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Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and refreshed after the Christmas break. It's wonderful to see everyone back at school, ready to dive into another exciting term.

This week has been a busy one at Bridge. We've had the pleasure of welcoming prospective parents to our school, giving them a glimpse of the vibrant learning environment and the behaviours and conduct of the children. It's always a joy to showcase our school and the fantastic work our pupils produce.

Speaking of which, I've had the privilege of seeing some great work across the school this week, Lorcan was very proud to show me her writing at the beginning of the week and Florence had done some great number work. I also popped in to see Year 2 writing stories about their favourite toys (Santa was very generous this year!) and Year 4 maths as they were learning about the commutativity of multiplication! All good stuff going on.

Class Assemblies

Speaking of sharing learning, all Year 5 parents should have received an invitation to come in and see some of their children's learning next week. I know that the children are keen to share this with you.

Adverse Weather

Now it's every British person's favourite topic of conversation – the weather! You've all seen the impact of the incredible amount of snow that some parts of the country have received this past week and us 'softy southerners' (as I've been told we are!) should be prepared for the inevitable 14 flakes of snow that we're bound to receive at some point. I'd like to encourage all parents and carers to familiarise themselves with our [Adverse Weather Policy](#), which can be found on the school website.

Observational Drawing Request

On a different note, we have a rather unusual request. Are there any action figures, trolls, or similar plastic toys gathering dust in your homes? If so, we'd be thrilled to give them a new purpose! We're looking for donations of these items to use for observational drawing exercises. It's a fantastic way for our pupils to hone their artistic skills while giving new life to old toys. If you're unsure about what to donate, feel free to send a photo to cally.smith@bridge.kent.sch.uk for confirmation.

Dog Safety

I noted last night that there were a great number of comments on the Bridge Village Facebook group about a specific dog and the perceived risk of biting and, whilst I would personally say that some of these comments were over-reactionary (surely not I hear you cry!), it's probably worth reminding the children that they should not approach unknown dogs.



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



Short Story Writing Competition

Lastly, I have an exciting opportunity to share with our budding writers. Daunt Books is hosting a children's short story competition, and we'd love to see Bridge & Patricbourne pupils participating. Who knows? We might have the next J.K. Rowling or Roald Dahl in our midst! You can find all the details on the Daunt Books website under [Children's Short Story Competition | Daunt Books](#)

Messy Church

Just a brief reminder that next Saturday (18th Jan), we are hosting Messy Church at Bridge School. This wonderful event is a fantastic opportunity for families to come together, engage in creative activities, and explore the teachings of Christianity in a fun and interactive way.



Rev. Estella and her team of helpers will be running craft activities for children from 4pm.

Year Group Newsletters

Year Group newsletters will also be coming home today; these newsletters are an invaluable source of information, providing insights into the topics and activities your child will be engaging with throughout the term. Please take the time to read through them. We believe that strong communication between home and school is key to ensuring our children's success.

Year 6 Boys District Champions

Last term, our Year 6 children took part in a district football tournament and our boys came first beating other schools such as Blean in the semi-final and Canterbury Primary in the final. Their triumph meant that I could secure some gloating rights at the local headteacher meeting but I'm sure the boys were pleased to finally receive their medals earlier today in our Celebration Worship.



Parental Consultations

We also have parental consultations taking place in a few weeks' time. These consultations are an excellent opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress and development with their class teacher.

Timings for each year group are below and parents can sign up for an appointment on Arbor from Monday at 8am. All consultations are face-to-face although phone calls are available as an option.

Mon 27 th Jan	Tues 28 th Jan	Wed 29 th Jan	Thurs 30 th Jan	Fri 31 st Jan
Year 5 8.30am to 11am 2pm to 5pm	Year 4 8.30am to 11am 2pm to 5pm	All year groups 4pm to 7pm	Year 6 8.30am to 11am 1.30pm to 4.30pm	x
Mon 3 rd Feb	Tues 4 th Feb	Wed 5 th Feb	Thurs 6 th Feb	Fri 7 th Feb
Year 3 8.30am to 11am 2pm to 5pm	Year 2 8.30am to 11am 2pm to 5pm	Year R 8.30am to 11am 2pm to 5pm	Year 1 8.30am to 11am 2pm to 5pm	x

PTFA Support

As you know, our Parent-Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) plays a vital role in supporting the school and enriching the experiences of our pupils.

Layla, our current PTFA Treasurer, has done a fantastic job in this role, but she would like to hand over the reins by the end of the academic year. We are therefore looking for a parent who would be interested in becoming the Vice-Treasurer and shadowing Layla for the remainder of this year, before taking on the Treasurer role in September.

This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in the PTFA and contribute to the success of our school. If you are interested in this position, or would like to learn more about it, please don't hesitate to contact me or a member of the PTFA. We would be delighted to discuss the role and responsibilities in more detail.

Change to School Dinners

This Thursday, is school census day (which is one of Morny's favourite days of the year!) The census impacts on our school funding so it would be really helpful if our families signed up for a school dinner on this day. We have swapped the meal with our Friday menu which is always more popular (the allure of chips!)

Here's to another term filled with discovery, achievement, and fun!



