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Friday 17th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy week here at Bridge School this week. We have had a Safeguarding Audit (which went very well), a day of training for our TA's on a number of specialist programmes such as dyscalculia, discussions with other schools and local authority about how we can best represent our diverse culture through our curriculum and the preliminary discussions about introducing Forest School to Bridge! We will keep you updated on all these developments as we move forward.

World Book Day

This is a few week's off yet but Miss Allison and Mrs Haynes are already starting to think about this event. In the meantime, Mrs Haynes has entered the school into a competition for the school and has asked if others could register as well to improve our chances of winning. Please could you take a couple of minutes to click the link below and fill out the form?

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/competitions/win-your-class-an-amazing-world-book-day-2020-workshop-at-the-guardian-education-centre/>

Kent Teacher of the Year Award

I wrote last week about the opportunity to nominate members of staff for the Kent Teacher of the Year Awards. The window for nominations is open until the 1st March and I would encourage any parent who feels that a particular member of staff (or team) consistently go above and beyond to nominate them for this award – you can simply visit the website below and fill in the online nomination form. Thank you! www.kentteacheroftheyear.co.uk



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Money, Money, Money

As we approach the end of the financial year, we need to 'balance the books' so to speak and whilst monitoring our finances Mrs Haigh and I have noticed that there a number of parents who are in debt to the school. In most cases, these are not significant amounts but they do add up.

It is very easy for debt to spiral and, whilst I realise that it can be an uncomfortable conversation, it is our responsibility to the children to ensure all debts are paid. In the past, there has been debt that has been 'written off' by the school but I don't regard this as fair on the children as the school budget is intended to support children's learning and cannot be used in this way.

On a Thursday, if your account is in debt, then you will receive an automatic notification from ParentMail asking for payment. If there are any difficulties in making this payment then please do contact the school and ask to speak to Jess Haigh in the strictest confidence.

Thank you for your ongoing support in this matter.



Keeping Children Safe Online

I'm sure that there would be no argument that keeping our children safe is the most important role of any parent and carer.

Safer Internet Day is coming up and we are busy making plans on how to further teach the children more about being safe online.

In the meantime, we have a number of resources available to parents on our Online Safety page including fact sheets for how to ensure your children are safe if they are using Fortnite, Instagram, Snapchat, Tiktok, WhatsApp or YouTube.

These resources have been written by the Safeguarding Training Centre and are an excellent 'quick read' even if only to reassure yourselves that you are doing all you can to keep your children safe.

Take a look at our Online Safety pages:

<https://bridge.kent.sch.uk/safeguarding/online-safety>

Bridge Village Fete

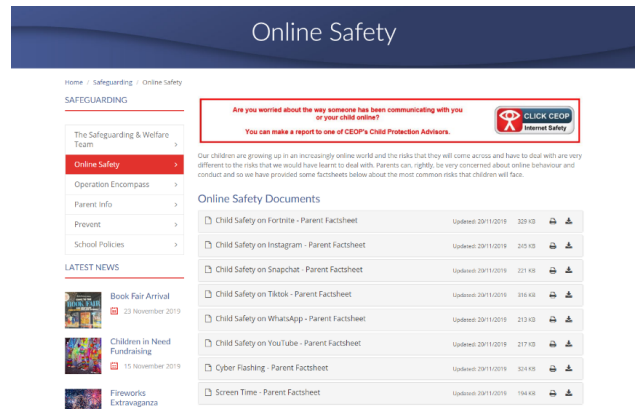
Finally, mark the date in your diary – **Saturday 27th June 2020, 12pm to 4pm.**

This week we began to start planning the Bridge Village Fete and, as always, we would welcome parental involvement. Watch this space for more details coming soon!

With best wishes



James Tibbles
Headteacher

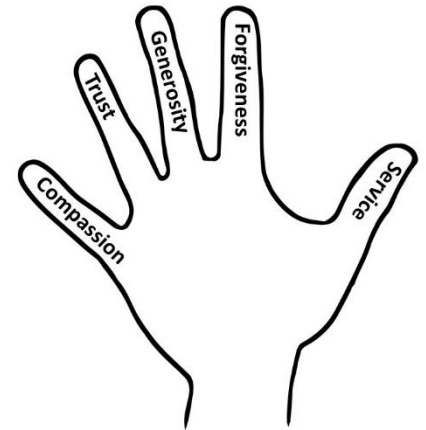


Our Christian Values

2 Colossians 3.12: *Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.*

Matthew 7.12: *Treat others as you want them to treat you.*

This term, we are focusing on the Christian Value of **compassion** and at the beginning of the term I shared with the children the well-known parable of the Good Samaritan. We discussed the difference between 'kindness' and 'compassion' and encouraged the children to reflect upon how we as individuals can show compassion as well as considering how groups of people show compassion.



