

Thursday 18th December 2025



# Bridgewater Autumn Term 2 Newsletter 2025



## A message from Mrs Henderson

What an exceptional term it has been! From classroom successes to whole-school celebrations, our pupils have shown resilience, creativity and kindness. This term has been filled with hard work, great achievements, and memorable moments. Our Christmas performances showcased the incredible talent and confidence of our pupils, filling us all with festive joy.

As we come to the end of a wonderful term, I want to thank our children, staff, and families for their continued support and enthusiasm.

As many of you will know, Mrs Byard will be retiring at the end of this term. Mrs Byard has spent her entire teaching career at Bridgewater and, during that time, has supported countless children and families with great dedication and care. We thank her sincerely for her many years of service and wish her a very happy and well-deserved retirement.

We are pleased to welcome Mr Greaves, who will be joining us as Deputy Headteacher in January. Mr Greaves has already spent some time in school and met most of the children; I look forward to introducing him to you all in the New Year.

A special congratulations goes to Mrs McWalters, who celebrates an amazing 25 years of service with Salford City Council—an achievement we are incredibly proud to mark this year.

To all our families, I hope you have a restful, joyful Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## School Council

This half term our School Council had the great pleasure of organising the beautiful hamper for our Christmas performances which was kindly donated by Bridgewater staff. Thank you to Brooke's (2DG) family for the kind donation of an extra 3 hampers! Congratulations to our lucky winners drawn in assembly today! We would like to thank everyone who attended our Bridgewater Christmas market on Wednesday. We hope you had a lovely time and we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Christmas Card Competition

We are pleased to announce we won the Foundation92 (Manchester Utd Partnership) Christmas Card Competition and the following prize:

A free visit to the Skills Lab which includes:

- A 50-minute Eco-Reds Workshop
- A 70-minute Stadium tour
- Access to the Museum (for up to 35 students)

The ECO team (and 20 others selected by teachers Y3-Y6 for their amazing attitude to learning) will attend the event in January.



Created and designed  
by Folarin (4ZD)



## **Important dates next half term:**

**6th January**  
School Reopens

**16th January**  
Y2 Visit to Walkden Library

**19th & 20th January**  
Y1 Audiology Screening

**30th January**  
Y3 Class Assembly

**3rd February**  
Y3 Trip to Liverpool World Museum

**4th February**  
Y6 Trip to Greater Manchester Fire  
Rescue Training Centre (B-Safe Salford)

**6th February**  
Y2 Class Assembly

Young Voices Concert (Choir Children)

**9th February**  
Y3 Visit to Walkden Library

**11th February**  
Y5 Trip to Lowry Academy - High School  
Musical

**13th February**  
Break the Rules Day

School Closes for Spring Half Term



# Nursery

We have had a very busy and exciting Autumn 2 term in Nursery! The children learned about Bonfire Night, People Who Help Us and different celebrations, and were very excited to welcome a special visit from the police, where they learned about safety and how they help our community. They also worked hard practising for our Christmas nativity, building confidence through singing, acting and performing. The children made a fantastic start with early phonics by learning the sounds s, a, t, p, i, n, m through rhymes, listening games and mark making. In maths, they learned to recognise and count numbers 1 and 2, as well as exploring repeating patterns using colours, shapes and objects. We are very proud of the children's hard work and thank you for your continued support.



# Reception

What a busy and exciting half term we have had in Reception! We started the half term learning all about Diwali, Halloween and Bonfire Night. Then we moved onto our 'People Who Help Us' topic, thinking of all the people and workers who help us in everyday life, from doctors to shop workers to lollipop people. We enjoyed a visit from the police. We loved trying on the uniforms, taking our fingerprints and turning on the lights and siren on the police car! It was lovely to welcome some of our parents to our 'Riveting Reads' session. We read 'A Superhero Like You' and thought about what we would like to be when we grow up. The children have enjoyed learning all about Christmas, including the different ways in which people celebrate and sharing 'The Christmas Story'. They have particularly enjoyed completing lots of festive crafts. The children worked so hard for our Nativity performances, learning songs, actions and their speaking parts – we are very proud of the children. Well done Reception, have a wonderful Christmas!



# Year 1



Year 1 have had a fantastic half term. In Science, we have learnt lots about why it gets darker earlier in winter.

In English, we enjoyed making jam sandwiches for Sophie from The Tiger Who Came For Tea. We wrote instructions for Sophie, if the tiger comes to tea again she will know how to make them. We also created our own non-fiction book all about polar bears!

We enjoyed a trip to the Lowry Theatre to watch The Enormous Crocodile. What a fantastic show! We are looking forward to our learning in spring.

In Geography, we created pieces of art based on our learning about animals that live in hot and cold places. We also used atlases! We found lots of interesting facts about different places!







# Year 2

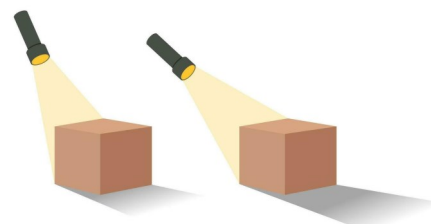


Year 2 have worked extremely hard this half term learning all about famous people including Neil Armstrong, Matthew Henson and Guy Fawkes. In Art, we have been creating pieces of work inspired by the famous people we have learnt about. We have used different skills and media to create pieces using paint and collage. In Science, we have learnt all about materials and all their properties and uses. Over the last couple of weeks, we have worked hard learning the songs and our lines for the Christmas production. It has been so lovely to see all of Year 2 grow in confidence when speaking in front of a large group. Year 2 wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We hope you enjoy the festive holidays!