James Tibbles

Celebration

Star Pupils

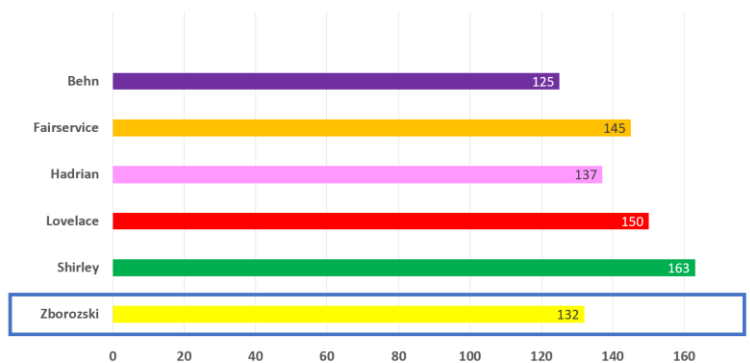
Each Friday, we celebrate children who have impressed the adults in school either through their learning or demonstrating one of our Christian values.

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| ☆ Casper P (Elm) for excellent measuring and recording of results in Maths. <i>Mr Redpath</i> | ☆ James S (Hazel) for demonstrating fantastic participation in class discussions this week and showing a great attitude towards his learning. <i>Mrs Harvey-Maw</i> |
| ☆ Rosie (Ash) for stepping outside her comfort zone and embracing Forest School. <i>Miss Ellison</i> | ☆ Kaylon F (Birch) for improving his AR quiz scores and now averaging 100% in the last five quizzes. <i>Mr Perfect</i> |
| ☆ Olivia M (Willow) for creative play with her friends at Forest School! <i>Mrs Cork & Miss M Smith</i> | ☆ Otis J (Holly) for being a selfless friend and going out of his way to help when someone was hurt. <i>Mr Ablett</i> |
| ☆ Elena C (Rowan) for her great questions about toys in history this week! <i>Miss Andrews</i> | ☆ Dexter S (Maple) for his creativity, positivity and collaboration when planning our Civil Rights sharing assembly. <i>Miss Allison</i> |
| ☆ Tom W (Pine) for becoming a new AR reader with a superb score. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> | ☆ May B (Sycamore) for solving and persevering with complex algebra problems in maths. <i>Mr Wren</i> |
| ☆ Alex W (Pine) for becoming a new AR reader with a superb score. <i>Mrs Perfect</i> | ☆ Mona H (Poplar) for making detailed notes in French to help with her learning. <i>Mrs Langsdon</i> |
| ☆ Theomel R-C (Oak) for very accurate line of symmetry drawing in Maths. <i>Miss J Smith</i> | |
| ☆ Gurjot (Chestnut) for his enthusiasm and sharing his knowledge on the Sikhi religion in RE. <i>Mrs Amelia</i> | |
| ☆ Joss K (Beech) for her detailed explanations in Science about how different surfaces affected how far a toy car travelled. <i>Mrs Dennett</i> | |

House Points Competition

Children across the school have been working hard and the numbers of house points are starting to ramp up. The results were shared with the children at celebration worship today.


Well done Zborowski house who, this week, both earned the greatest number of house points this week although Shirley maintain their lead over the others!




Each week, we select six random children to come and enjoy a hot chocolate with either myself or Mr Taylor. This week's lucky six are:

- Pepi (Willow) - Behn
- Albie (Chestnut) - Zborowski
- Jonas (Rowan) - Hadrian
- Lucy (Elm) - Fairservice
- Nessa (Oak) - Shirley
- Noah T (Maple) - Zborowski

Upcoming Dates

Monday 13th January		
Tuesday 14th January		12pm: Dodgeball Competition
Wednesday 15th January	9.15am: Year 5 (Maple) Class Assembly	
Thursday 16th January	9.15am: Year 5 (Holly) Class Assembly	
Friday 17th January		 4pm: Messy Church on Saturday

Monday 20th January	<i>Ski Trip (all week)</i>	
Tuesday 21st January		
Wednesday 22nd January	Sensory Workshop for parents	
Thursday 23rd January	11am: Young Voices	
Friday 24th January	School Nursing in school (Hearing tests)	

Monday 27th January	Yr 5 Parent Consultations	
Tuesday 28th January	Yr 4 Parent Consultations	
Wednesday 29th January		Evening parent consultations
Thursday 30th January	Yr 6 Parent Consultations	
Friday 31st January		3.15pm PTFA Bake Sale

Dates for your Diary (2024-25)

Term 3 (Spring)	
Year 5 Sharing Assemblies	Wednesday 15 th January (Maple)
	Thursday 16 th January (Holly)
Ski Trip to Italy	Sunday 19 th January to Friday 24 th January
Young Voices	Thursday 23 rd January
Parental Consultations	w/c 27 th January and w/c 3 rd February
Term 4 (Spring)	
World Book Day	Thursday 6 th March
World Down Syndrome Day (charity fundraiser)	Friday 21 st March
PTFA Quiz Night	Friday 21 st March
French Exchange (hosting)	Monday 31 st March to Friday 4 th April
Term 5 (Summer)	
Easter Services	Thursday 24 th April (morning)
Christian Aid Week (charity fundraiser)	Monday 12 th May
Year 6 SATS	Monday 12 th May to Thursday 15 th May
French Exchange (to Montpellier)	Monday 19 th May to Friday 23 rd May
Dare to be Different	Friday 24 th May
Term 6 (Summer)	
Staff Training Day	Monday 2 nd June
Wear Yellow for Cystic Fibrosis (charity fundraiser)	Friday 20 th June
Sports Afternoon (Year R to 2)	Monday 23 rd June
Sports Afternoon (Year 3 to 6)	Thursday 26 th June
Moving Up Day	Thursday 3 rd July
Bridge Village Fete	Saturday 12 th July, 12pm to 4pm
Year 6 Production	Tuesday 15 th July, 1.30pm and 6.30pm
Year 6 Production	Wednesday 16 th July, 1.30pm and 6.30pm
End-of-Year Church Services	Thursday 17 th July (morning)
Year 6 Leaver's Assembly	Tuesday 22 nd July, 2pm