



BRIDGEWATER NEWS

Welcome Back

Autumn Term 1



A warm welcome back to you all. It has been lovely to see all the children back in school this week; they have been amazing!

This newsletter contains some important information and details about events planned for this half term. You will also receive a newsletter from your child's class teacher highlighting the learning they will cover this term so you can help support them further at home.

We also regularly update the school website www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk and our twitter page @BridgewaterPS with information and news.

Welcome to Bridgewater

We warmly welcome all our new and returning families to Bridgewater. We understand that the past few months have been very challenging times for many of you and we hope we can work together to support your child's safe and happy return to school life. If there is any information you feel we should know regarding your child's experience of COVID, please do not hesitate to speak to their classteacher or our Learning Mentor Miss Hopkins by requesting a telephone call.

As I have outlined in my previous letter to you and further Full Opening Risk Assessment, we have introduced a number of safety measures to ensure the safety of all our whole school community. This has been shared with children this week in an age appropriate manner. I will keep you updated on any new information as I receive this as the guidance is changing all the time. All information is available for you to view on our school website.

In the meantime, I must stress the **importance of parents social distancing** when you drop off and collect your children. To support this, we have:

- Staggered start and finish times; this should almost half the number of parents on school premises at any one time. Please do not attend school before your child's given start and finish times. Siblings should all be collected together at 3.15 to limit the amount of time you are waiting on school premises.
- Introduced a one way system around the key stage 1 building.
- Ask that only 1 parent drops off and collects their child/children.
- Ask that parents promptly leave the playground when they have dropped off and collected.

Meet the teacher sessions – If you have not already done so, please have a look at video links sent to you in July provided by the class teachers to introduce you and the children to their new classrooms.

Parent's evening will be a little different this year. During the week beginning 5th October 2020, you will be invited to arrange an appointment for a phone consultation with your child's teacher to discuss how your child has settled in. Can I remind parents that if you wish to discuss your children's personal or academic development at any time throughout the school year to please see your child's class teacher. If you wish to discuss your concern further, please contact the school office - **after** you have spoken with the class teacher - an appointment will be made with a senior member of staff.

Our Senior Leaders are:

Mrs Henderson – Headteacher.

Miss Knipe – Deputy Head. Lead for Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) and Behaviour.

Mr Doherty – Deputy Headteacher. Covering SENCO (Mrs Cope on maternity leave until October).

Mrs Byard - Assistant Headteacher. Lead for Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4).

Miss Lovell - Lead for Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2).

Mrs Maloney – Lead for Early Years (Nursery and Reception).

Mrs Hill – School Business and Office Manager.

Communication with school

To keep you up to date it is vital that you download the Parent Connect app so you get ALL our school news and updates. Please email the school office if you need assistance with this.

Parents' Forum

Due to government guidance, we cannot invite visitors to school at the moment; therefore we cannot hold parent forum meetings in person. We do value parent's views and would welcome any points by email to the school's email address. We will arrange a 'virtual meeting' by Zoom in Autumn 2.

Social media

We politely ask that parents **do not use social media** to discuss any matters regarding Bridgewater Primary School. Contacting school directly means we can deal promptly with your queries in a positive and constructive manner. The school has a twitter page @BridgewaterPS but does NOT have any connection with any other social media account, including the Bridgewater Parents' Facebook page.

Updating School Systems

We will **not** be sending home forms requesting that you check and update your child's personal records. We ask that you inform the office staff when and if there are any changes in your child's details including – first contact details, address, telephone number and notification of medical conditions. It is vital that these are kept up to date so we can contact you in case of an emergency. You should also inform school if you wish to change the adults you have listed to collect your child. Only children in Years 5 and 6, who have provided written consent from parents, are permitted to walk home alone.

If you wish to check these details, please contact the school office and a member of staff will run through what is on our system.

Attendance and Punctuality

School attendance has now returned to being statutory. Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life and vital for your child's education - as a lost day can never be repeated. Our school shares the government's determination to raise the levels of pupil attendance and has robust systems in place to monitor attendance and punctuality.

Most of our children attend school regularly and do not present any concerns. However, if your child's attendance dips below 95% or accumulates 5 days (10 sessions) of unauthorised absence, you will be asked to attend an Attendance Panel Meeting in school to explain the reasons for absences further. It is therefore, very important that you contact the office on each day of absence to ensure that the absence is recorded as 'authorised'. Failure to engage with school on improving your child's attendance can result in a fine.

