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Bridge & Patricbourne CEP School

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Friday 11th October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week in our Collective Worship we have been learning about People of Faith and sharing stories from the Bible about people who have faith in God and why it is important to listen to Him. Rev Estella led our Act of Worship on Wednesday and shared her story about how she came to hear God and was called to His service.

The idea of '*service*' is one of our new Christian Values and I would invite children and families to reflect upon those unsung people who serve us at home, in school and in the community. We've also been thinking about how we can serve others, which segues nicely into...

Eco-Schools

This year, we will be thinking more about our environmental impact and what we can do to minimise our impact on the environment.

Whilst the school has, in the past, had an eco-council, I am very keen that this important aspect is integrated properly into the school curriculum and Year 2 and Year 5 will be leading some curriculum development work in order to ensure that all children learn about and take responsibility for eco issues, not just those in the eco-council.



Last week in our Act of Worship, children from Years 2, 4 and 5 gave presentations to the whole school about what they could do to help our planet and I am sure that we'll be hearing more from the children about what we can all do to help the environment.

Parent Chat Groups

When children start school, most parents will start or join some form of group chat usually via Facebook or WhatsApp. I would never discourage parents from doing this (in fact, my wife is part of the WhatsApp group for our daughter's class group and sometimes finds it very useful) as it helps keep up-to-date with what's going on, share information and reminders and to build relationships. However, when used inappropriately, these chats can cause problems and I've seen myself where parents have complained or gossiped about the school or staff.

It is only natural that parents may, on occasion, have a concern that they would like addressed but these can only be resolved if they are raised with the school. Comments on social media, particularly when they reference a specific member of staff can be hurtful and damage the relationship between school and home which I have always considered to be a real strength.

New Entrants (September 2020)

November sees the start of our tours of the school for prospective parents, i.e. those whose children will be starting school next September; we've been running individual tours and these have been very popular. If you know someone who is considering sending their child to Bridge & Patricbourne CEP School then please do encourage them to book an appointment with the school office.



Parking in Bridge

Thankfully, not a moan this time! On Thursday I met with Mike Sole (City Councillor for the Nailbourne Ward) and we obviously discussed parking and the ways in which the school and parents can help alleviate the pressures particularly around school drop-off and pick-up times. He reported that the situation had much improved over the past year and I'd just like to thank everyone for their contribution in parking responsibly.


Jury Service

Finally, a message for our year 3 parents. Mrs Amelia has been called for Jury Service after half-term and will be out of school for two weeks. We're very pleased to have Mrs Evans return to the school for this time and she has already been in school to meet with Mrs Amelia and Mrs Allison.




James Tibbles
Headteacher

Upcoming Events

Monday 14th October		
Tuesday 15th October	Tennis Festival	
Wednesday 16th October	Open Afternoon for Parents (3.15pm to 6pm)	
Thursday 17th October	Year 4 Swimming	4pm: Kent Test Results to Year 6 Parents
Friday 18th October	Year R and 6 Height & Weight Checks	Messy Church on Saturday 

Half Term Holiday

Monday 28th October	Staff Training Day	
Tuesday 29th October	Staff Training Day	
Wednesday 30th October		
Thursday 31st October	4JH Trip to Dover Museum	
Friday 1st November	Canterbury Festival on Saturday 	

Monday 4th November	4ST Trip to Dover Museum	
Tuesday 5th November	School Immunisation Team in (Flu)	
Wednesday 6th November		
Thursday 7th November	Year 4 Swimming	
Friday 8th November	Fireworks on Bridge Rec on Saturday	

Monday 11th November	11am: Act of Remembrance	
Tuesday 12th November		
Wednesday 13th November	Table Tennis Competition	
Thursday 14th November	Year 4 Swimming	
Friday 15th November	Children in Need	

Term Dates (2019-20)

These have now been set and are as follows:

- Term 1:** Wednesday 4th Sept to Friday 18th Oct
- Term 2:** Wednesday 30th Oct to Wednesday 18th Dec
- Term 3:** Monday 6th Jan to Friday 14th Feb
- Term 4:** Monday 24th Feb to Wednesday 1st April
- Term 5:** Thursday 16th April to Friday 22nd May
- Term 6:** Tuesday 2nd June to Wednesday 22nd July

Term Dates (2020-21)

* Five staff training days to be determined

- Term 1:** Tuesday 1st Sept to Friday 23rd Oct
- Term 2:** Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th Dec
- Term 3:** Monday 4th Jan to Friday 12th Feb
- Term 4:** Monday 22nd Feb to Thursday 1st April
- Term 5:** Monday 19th April to Friday 28th May
- Term 6:** Tuesday 7th June to Wednesday 21st July

Open Afternoon

On Wednesday 16th October, school is open for parents to come in and see what the children have been learning about in their Da Vinci topic. There is a great deal of amazing artwork around the school and I'm sure that the children are looking forward to it being displayed for you to come and see. The school will be open from home time until 6pm.

PESE: Kent Test (11+)

A reminder that results will be emailed or posted out to parents on **Thursday 17th October at 4pm**. Please don't call us on Thursday asking for results as we are not permitted to share or discuss any results until the Friday. Should any parents wish to come and see me on Friday, I will be making myself available.

Height & Weight Checks (Year R and Year 6)

All parents of children in Year R and 6 should have received a letter via ParentMail about this national programme. If you have not then please speak to a member of staff in the office.

October Half-Term Break

The last day of Term 1 will be on Friday 18th October and the children will return to school on Wednesday 30th October as we have two staff training days at the beginning of the week.

Canterbury Festival

Once again, children from Bridge & Patricbourne will be performing in the Spiegel tent on Saturday 2nd November as part of the Canterbury Festival. Mr Miles will be organising a rehearsal for all children involved taking place at our school on the Thursday before.



Flu Vaccine Nasal Spray

This is part of a national programme to vaccinate all children from the flu virus and comes in the form of a nasal spray. This will take place in school on **Tuesday 5th November**. If you have any questions about this then please speak to a member of the office staff.

PTA Fireworks Event

This will take place on Saturday 9th November and tickets will soon be on sale across Bridge and (of course) from the school office. Due to increased costs, family tickets will be a flat fee of £20.

Gates open at 5.30pm at the Recreation Ground and we look forward to seeing you there!

Act of Remembrance

On Monday 11th November, the school will be holding a Remembrance Service in the school hall and we would like to invite all parents, extended family members and community members to join us for an Act of Remembrance on the school playground at 11am. The children would have spent the day learning about Remembrance and the reasons why we do this and it would be lovely if as many adults as possible could also join us.



Parental Consultations

These are fast approaching and are a very good opportunity to discuss your children's progress and how the school and home can support each other in ensuring the very best education for your child.

Parental consultations are as follows and booking for these sessions will open after half-term.

Monday 11 th Nov	Tuesday 12 th Nov	Wednesday 13 th Nov	Thursday 14 th Nov	Friday 15 th Nov
	Year R	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Monday 18 th Nov	Tuesday 19 th Nov	Wednesday 20 th Nov	Thursday 21 st Nov	Friday 22 nd Nov
Year 2	Year 1		Year 3	

Bridge
Fireworks
& Bonfire
Saturday 9th Nov
Gates open 5.30pm
Bridge Recreation Ground

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