

Friday 13th February 2026



Bridgewater Spring Term 1 Newsletter 2026



A message from Mrs Henderson

There have been so many wonderful events this half term, alongside the incredibly hard work the children have put into everything they have done in the classroom. We look forward to sharing more of their fantastic learning with you at the next parent –teacher meetings in March.

We are proud to also share with you that **Bridgewater has received recognition from the Secretary of State for Education, Bridget Phillipson**. You can find her message on our school website under our Ofsted information:
<https://www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk/information/ofsted>

A special thank you to all the parents and carers who attended workshops, assemblies, and the Parent Forum this half term. It is always wonderful to see you there, and we truly value your feedback on these events and how we can continue to improve.

This half term, we also say goodbye to **Mrs Houghton** and **Mrs O'Brien**, and thank them both for their incredible contribution to Bridgewater. We wish them every success for the future.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome **Mrs Roberts** and **Mrs Tucker** to the team — we look forward to introducing them to you soon.

Enjoy the break, everyone.

School Council

Our School Council is proud to announce that from the raffle ticket sales for our wonderful hamper donated by staff was an amazing £369.00. The money raised has been sent to our chosen charity this year Prostate Cancer. We hope everyone enjoyed our Break the Rules day, we will forward the amount raised and photos from the day in Spring 2. Have a wonderful break.



Important dates next half term:

23rd February
School Reopens

24th February
Reception Vision Screening

5th March
World Book Day

6th March
Y5 NCA Learn to Ride Cycle Training
(Selected children)

9th March—10th March
Life Education Caravan Y3—Y6

9th March—11th March
Y5 NCA Bikeability Cycle Training

20th March
Uniform Bank Open to Parents

Non Uniform Day for Easter Egg
Donations

W/C 23rd March
Parents Evening

26th March
Y5 Easter Experience—St John's
Community Centre

27th March
Y5 Class Assembly

31st March
Y5 Trip to Old Trafford Stadium

Easter Bingo

2nd April
School Closes for Spring Break

Nursery

This half term, the children have been busy exploring a range of exciting topics including Winter, Superheroes, and The Circus. These themes have inspired lots of imaginative play, discussion, and hands-on learning across the setting. In Literacy, we have shared the story *Supertato*, enjoying poems linked to the text and retelling the story through role play. The children particularly enjoyed finding and making Stickman using natural materials outdoors, encouraging storytelling and creativity. We have also read non-fiction books about polar animals, learning interesting facts and developing new vocabulary linked to our winter theme. In Maths, our focus has been on numbers 3, 4 and 5, exploring how these numbers are made through counting, sorting, and practical activities. The children have enjoyed building numbers using objects, matching quantities, and talking about number composition in everyday play. In Phonics, we have been learning the sounds m, d, o, g, c and k, practising careful listening, recognising sounds, and beginning to blend them into simple words. We were delighted to welcome a Chinese Dance Workshop, where the children explored rhythm, movement, and cultural traditions. During Art Week, the children experimented with different materials and techniques, creating colourful artwork inspired by our themes.



CIRCUS



RECEPTION

What a brilliant half term Reception have had! We started by learning all about 'Winter'. We learnt about the seasonal changes and enjoyed reading 'The Snowman' by Raymond Briggs. We then moved on to learning about 'Celebrations'. We loved learning about different types of celebrations including birthdays and weddings. We enjoyed our Riveting Reads session where we shared the book 'We're going to a Birthday Party' and completed lots of birthday themed activities with our families. For our final topic of the half term, we learnt about 'Chinese New Year'. We read the Chinese Zodiac story and produced some lovely writing and artwork based on the topic. We were lucky enough to participate in a Chinese dance workshop, where we learnt some traditional Chinese dance movements, using dragon and lion heads. Well done Reception! Have a lovely half term break.

Year 1

In History, Year 1 are enjoying learning about differences between the past and present. So far, we have learnt about the difference between toys and houses from the past and present.

In Science, we have been learning about different materials. We have been preparing for a visit from aliens; we will use all of our knowledge to teach aliens about different materials. We have a very exciting workshop coming up after the holidays to finish this topic!

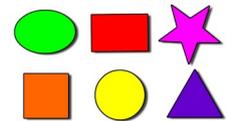
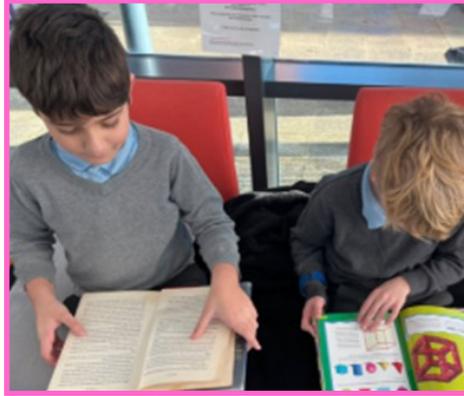
We have been lucky enough to have Miss Pickup for Art this half term. We have created many different pieces of artwork and linked this learning to the very famous artist, William Morris.



WELL DONE YEAR 1!

