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Friday 25th April, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break. Over the Easter period myself, and a team of willing volunteers, helped to prepare the sand pit, create the tunnels and mounds at the bottom of the field and paint and install the shelter on the Infant Playground. Thank you to all who helped on the day and for those who have donated different items to the school over the last 6 weeks to help support our transition across to OPAL play.

The changes are starting to come quickly, today we have had Bourne 2 Garden in to help shape the mounds and lay some turf which we will be ready for the children either at the end of this term or, at the latest, the start of term 6. These mounds may or may not resemble the homes of a well-known children's tv show from the late 90s.



Next Tuesday, we will be having 40 tonnes of play pit sand delivered before school so the children will be able to play in there from Wednesday (our next OPAL day). Please see the note below from the OPAL team for information on donations for the week (hint - it does involve the sandpit).

Easter Services

It was lovely to see so many parents joining us for our Easter Services, their presence adding to the sense of community that is so important to us at Bridge & Patricbourne CEP School. The children sang and read brilliantly and it was especially nice to have the choir leading the singing from the front of the aisle. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making our Easter Services such a success especially; Mr Ablett for organising the services, the music team for preparing the children so well for the service and Rev. Estella for her continued support.

Year 5 PESE/Kent Test Presentation to Parents

In a few weeks' time (on Thursday 15th May), parents of children in Year 5 are invited to a short information session about applying for secondary schools and the process of the Kent Test. This will take place in one of the Year 5 classrooms (whichever is tidiest!) at 3.30pm – we will pop any children in the other classroom where they can watch a video.

There will also be an online session at 5pm for any parents that can't make the one after school and this will be recorded for any parents that can't make either.

The link for the online session will be sent out closer to the time.



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



Wilder Kent Award

Mrs Pearman and myself are in the process of applying for the Wilder Kent Awards again this year. This is a scheme set up to recognise and reward schools and community groups who are looking restore nature and create a more climate-resilient home for wildlife. We are working towards three aims: protect wildlife, sustainability and carbon reduction and engage with nature.



Ideas for at home could be as simple as:

- going on a litter picking walk
- walk or cycle to school one day a week
- switch off electrical equipment when not in use
- have a meat free day a week
- install hedgehog/bird boxes
- have a wild life space in your garden

If you could have a chat with your child and send any photos or information about what you have done to the school office over the summer it will only help us as we look to progress up to the Silver Award.

Forest School join in sessions – Reception Classes

Mrs Pearman also has a couple of new dates for our Reception parents. She will be hosting two stay and play sessions with the existing classes on the dates below. These sessions have proven to be really popular in the past and a great way to see your child engaging in the school grounds.

- Elm class: Thursday 8th May 9.15-10.15
- Ash class: Thursday 15th May 9.15-10.15

OPAL update

The children absolutely loved our introduction into OPAL on Wednesday this week. It was great to see them integrating with the other year groups and sharing experiences with the initial range of activities available to them. Each week, we are aiming to introduce a new area or activity for the children to explore. Next week, we will be opening the sandpit! Because of this, our donations plea is for sand toys (see list below). If you are able to donate anything towards the school, please leave it in our OPAL donations bin located by the school gates or on our OPAL table in the office.

Sandpit:

- Buckets (of varying sizes)
- Plastic spades
- Plastic rakes
- Sand moulds
- Sieves
- Diggers
- Funnels
- Tarpaulins



We are extremely grateful for any donations you are able to contribute towards the children lunch times and are excited to kickstart our OPAL journey.