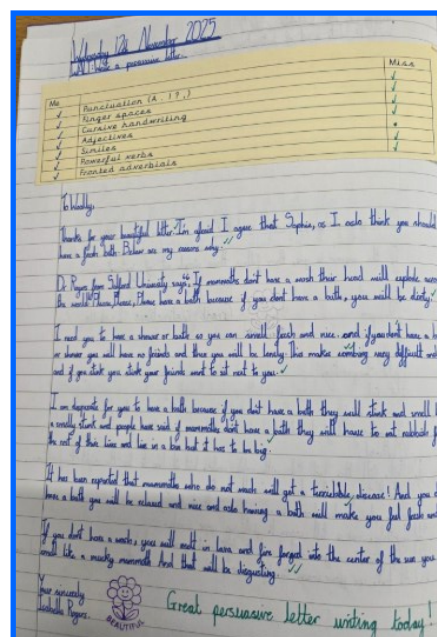


# Year 3

Year 3 have had an unbelievably busy and successful half term. In English, the children have been writing some fantastic non-chronological reports, playscripts and persuasive letters based on the history topic - The Stone Age. In Maths, the children have been learning to add and subtract using the column written method along with the 3 and 4 times tables. During the Science lessons, the children have been learning about light and shadow. They have taken part in a reflection Science experiment where the children needed to see which material is the most reflective and least reflective. In History, the children have been learning about the Stone Age. They have learnt the differences between the different ages: Stone Age, Bronze and Iron Age. During DT, the children have been designing and making festive cushions. These look AWESOME!



Amazing  
work Y3!





# Year 4

This Autumn term in English, Year 4 have been incredibly lucky to have had visitors from the Globe Theatre return and work with us on the story of Romeo and Juliet, from which we created a newspaper report of the infamous party. In addition, the children have written an explanation text of The Teacher Pleaser Machine and a narrative based on The Lost Thing. In Maths, we have been learning all about multiplication, division and related facts. In Science, we have learnt about electricity, where it comes from and its uses. Year 4 dove into their Geography learning this half term and they have acquired lots of new knowledge about maps and settlements. They have practised their handball skills in PE lessons and in Art, have worked hard with Miss Pickup, looking at Bridget Riley's artwork and creating their own versions, linking back to our Electricity topic.

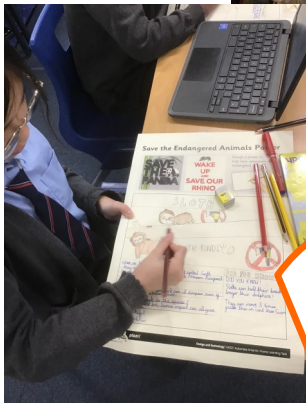


Good job  
Y4!



# Year 5

This term, in Year 5, has been packed with exciting learning opportunities! In geography, we explored the incredible Amazon Rainforest, learning about its unique layers, endangered animals, and the mighty Amazon River. In English, we continued our journey with *Kensuke's Kingdom*. Maths has been a lot of fun as we tackled fractions, finding equivalents, and mastering how to add and subtract them. In DT, we got creative and made pop-up books, focusing on the mechanics behind them. Science lessons have been fascinating as we studied how we age and linked this to living a healthy lifestyle. Finally, in Spanish, we embraced the festive spirit by learning all about Christmas traditions. It's been a busy and enjoyable term and all the children have been fantastic. Have a good break!



Amazing work everyone!



# Year 6



Year 6 have had a brilliant half term with lots of fun packed in. They have learnt all about our circulatory system in Science and made their own blood bags in Art linked to this learning. In English, they have immersed themselves in our text, *The Princess' Blankets*, and created some excellent descriptive writing about a mysterious stranger. They have also produced some incredible diary entries as a red blood cell making its journey through the human body. In Maths, they have been working closely with fractions so they can compare, order and use the four operations with them. Finally, Year 6 began to get in the festive spirit by attending the Peter Pan Pantomime. This also helped to develop their singing in preparation for our Christmas celebration, which we hope you enjoyed!



School Reopens Tuesday 6th January 2026



# Mental Health & Wellbeing

## 5 Ways to Stay Mindful Over the Christmas Holidays:

We know that Christmas can be a busy time of the year for most households. With that in mind, it can be very easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle over the holidays.

Here are some ways to help you stay mindful over the holidays:

**1. Go for a mindful walk/cycle:** Set yourself a simple challenge, to be more aware on your outing. What can you hear? Can you spot any animals or creatures along the way? Take note of the colours all around you.

**2. Do some Christmas baking:** Baking can be a great way to spend time together. You could make a whole morning out of it. Why not research some recipes, make a list of ingredients, gather all of the equipment and share the jobs.

**3. Christmas Crafting:** This doesn't need to be complicated. Grab a hold of a piece of paper and some pencils, play some interesting music, for example, The Nutcracker by Tchaikovsky. Draw a Christmas scene to go along with the music! There are so many Christmas craft opportunities out there.

**4. Set up a Mindful area at home:** This can be so simple yet so effective! Why not make it a family challenge. Decide on a safe place to make your mindful area. This could be in the hallway, corner of the living room or somewhere which suits you best. How will you transform it into a mindful area?

This half term, we have celebrated Anti-Bullying Week. Children took part in activities in their classrooms, learned about ways to support one another in their assemblies and discussed ways to talk about worries with trusted adults.

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## Places to go for help and support



This website from the NHS offers help you look after your child's mental health and wellbeing as well as the rest of the family. <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>

The NSPCC are offering support and advice if you feel your child is struggling with their mental health and anxiety. More information and advice can be found on their website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

Young Minds <https://youngminds.org.uk/>

## Winter Blues FIRST-AID KIT



NSPCC

YOUNGMINDS  
fighting for young people's mental health