



BRIDGEWATER
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BRIDGEWATER NEWS

Welcome Back

Autumn Term 1



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PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of another fantastic year at Bridgewater. Enclosed in this newsletter is some important information and details about events that are planned for this half term. We also regularly update the school website www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk and our twitter page [@BridgewaterPS](https://twitter.com/BridgewaterPS) with information and news.

Welcome to Bridgewater

We warmly welcome all our new and returning families to Bridgewater and a few new staff members also:

Mrs Thornley – Upper KS2 (Years 5 and 6) Phase Leader
Mrs Freeney – EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Phase Leader
Mrs Johnson – Reception teacher

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.

You will receive a newsletter from your child's new class teacher introducing themselves and highlighting the learning they will cover this term so you can help support them further at home. Teachers will be available each day at drop off and collection to receive any messages or for a quick catch-up.

Parents can call or email school if you have any questions or queries and a member of the team will endeavour to respond within 24 hrs of your request. You may also visit the school office.

Meet the teacher sessions - please see the calendar for your child's session. Please do try to drop in to see your child's teacher and classroom; it will only last 10 minutes at the end of the day and gives you the opportunity to ask your child's new class teacher any questions you may have. Nursery and Reception have their stay and play sessions this week.

Parent-Teacher consultations will be organised in October (please see the calendar of events) and March. You will receive an End of Year report in July.

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 and they will arrange a convenient time with you. If you wish to discuss your concern further, please contact the school office (after you have spoken with the class teacher) and an appointment can be arranged with a senior member of staff.

Our Senior Leaders are:

Mrs Henderson – Headteacher.
Mr Tien-Rhimes– Deputy Headteacher.
Mr Doherty – Deputy Headteacher.
Mrs Byard - Assistant Headteacher. Lead teacher in Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4).
Mrs Thornley – Lead teacher in Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6).
Miss Lovell - Lead teacher in Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2).
Mrs Freeney – Lead teacher in The Early Years (Nursery and Reception).
Mrs Hill – Director of Business and Operations.

Parents' Forum

Our Parent Forum aims to represent the views of all parents. It facilitates communication between parents/carers and staff and governors. The forum works to provide feedback on provision, offer a parent's perspective on current policy and practice and input into decision making and planning for future provision. It is not a forum to discuss individual/personal issues.

The first meeting will be held on **2nd October at 2.30pm** in the school hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. I hope to see many of you there and please let me know if there is anything you would like to see on the agenda.

A suggestion box is available in the front entrance area for you to add suggestions to be discussed or these can be sent via email to the Bridgewater address.

Social media

We politely ask that parents **do not use social media** to discuss any matters regarding Bridgewater School. Contacting school directly means we can deal promptly with your queries in a positive and constructive manner. The school has no connection with any social media accounts (including the Bridgewater Parents' Facebook page) except our twitter page @BridgewaterPS.

School Development

Over the Summer, the school has undergone a few developments including a new alarm system, internal repairs and painting.

Updating School Systems

We ask that you inform school if your details have changed or if you wish to change the adults you have listed to collect your child. In order to make sure we have your most up to date details, data collection sheets will be available in your child's classroom on the day of the meet the teacher sessions. Please check the information carefully and return the form **only** if there are any changes.

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

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 may 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.

All holiday requests during term time will not be granted in line with Government legislation and following Salford Local Authority Policies. Please see the school website for a copy of our attendance policy
<https://www.bridgewaterprimaryschool.co.uk/information/policies/>

Good punctuality is also very important. The school day starts at 8.40am and all children are expected to be in school by this time (we open the doors at 8.30am to make this a little easier for families). 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 8.55am and 9.10am so not to disturb current learning.

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 junior child (Years 3-6) who does not complete their weekly homework to an acceptable standard will be required to do so during Friday lunchtime supervised by a senior member of staff.

PE kits

All children from Reception to Year 6 require a PE kit in school to participate in physical education (PE). We ask that children come to school wearing their PE kit for the full day on their designated PE day. If a child does not wear their PE kit, it means that they cannot take part in these curriculum sessions - it can also be upsetting for the child. If a child regularly does not wear their PE kit to school on their designated day, we will ask to meet with parents to discuss this as a concern.