Holiday leave requests during term time will not be granted in line with Government legislation and following Salford Local Authority Policies.

Good punctuality is also very important. The school day starts at staggered times of 8.30am and 8.45am and all children are expected to be in school by 8.55am. Valuable teaching input can be missed and the **whole class** disrupted by a late arrival. To help limit disruption, all late arrivals are taken to class at transition times of 9.15am and 9.30am so not to disturb current learning. **All children who are late will have to wait with their parent outside the main entrance until a member of staff is available to safely escort bubbles to their classroom.**

Early intervention and parental support are key factors in resolving attendance issues. Please continue to support us with this and ensure your child is in school and on time each day. Should you have any difficulty with this please make an appointment to see Miss Hopkins (Attendance Manager) via the school office.

Homework

Homework is important as it shows the children the value that you place on their learning and helps them to consolidate key skills. Thank you to all those parents who support their children in reading every night; learning their spellings/number facts and multiplication tables; completing homework tasks and projects. Any Key Stage 2 child (Years 3-6) who does not complete their weekly homework to an acceptable standard will be required to do so during Friday afternoon Golden Time.

PE kits

All children must come to school wearing a PE kit on their PE day. If a child does not have a PE kit in school it means that they cannot take part in these curriculum sessions - it can be disruptive for the class and also upsetting for the child. If a child regularly does not have a PE kit in school we will ask to meet with parents to discuss this as a concern.

Bikes/scooters on the playground

Please can I remind you of our school's request (School Council) that both adults and children dismount and push bikes/scooters when on the school grounds to avoid any accidents or collisions with other parents and children. I would like to also remind you that school does not accept any responsibility for any bikes/scooters left on the school premises. We strongly suggest that all bikes/scooters are locked securely if left on school premises.

School Fund

School fund is generated by a variety of means. There are fund raising events during the course of each year and we are paid commission by the school photographer and from the sale of school ties, reading folders and PE bags further adds to our income. Through the judicious spending of School Fund we are able to enhance the curriculum for all children by purchasing additional resources, booking visitors to the school and subsidising trips. All requests, from children and staff, for the use of school fund are approved by the Headteacher.

Lost Property

The school acquires a large amount of 'lost property'. All items with names in are returned to their owner and **not** stored in lost property. Therefore, we encourage all parents to ensure that **EVERY** item is clearly labelled with your child's name. If your child has lost an item please speak to the classteacher initially and if this is not within the classroom they will direct you to check with lost property at the school office. If your child brings home an item that is not theirs by mistake, please return this via the classteacher.

Water Bottles and Snacks

All children are encouraged to drink water during the day. The children are able to re-fill their water bottles from safe water points around school. Children may also bring in healthy snacks to have during their break times (both am and pm). We try to encourage good eating habits and have a Healthy Eating Policy that supports this aim. Children in Key Stage 1 and Early Years are provided with fresh fruit daily; any extras are shared with Key Stage 2.

Play Frames

The school has a number of play frames on the school playgrounds to help encourage safe adventurous play. All frames are regularly checked to ensure that they meet safety requirements and are age appropriate. The children are also informed on their safe use and are closely supervised during use. The school does not accept any liability for any accidents that occur when used before or after the school day and without school staff supervision. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO PLAY ON THE PLAY FRAMES BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL.

Should there be any other information that you feel you would like to share with the school or if you have any questions, please contact the school office on 921 1191 – our office team are always happy to help.

*I am looking forward to working with you towards another successful year at Bridgewater Primary School.
Mrs E. Henderson*



General Information



As an 'OUTSTANDING school' we believe there are some core expectations that we should share to ensure all our children achieve their full potential.

Basic Skills

As a member of Bridgewater School we expect all families to undertake the following work at home with their child/children each week:

- Reading with your child every night and bring reading books and records to school each day.
- Complete homework every week.
- Practice handwriting, spelling and key number facts.

Attendance

Please ensure your child is in school every day in order for them to make the most of the OUTSTANDING learning opportunities on offer.

School opens at 8.30am/8.45am and lessons start at 8.55am.

Please report to the main office if you arrive late to school. Children will be taken to their classrooms at 9.15 and 9.30 as not to disrupt learning.

