



**BRIDGEWATER**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# BRIDGEWATER NEWS

## Welcome Back

Spring Term



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PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happy New Year! Hope you all had an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas and that 2018 is already shaping up to be an even better year! This newsletter lets you know about some of the events, policies and practices however further information can be found on our website: [www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk).

We also have a new twitter page which we will update regularly with school information and events @BridgewaterPS.

### New telephone number:

Please be advised that the school's new telephone number is **0161 921 1191** and the old number will no longer be operational from 8<sup>th</sup> January.

### Letter from Rt Honourable Nick Gibb MP – Minister of State for School Standards:

It gives me great pleasure to share with you the letter we received congratulating us on being in the top 8% of schools nationally based on our performance in the phonics screening check (letter attached). Well done to the staff and parents who work hard to ensure that our youngest children are taught the important basics for reading so very well! Miss Lovell and Miss Duffy will host a parent workshop on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 9.15 am** to share with parents how we teach children to read and how parents can help their child further at home.

### Our Outstanding School:

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that as an outstanding school we believe there are some core expectations that we share to ensure all our children enjoy and achieve at Bridgewater:

- Good attendance and punctuality – a missed day can never be repeated and arriving late can be very disruptive for your child and their class. New procedures for lates come into place on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** – please see the attached letter.
- Support your child's learning – discuss your child's day, practise spellings and timetables, complete daily reading tasks and ensure homework is completed and handed in on time. Your child needs your support and encouragement to fulfil their potential.
- Wear full school uniform – our identity is very important and teaching the children to wear our uniform with pride is an important part of this. No trainers or jewellery permitted. Can I also ask that your child's name is clearly displayed in all their belongings so they can be returned if misplaced.
- Always have a PE kit in school – bring it in and leave it in! Tracksuits are permitted during the colder weather.

### Parent Voice:

We would like to hear your thoughts and opinions about policies and practices at Bridgewater. This term we will be sending out questionnaires and conducting telephone interviews to gather your opinions. Parents can also attend the parent forum on **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 9.15am** to have their say on school policies and procedures. Agenda to follow.

If you have any questions about your child's learning and/or development at school, please do speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. It is very important that you give teachers the opportunity to discuss this with you. If the issue is not resolved as you would have hoped, please do make an appointment via the school office, to see a senior leader:

Miss Dalton – EYFS Leader; Miss Pickford - KS1 Leader; Miss Knipe - KS2 Leader, Mr Doherty – Deputy Headteacher or Mrs Henderson – Headteacher. We will endeavour to help you in any way we can.

This first Spring term is short but packed with purposeful and enjoyable learning experiences. Please find some important dates for your calendar on the reverse. A separate newsletter from your child's classteacher will also be sent to parents.

*Wishing you all the very best for 2018*

*Mrs E Henderson*

January 2018				
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
		School reopens		
8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
	Dance Teacher working with Y1/Y2			
15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>
LEGO Robotics workshop for KS2				
Rev Hartigan assembly	Dance Teacher working with Y1/Y2			
22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>
	Dance Teacher working with Y1/Y2	Young Voices concert at MEN Arena	Reading Workshop for Parents (Y1 – Y6)	
29 <sup>th</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Dance Teacher working with Y1/Y2  Vision Screening test (Reception 2)	Parent Forum	Football Team Competition  Harry Potter Book Night	
February 2018				
5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>
Online Safety Week				
Governors sub-committee meeting	Dance Teacher working with Y1/Y2  Year 6 football cup Walkden High	Y1 Class assembly  Chinese New Year dance workshop (EYFS)  Dodgeball Cluster event at Harrop Fold	Science morning at Harrop Fold – 5AH  Debate Mate Competition at Cadishead Primary	
12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>
Art Week				
	Dance Teacher working with Y1/Y2  Nursery Open Morning	Egyptian Workshop Y5	Reception Open Morning  Science morning at Harrop Fold – 5AH	School closes for half term

School Reopens: **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018**



3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

Dear parents/carers,

At Bridgewater Primary School we believe that every child has the right to be able to achieve their full potential academically and socially. We believe that establishing good routines helps prepare children for the future and we can only do this with your support.

Firstly, I would like to thank the parents and carers whose children attend school **every day and on time**. This does not go unrecognised and you are giving your child every opportunity to achieve their full potential in school life. When your child arrives late, they are missing out on important aspects of school life which may impact on your child's confidence and self-esteem.

Below is the **new procedure if you are late** when arriving to school in the morning, this forms part of our drive to improve punctuality and school readiness:

- **The school day starts at 8.55am and ALL children are expected to be in school by this time** (we open the doors at 8.45am to make this a little easier with siblings).
- **The doors close at 8:55am.**
- **If you arrive after this time please go straight to the office.**
- **Pupils arriving late will be asked to wait with their parents in the school reception until 9:15am when all children can be escorted to class together.**
- **Pupils arriving after 9:15am will be asked to wait with their parents in the school reception until 9:30am when all children can be escorted to class together.**
- This is to avoid repeated disruption to classes as the morning activity will have already started.
- This will also reduce the level of disruption to the office staff who escort the children to class.

The school day ends at **3:15pm** and all children should be collected at this time. If you are unable to collect your child on time, please inform the school office.

Together, let's have a great start to the New Year by arriving on time.

Thank you for your continued support.



**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus](http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus)

Mrs E Henderson  
Bridgewater Primary School  
Bridgewater Street  
Manchester  
M38 9WD

13 November 2017

Dear Mrs Henderson,

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on your school's outstanding achievement in the 2017 phonics screening check.

Early fluency in decoding is a necessary first step in acquiring the key skill of reading. There is a substantial body of evidence demonstrating that systematic phonics is the most effective method for teaching children to read. We want to ensure that every child develops a firm grasp of phonics, which is why I was delighted to see your results. With 95 per cent of pupils at Bridgewater Primary School reaching or exceeding the pass mark in the check, your school is in the top 8 per cent of all primary schools in the country.

Your success in teaching phonics means your pupils are developing a firm foundation in reading, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.

Thank you for your work in this vital area of a child's early education and congratulations again to you and your staff for all you have achieved.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,