Afterschool Clubs

At Bridgewater, we have a number of exciting and enriching afterschool clubs that children can sign up to each half term – selected clubs are free and others have a nominal charge. These letters are sent out each half term via PA Connect. Please note our Autumn 1 clubs are already full. However, please keep an eye out for our Autumn 2 communication, which will be sent before we finish for October half term.

Children's University Update

This year we are delighted to be continuing with our participation in the Children's University Programme. The Children's University encourages children to 'learn outside of the school day' and recognises their commitment to enhancing their own learning. Your child will have received a 'Learning Passport' to use as a record of their additional learning. This passport will be used all the way through school and onto Secondary school if their school is part of the programme. If your child has lost their passport, a replacement may be purchased at the school office at the cost of £2.50 (school had purchased the first passport on your child's behalf). Mr Simons will keep you updated with any information throughout the year.

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 class teacher 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 class teacher.

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 fountains around school. Children may also bring in healthy snacks to have during their break times. We try to encourage good eating habits and have a Healthy Eating Policy that supports this aim. Children in Key Stage 1 and EYFS are provided with fresh fruit daily; any extras are shared with KS2.

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.

Should there be any other information that you feel you would like us to share with the school or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me via the school office.

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

*Mrs E Henderson
Headteacher*

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 and lessons start at 8.40am. A free breakfast club is available from 8am every morning (40 places maximum)

Please report to the main office if you arrive late to school. Children will be taken to their classrooms at 8.55am and 9.10am 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

P.E. Kit

Children take part in PE each week so need their kit in school on their designated PE day. The kit is as follows:

- Plain White t-shirt (no logos)
- Plain Black/Navy shorts (no logos)
- Trainers (outdoor) / Black pumps (indoor)
- Black/Navy jogging bottoms / tracksuit may be worn outside in winter (no logos).

Should you have any difficulty meeting any of these core expectations please make an appointment to see 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'

Uniform

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

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:

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 Term 1 2023

September 2023

4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th
		School reopens		
No afterschool clubs this week				
11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th
PE (Y4)	PE (N, Y1, Y2 & Y5) Y3 Meet the Teacher 3.15pm	PE (Rec & Y3) Y2 Meet the Teacher 3.15pm	PE (Y6) Y4 Meet the Teacher 3.15pm	4DS Swimming Y5 Meet the Teacher 3.15pm
18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd
PE (Y4)	PE (N, Y1, Y2 & Y5)	PE (Rec & Y3) Y1 Meet the Teacher 3.15pm	PE (Y6) Y4 Trip to Grosvenor Museum Y6 Meet the Teacher 3.15pm	4DS Swimming
25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th
PE (Y4)	PE (N, Y1, Y2 & Y5)	PE (Rec & Y3)	PE (Y6) MacMillan Cake Sale 3.15pm	4DS Swimming

October 2023

2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
PE (Y4) Riveting reads workshop for reception parents - 8.40am Parent Forum – 2.30pm	PE (N, Y1, Y2 & Y5)	PE (Rec & Y3)	PE (Y6) National Poetry Day	4DS Swimming
9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th
Y1 – Y6 Lego Robotics Workshop				
PE (Y4) EYFS Parents Evening	PE (N, Y1, Y2 & Y5) Y1/Y2CL/Y3 Parents Evening	PE (Rec & Y3) Y4/Y5/Y6 Parents Evening	PE (Y6) Y3 Class Assembly 9am Y2DG Parents Evening	4DS Swimming
16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th
PE (Y4) 6JW Mayan Workshop	PE (N, Y1, Y2 & Y5) Y3 Trip to Liverpool Museum 6SG Mayan Workshop	PE (Rec & Y3) Flu Immunisations (Rec – Y6)	PE (Y6) Rec/Y1 Early Reading Parent Workshop - 9am	4DS Swimming School closes for half term

School reopens on Monday 30th October 2023