Our identity as an OUTSTANDING school is very important and as such teaching the children to wear the uniform with pride is an important part of this:

Winter Uniform *(September to Easter holidays)*

- Light blue shirt / blouse / polo
- School tie (available from the school office)
- Grey trousers / skirt / pinafore
- Grey v-neck jumper / cardigan
- Black flat shoes – not trainers
- White/grey socks / tights

Jewellery

Jewellery is **not allowed** in school except for watches and stud earrings.

Hair Styles

All children should present with neat and tidy hairstyles for school.

Mobile phones/electrical devices are not permitted in school

A uniform bank is available to support parents with uniform

P.E. Kit

Children take part in P.E. will have to come to school in their PE kit on the day of their lesson:

- White t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers (outdoor) / Black pumps (indoor)
- Dark coloured jogging bottoms / tracksuit may be worn outside in winter.

Should you have any difficulty meeting any of these core expectations please make an appointment to discuss this with your child's class teacher

School Rules

Golden Rules

- We are gentle, we don't hurt others
- We are kind and helpful, we don't hurt anybody's feelings
- We are honest, we don't cover up the truth
- We work hard, we don't waste time
- We listen, we don't interrupt
- We look after property, we don't damage things

The 5 R's

We believe that all great learners share the following attributes – which we call the 5 R's. These are regularly discussed with your child.

- *Resilience,*
- *Resourceful,*
- *Responsible,*
- *Reasoning,*
- *Reflective*

Playground Rules

- We listen to the adults in the playground
- We stand still when the whistle is blown
- We play together and look after each other
- We let other children get on with their own games
- We sort out our problems in a fair way
- We look after the equipment and put it away properly at the end of play

Lunchtime Rules

- We line up quietly
- We walk around sensibly
- We finish what we are eating before we speak
- We remember to say 'please' and 'thank you'
- We put our own rubbish away
- We talk quietly to the people next to us

Rules Around School

- We walk around school sensibly
- We line up quietly
- We remember to say 'please' and 'thank you'
- We say 'excuse me' when an adult is talking

Uniform

- We wear our uniform with pride
- We do not wear jewellery

Always Children

If a child 'always' follows our golden rules they will be invited to a special event at the end of each term.

Pupil Behaviour Management Guide:

Children are taught to manage behaviour situations with the '5 finger rule':

1. Ignore behaviours.
2. Blank behaviours.
3. Ask politely to stop.
4. Warn you will tell.
5. Tell the teacher.



Anti-Bullying Statement:

The children wrote this statement during anti-bullying week:

Bullying is hurting people with words or actions all the time.

If this is happening to you:

TELL, TELL, TELL –

WE ARE A TELLING SCHOOL!

Calendar of Events – Autumn 1 2020

| SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2020 | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------------|
| 7 th | 8 th | 9 th | 10 th | 11 th |
| School Reopens | Dance teacher working with Y1/Y2 | Salford Red Devils Rugby coaching (Y5) | | |
| 14 th | 15 th | 16 th | 17 th | 18 th |
| | Dance teacher working with Y1/Y2 | Salford Red Devils Rugby coaching (Y5) | | Swimming Lessons (4KS) |
| 21 st | 22 nd | 23 rd | 24 th | 25 th |
| Year 2 WOW Day (History) | Dance teacher working with Y1/Y2 | Salford Red Devils Rugby coaching (Y5) | | Swimming Lessons (4KS) |
| 28 th | 29 th | 30 th | 1 st | 2 nd |
| | Dance teacher working with Y1/Y2 | Salford Red Devils Rugby coaching (Y5) | | Swimming Lessons (4KS) |

| OCTOBER 2020 | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 5 th | 6 th | 7 th | 8 th | 9 th |
| Parent phone consultations | | | | |
| | Dance teacher working with Y1/Y2 | Salford Red Devils Rugby coaching (Y5) | | Swimming Lessons (4KS) DT/Computing LEGO Robotics workshops (Y1-Y6) |
| 12 th | 13 th | 14 th | 15 th | 16 th |
| DT/Computing LEGO Robotics workshops (Y1-Y6) | | | | Swimming Lessons (4KS) |
| | Dance teacher working with Y1/Y2 | Salford Red Devils Rugby coaching (Y5) | | |
| 19 th | 20 th | 21 st | 22 nd | 23 rd |
| | Dance teacher working with Y1/Y2 | Salford Red Devils Rugby coaching (Y5) | | Swimming Lessons (4KS) School closes for half term |

School reopens on Monday 2nd November