that clear and open communication between staff and parents is vital but could I ask parents that, if it is a simple query then to email ([office@bridge.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@bridge.kent.sch.uk)) or call (01227 830276) the school office rather than teachers who need to be spending their time focused on your children. By reducing the number of direct emails to teachers, we can ensure they have the necessary time and space to plan engaging lessons, provide valuable feedback, and focus on the academic and personal development of each child.

I would like to emphasize that this is not meant to discourage communication between parents and teachers. On the contrary, we value your involvement in your child's education and encourage you to reach out to us with any concerns or questions you may have. However, we kindly ask that this is done to ensure efficient communication and to avoid any unnecessary disruptions to our teachers' schedules.

Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.



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



### Run for Bone Cancer Trust

We're all very proud of Poppy and Betsy who, over the Christmas period, took part in The Bone Cancer Trust-Elfie Run raising £228.14.

The money we raised will go to Team Miles Forever Fund- In memory of Oscar's friend Miles who sadly lost his battle with Cancer on New Year's Eve 2022.

Today, the girls brought in their medals to share with their classmates and also unceremoniously got pulled up in our Collective Worship this morning to share their achievement with the whole school.

Well done to both girls and you can also see this news on our school website.

Link: [Poppy and Betsy's Inspiring Efforts in The Bone Cancer Trust-Elfie Run](#)

Wish you all a lovely weekend.

*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.

- |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ☆ <b>Olivia (Ash)</b> for outstanding effort and resilience especially with writing independently. <i>Miss Goddard</i>                                | ☆ <b>Leo B (Chestnut)</b> for creating a beautiful poster in RE showing the rules of a Gurdwara. <i>Mr Chamberlain</i>                                                                             |
| ☆ <b>Fred (Ash)</b> for amazing teamwork and creativity when helping to make a witch's kitchen. <i>Miss Goddard</i>                                   | ☆ <b>Lyla T (Hazel)</b> for her creative and thoughtful approach to English this week. <i>Mrs Harvey-Maw</i>                                                                                       |
| ☆ <b>Florence M (Elm)</b> for challenging herself to complete lots of new activities during exploring time. <i>Mr Redpath</i>                         | ☆ <b>Oliver H (Birch)</b> for his excellent attitude towards his learning and for working hard in all areas of the curriculum. <i>Mr Perfect</i>                                                   |
| ☆ <b>Annabel S (Elm)</b> for excellent listening and being helpful around the classroom. <i>Mr Redpath</i>                                            | ☆ <b>Sulaiman B (Holly)</b> for creative contributions to our English work on villains and an excellent front cover for his Twisted Tale in art. <i>Miss Radford, Mrs Saunders and Mrs McInnes</i> |
| ☆ <b>Archie A (Willow)</b> for excellent addition on a number lin. <i>Mrs Cork</i>                                                                    | ☆ <b>Ava B (Maple)</b> for being enthusiastic and engaged in all areas of learning this week. <i>Mr Ablett &amp; Mr Taylor</i>                                                                     |
| ☆ <b>Thomas D-S (Rowan)</b> for his fantastic independent story, writing his own version of the Storm Whale in English this week. <i>Miss Andrews</i> | ☆ <b>Elsa H (Poplar)</b> for always having an upbeat and positive attitude in class. <i>Mrs Allen</i>                                                                                              |
| ☆ <b>Thea P (Oak)</b> for her incredible mental maths recall. <i>Mrs Amelia</i>                                                                       | ☆ <b>Logan T-B (Sycamore)</b> for his excellent algebra and problem-solving skills in maths. <i>Mrs Langsdon</i>                                                                                   |
| ☆ <b>Angus S (Pine)</b> for working hard and applying your maths learning. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i>                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| ☆ <b>Jack M (Beech)</b> for persevering with division in Maths this week. <i>Mrs Moon</i>                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## News and Blogs

On our school website, we proudly share some of our children's learning on our school blog. Please feel free to click on any of the images below to be taken directly to that blog post.



### 500 Words Winners 2024

In November, the children of Bridge



### Architecture Workshop - Year 6

A massive thank you to Vicky Kirk, a



### Creepy Claws visits Year 2

On Tuesday 23rd January Year 2s

[READ ALL BLOGS >](#)

## Upcoming Dates

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

**CALENDAR >**

|                                          |                                          |                                                 |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b>    |                                          |                                                 |
| <b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>   | Safer Internet Day                       | Prayer Stations at the Church                   |
| <b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b> | Prayer Stations at the Church            | Team Building at St Anselm's (select Y3 and Y4) |
| <b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>  |                                          | Year 6 trip to Marlowe Theatre – Wizard of Oz   |
| <b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>    | Chinese New Year celebration (select Y5) |                                                 |

### *Half-term*

|                                           |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>    |  |  |
| <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>   |  |  |
| <b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b> |  |  |
| <b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>  |  |  |
| <b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>    |  |  |

|                                           |                          |                                    |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>    |                          |                                    |
| <b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>   |                          |                                    |
| <b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b> |                          |                                    |
| <b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February</b>  |                          | Football Match vs. Chartham School |
| <b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>        | PESE: National Offer Day |                                    |

|                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March    |                           |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March   | Cross Country Competition |
| Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March |                           |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March  | World Book Day            |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March    |                           |