Celebration

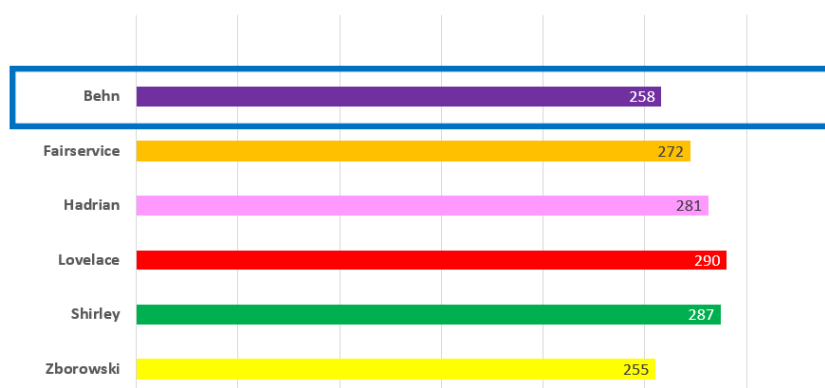
Star Pupils

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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| ☆ Aidan T (Elm) for working hard when coming to school in the morning. <i>Mr Redpath</i> | ☆ Fearne D (Chestnut) for her incredible imagination when writing creatively! <i>Mrs Amelia</i> |
| ☆ Norrie (Ash) for a brilliant start to the new term with great participation in class. 😊 <i>Miss Ellison</i> | ☆ Darwin H (Hazel) for always showing great concentration, a positive attitude and an eagerness to learn. <i>Mrs Harvey-Maw</i> |
| ☆ Alexis (Willow) for reading beautifully in church this week. Well done. <i>Mrs Cork & Miss M Smith</i> | ☆ Olivia O (Hazel) for working particularly hard this week and contributing to class input with accurate answers in Maths. Well done. <i>Mr Perfect</i> |
| ☆ Maizie H (Rowan) for showing an excellent understanding of 1 more and 1 less in Maths. <i>Miss Andrews</i> | ☆ Bella H-B (Holly) for an excellent attitude towards her learning this week and for reading enthusiastically in Church! <i>Mr Ablett</i> |
| ☆ Jacob M (Pine) for settling into Pine Class so well and becoming an important member of our class. <i>Mrs Tomsett & Mrs Perfect</i> | ☆ Thea G (Maple) for being a great friend to others, trying hard in all of her learning and sharing her thoughts in class. <i>Miss Allison</i> |
| ☆ Hope J (Oak) for being a brilliant role model for the younger children during our Easter activity afternoon. Well done. <i>Miss J Smith</i> | ☆ Imogen M (Sycamore) for using evidence from the text to support her answers in English. <i>Mr Wren</i> |
| ☆ Riddhima P (Beech) for a detailed observational of a plant in Science. <i>Mrs Dennett</i> | ☆ Kaitlyn F-M (Poplar) for working so conscientiously in Maths and not being afraid to ask for help. <i>Mrs Saint & Mrs Allen</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 to the Behn House who earned the greatest number of house points this week.



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

Ava (Hazel)	Florence S (Elm)	Harriet (Willow)
Felix (Beech)	Oliver (Beech)	Thea (Chestnut)

Upcoming Dates

Monday 28th April	Year 5 Bikeability		
Tuesday 29th April	Year 5 Bikeability		
Wednesday 30th April	Year 5 Bikeability	Year 6 Football Tournament – Girls (am)	Year 6 Football Tournament – Boys (pm)
Thursday 1st May			
Friday 2nd May	Dutch Teachers Visiting Bridge School	2pm PTFA Meeting (Summer Fete planning)	

Monday 5th May	May Bank Holiday <i>School closed</i>		
Tuesday 6th May	School Nurse in – vision checks for Year R		
Wednesday 7th May	Year 4 Richborough Trip		
Thursday 8th May	Year 3 & 4 Tennis Tournament		
Friday 9th May			

Monday 12th May	Year 6 SATS (am)	Christian Aid Week	
Tuesday 13th May	Year 6 SATS (am)	Year 4 Tri Golf competition	
Wednesday 14th May	Year 6 SATS (am)	Maple class trip to Kearsney Abbey	
Thursday 15th May	Year 6 SATS (am)	Holly class trip to Kearsney Abbey	3.30pm PESE/Kent Test Information Session
Friday 16th May			

Dates for your Diary (2024-25)

Term 5 (Summer)	
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 23 rd 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