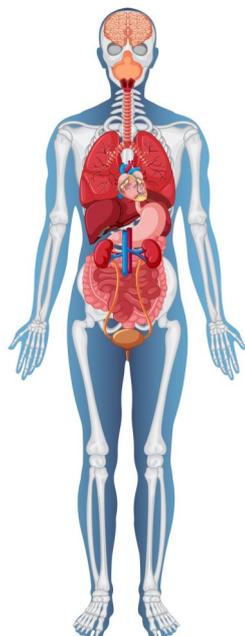
Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic time learning across lots of exciting subjects this term. In Geography, they enjoyed exploring our local area and spotting human and physical features, especially during our walk to Walkden Library. In English, the children loved reading *The Three Little Pigs* and showed great creativity by writing their own brilliant stories. In Maths, they worked hard learning about money and different shapes, using these skills in fun and practical ways. In Science, they explored habitats and learned about the homes of different animals. In Design and Technology the children have loved learning about stability and structures to design and make their own chair. The children have been enthusiastic, curious, and proud of their learning throughout—well done, Year 2!



Year 3

In Year 3, we have been very busy with lots of exciting learning! In science, the children have enjoyed learning all about the human body and discovering how different parts work together to keep us healthy. We have also explored volcanoes, learning what they are, how they erupt, and where they can be found around the world. In English, the children loved reading *The BFG* and had great fun writing their own instructions for making the delicious (and disgusting!) Froboscottle. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity, creativity, and enthusiasm across all subjects.



Year 4

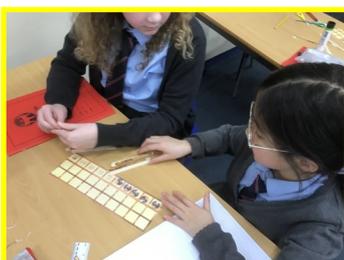
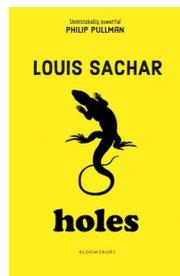
This half term in English, Year 4 have been immersing themselves in *The Paradise Garden* to help them to write a diary entry as the main character. The children have also written a setting description based on Vincent Van Gogh's artwork.

In Maths, we have been learning about written methods for multiplication and division, as well as measuring length and perimeter. In Science, we have been learning about Sound and learning how soundwaves travel. We have also created our own sequence of music on digital software. Year 4 have been historical detectives to find out which Anglo-Saxon King was buried at Sutton Hoo and have learnt what it was like to be a child during the Anglo-Saxon era. Both Year 4 classes have been strengthening their tennis skills in PE. Finally, Year 4 have created torches with their own electrical circuits in D&T.



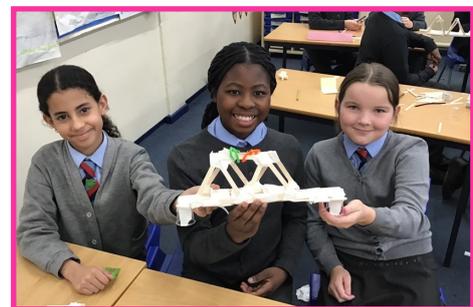
YEAR 5

Year 5 have had a wonderfully productive start to 2026. We have been enjoying our class text, *Holes* by Louis Sachar, and have written our own opening narratives inspired by the story. In Maths, we have been working hard to develop our multiplication and division skills, while continuing to build speed and confidence in Mental Maths. In Science, we have been exploring the properties of materials and carried out an exciting investigation into how temperature affects the rate at which materials dissolve. In PE, we have been developing new teamwork skills, and in Computing we have enhanced our understanding of databases. Our History lessons have focused on learning about the Ancient Egyptians, and during Art Week we explored the solar system, creating some fantastic artwork inspired by Kandinsky. In Spanish, we have been learning how to talk about different school subjects, sharing what we like or dislike and explaining why.



Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy start to 2026 and have been continuing their hard work. They have shown excellent resilience in their practice assessments this term. In English, the children have been using the text 'The Island' by Armin Greder to inspire their writing. In Maths, they have continued to develop their arithmetic skills as well as exploring fractions, decimals and percentages and applying this to problem solving questions. They even used inspiration from this to complete a display for art week around the mathematician Fibonacci. In D.T, they have shown excellent team work and design skills to construct various structures with the company Cavendish Nuclear. In Geography, they have become confident in using an atlas to explore the UK. In their Science lessons, they have been exploring light and have investigated how shadows are formed and what causes shadows to change size and shape.



School Reopens Monday 23rd February 2026

Mental Health & Wellbeing



This half term, we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week, focusing on this year's theme of *'This is my Place'*. Throughout the week, children took part in a range of activities in their classrooms, explored how to support one another during assemblies, and discussed ways to share worries with trusted adults. The theme of belonging encouraged every child to recognise that feeling connected to friends, family, and the school community is a vital part of emotional wellbeing. By helping children to understand that everyone deserves a place where they feel valued and included, we continue to nurture a supportive environment in which they can grow with confidence.

Looking after our mental health is not something we should just do if we are struggling, or feeling low, anxious or stressed. It's actually something we should think about all the time and really invest in, just like with our physical health. Staying on top of our mental wellbeing is good for us now but also helps us deal manage difficult times in the future. Over time, it can also reduce our risk of physical health problems. There are lots of things we can do to look after our mental health and wellbeing every day.

Places to go for help and support

Make a start with 7 top tips from the NHS "Every Mind Matters" website at <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>

This website includes short video clips to support you with (amongst other things) mindful breathing, healthy living, how to improve your sleep health and how to reframe negative thoughts.

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/>



NSPCC

YOUNGMINDS
fighting for young people's mental health