Questions for Reflection

- If you met someone who was really compassionate, how would you know?
- If you show someone kindness and care, how does that make them feel? How do you think you would feel?
- How could you help someone who was being 'left out' of a game or other activity?
- How do your teachers help you to explore and reflect upon how others are feeling?
- Do you know which charities the school has been supporting? How do you think the money raised helped?
- Do you know a story that Jesus told about someone who showed compassion? Can you think of a time when Jesus showed compassion to those around him?

News from the Bridge Group Parish



The next parents' prayer meeting at St Peter's Church is on Friday 24th January.



Upcoming Messy Church dates:

- Saturday 15th Feb
- Saturday 21st March

Come and help the Messy Church Team Celebrate their First Birthday.....

Saturday 18th January

4pm-6pm

Bridge and Patricbourne School Hall

Craft activities, singing, stories and a hot meal for the whole family.

Donations to cover costs welcome!

For more information contact Rev Estella on 01227 206272



Latest Blog Posts

[READ ALL BLOGS >](#)

9th January 2020

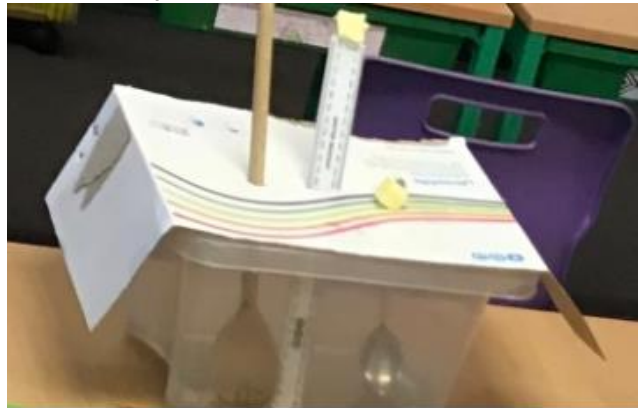


Tigers!

Year One have read 'The tiger who came to tea' and used this as a stimulus for English, Science and Art lessons this week.

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

17th January 2020



Thermal Conductor Experiment

Today, Year 5 have been scientists investigating properties of materials. We wanted to find out which material was the best thermal conductor.

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

17th January 2020



Geography in Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been learning about the continents and the oceans. We then found out about some of the different climates around the world.

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

17th January 2020



Year 4 Get Creative

This week the children in year 4 have been learning to set out their sketch books. Today they have had great fun with drawing each other in 'flying' poses.

[CONTINUE READING >](#)

Upcoming Events

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

CALENDAR >

You are also able to 'subscribe' to the calendar (there is a link underneath the calendar) which means that you can have the school calendar on your phone or tablet and any updates will automatically appear on your device!

Monday 20th January			Girls Football Match vs. Chartham
Tuesday 21st January			
Wednesday 22nd January	Young Voices Concert (leaving after break)	Pupil School Council Meeting	
Thursday 23rd January			B Team Football Match vs. Pilgrim's Way
Friday 24th January	Year R Chinese New Year Parade		
Monday 27th January	Zoolab Workshop for Year 1 Children		
Tuesday 28th January	Kent School Games: Infant Agility Competition	B Team Football Match vs. St. Stephens	7pm: PTA Meeting
Wednesday 29th January			
Thursday 30th January	Change for Life Event (Year 3 and 4 children)		
Friday 31st January			
Monday 3rd February	Year 5 Bikeability		
Tuesday 4th February	Year 5 Bikeability	Able Writers Workshop at Hoath School (Year 3 and 4)	
Wednesday 5th February	Year 5 Bikeability		
Thursday 6th February			
Friday 7th February			
Monday 10th February	2GD Trip to Wildwood		
Tuesday 11th February	2RF Trip to Wildwood		
Wednesday 12th February			
Thursday 13th February	Year 6 Trip to see School of Rock in London		
Friday 14th February			Messy Church on Saturday