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Friday 18th October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

And so we come to the end of our first term. The children have spent the last term learning about different aspects of Da Vinci's life and his work and I hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to walk around the school on Wednesday to see what the children have produced. The artwork around the school has been incredible and the staff and children have worked so hard to make sure that it is the best that it can be.

Applications for Secondary School

Yesterday saw the results of the Kent Test sent out to the parents of those children who took it and I would just like to remind parents of Year 6 children schools need to be named by Thursday 31st October.

Rev Estella is kindly coming into school for one more day on Wednesday 30th October between 8.15am – 8.45am and 2.45pm – 3.15pm in order to meet parents and discuss applications to local church schools (e.g. St Anselm's, Archbishop's etc.) which require a minister's signature on your supporting documentation. If you are asking her to sign to say that your child has been baptised please ensure you bring your child's baptism certificate with you.

Sadie Bristow Foundation

Our links with the Sadie Bristow Foundation continue to be as strong as ever thanks to the commitment and hard work of everyone involved. Over the past couple of weeks four of our girls have entered LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) competitions and represented the school and the foundation incredibly well.

For many children it was their first foray into such an event and it is really positive to hear that the children played with energy and enthusiasm.



Last week, Leon, Harry, Inca and Sofia represented the school at the Thanet Science and Engineering Challenge and we were very pleased to hear that they were awarded with **2nd prize**.

"We started the morning with physics and built a tower from spaghetti and marshmallows - it was fun. We came first

and got a Kinder Egg as our price. In Biology we looked at catalase enzymes in potato cells, we made a foamy mixture which represented our digestive system. Next we made paper rockets and shot them out of cannons it was amazing...we came second out of all of the schools because of our hard work and our positive attitude towards the activities and received a goodie bag! We had a great day full of fun!"



Leon, Sofia, Harry, Inca

Headlice

We've had a small resurgence of every parent's favourite creepy-crawly! Please could we ask that long hair is tied up in order to try and prevent the spread? Thank you.











Able Writers Workshop

Last Friday, seven of our Year 5 and 6 pupils attended an able Writers Day at Hoath Primary School. The children had an enjoyable and rewarding day working with one of the UK's leading fiction and science fiction writers, G.P. Taylor.

Graham told us about his really interesting life! As well as writing several books (one of which has been made into a film), he has been a police officer and vicar! We now have signed copies of two of his books in our school library.

"I loved the horror stories he told us...that was the best bit!" (Isabella Year 6)

"He was a great story teller and I really enjoyed writing my story." (Jamie Year 5)

"I loved writing the story." (Iris Year 5)

PTA Update

This week I met with the PTA group and we have begun to start planning Christmas events for the children. One event which takes a lot of time to arrange is the Christmas bazaar and we need help from our parents to ensure that this happens. The plan for this year is slightly different from previous years with the most significant change being there will be no bric-a-brac stall. Instead, over the course of the day, the PTA will be running a 'Christmas Shop' in which the children can come along and, for a set price, help to put together a gift for someone at home which will then be wrapped. We will also have some games for the younger children and hopefully a visit from someone special! This will take place on Friday 6th December and if you are able to help (at any point in the day) then it would be very much appreciated. If you can help, please email bridgeschoolpta@gmail.com.

The PTA will also be hosting a coffee afternoon for the new Year R parents which will take place on Thursday 14th November at 2.30pm. All are welcome and we may even have a short performance from some of the children.

School Website

I'm very pleased to announce that, when we return after half-term, we will have a brand new school website. This is something that Mr Taylor and I have been working on for several months now and we're really pleased with it. Most important to us is that it enables teachers to communicate with parents in the same way that the Leo the Lion Facebook page used to (without the hassle of Facebook!) Look for more information on this soon.

Have a wonderful half-term break and we'll see you all back on Wednesday 30th October.

James Tibbles Headteacher

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Upcoming Events

Monday 28 th October	Staff Training Day		
Tuesday 29 th October	Staff Training Day		
Wednesday 30 th October			
Thursday 31 st October	4JH Trip to Dover Museum		
Friday 1 st November		Canterbury Festival on Saturday	AND CAN ITER TER INDICATE OF THE STATE OF TH

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

Monday 11 th November	11am: Act of Remembrance		
Tuesday 12 th November	Year R Parent Consultations		
Wednesday 13 th November	Year 4 Parent Consultations	Table Tennis Competition	
Thursday 14 th November	Year 5 Parent Consultations	Year 4 Swimming	2.30pm: PTA Coffee Afternoon for Year R parents
Friday 15 th November	Year 6 Parent Consultations	Children in Need	

Monday 18 th November	Year 2 Parent Consultations	
Tuesday 19 th November	Year 1 Parent Consultations	Sportshall Athletic Competition (Yr 3-6)
Wednesday 20 th November		
Thursday 21 st November	Year 3 Parent Consultations	Year 4 Swimming
Friday 22 nd November	Parent's Prayer Meeting at Bridge Church	

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

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 & Patrixbourne CEP School then please do encourage them to book an appointment with the school office.

Canterbury Festival

Once again, children from Bridge & Patrixbourne will be performing in the Spiegeltent on Saturday 2^{nd} 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 18th Nov	Tuesday 19 th Nov	Wednesday 20th Nov	Thursday 21st Nov	Friday 22 nd Nov
Monday 18 th Nov Year 2	Tuesday 19 th Nov Year 1	Wednesday 20 th Nov	Thursday 21 st Nov Year 3	Friday 22 nd Nov

Christmas Events

Some information about Christmas Events for your diaries:

Monday 2 nd Dec	Tuesday 3 rd Dec	Wednesday 4 th Dec	Thursday 5 th Dec	Friday 6 th Dec
	Choir at the			
	Gulbenkian (pm)		7pm: Salvation Army	
			Christmas Concert	
Monday 9 th Dec	Tuesday 10 th Dec	Wednesday 11 th Dec	Thursday 12 th Dec	Friday 13 th Dec
		Year 2 Nativity (am)	Year 2 Nativity (am)	Year R/1 Nativity (am)
			Year R/1 Nativity (pm)	
Monday 16 th Dec	Tuesday 17 th Dec	Wednesday 18 th Dec		
2pm: OAP Tea Party		Christmas Dinner		
				!



Some News from Rev Estella

I know many folk struggle with the current culture around the celebration of 'Halloween' so it might be helpful to have a view from the Church. All Hallow's Eve 31st Oct is the evening before the celebration of All Saints – celebrations of All Hallows Eve in the church historically involved lighting lanterns to dispel the darkness (which draws in so early at this time of year) and to celebrate all the 'saints of light' those faithful departed who have gone to heaven. Carving ridiculous faces into lanterns was designed to poke fun at and demystify the encroaching darkness. This is about celebrating the light of the world that dispels the darkness – not about glorifying dark things. This is why churches generally prefer to hold 'Light parties' rather than 'Halloween parties' at this time of year. Barton Church in Canterbury is hosting a light party in Canterbury on 26th October 4.30-5.30pm which you are welcome to take your children along to if you would like to.







The Friends of Bekesbourne Church



Autumn Auction of Promises



7:30 pm Saturday 26th October

£8 a ticket to include catalogue, light snacks & nibbles



Please bring your own drinks



To book or offer promises phone 01227 830271 or 830828