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Friday 20th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Messy Church

Just a reminder that tomorrow we will be holding Messy Church in the school hall tomorrow. I would like to extend an invitation to all our families to join us.

For those of you who are new to the school, this is a craft-based activity session with singing, a bible story and then we finish with a meal for all attendees, child and adult!

It starts at 4pm and we'd love to see as many there as possible.

Year R Welcome Service

A date for your diaries for our new Year R families. We will be taking the children down to the church to familiarise them with the walk and the building itself. We are aiming to arrive at the church at 2.15pm where Rev. Estella will lead a short welcome service for the children and parents are more than welcome to join us. At the end of the service, parents are welcome to collect their children directly from the church, otherwise we will walk them back to school. More information to follow early next week.

Harvest Service

In the Harvest season we give thanks to God for the gifts that he has provided us and encourage our children to reflect on how fortunate they are whilst also considering those who may not be as fortunate.

Having discussed this with the school and Rev. Estella, we have decided that we will be supporting the Canterbury Food Bank and will be seeking donations of items on the list below. Please could these be brought to school on the day of the Harvest Service?

School Photos

The school photographer will be in on Tuesday 8th October for individual and sibling photos. We will send out further details closer to the time.

Autumn Term Dates



Messy Church will return on....

- ❖ Saturday 21st September
- ❖ Saturday 19th October
- ❖ Saturday 16th November

4-6pm Bridge School Hall

Craft activities, singing, stories and a hot dinner!
All Welcome

Donations towards costs appreciated

For more information contact: Rev. Estella Last: 01227 206272

Below is a shopping list of the food we need. These specific items are requested to enable us to make up nutritionally balanced food parcels. Please note, we cannot accept fresh food, razors or alcohol.

Shopping list

Breakfast cereal	Tea Bags	Tomatoes (Tinned)
Whole milk (long life and semi skimmed)	Coffee (small jar)	Disposable nappies/wipes
Pasta (Tinned)	Fruit Juice (Long life)	Baby food
Ham (Tinned)	Fruit squash	Cat/Dog Food
Sweetcorn (Tinned)	Soup (Tinned)	Gents deodorant
Carrots/Peas (Tinned)	Cup-A-Soups	Washing powder and household cleaning items
Corned Beef (Tinned)	Dried rice (500g)	Washing up liquid
Tuna / Fish (Tinned)	Dried pasta (500g)	Shaving foam
Fruit (Tinned)	Pasta sauce	Multi-purpose cleaning spray
Sponge pudding (Tinned)	Baked Beans (Tinned)	Loo cleaner
Custard (Tinned or Carton)	Rice pudding (Tinned)	Cleaning cloths
Smash instant potato or tinned	Pies (Tinned)	Kitchen roll
	Jam	Toilet roll
	Biscuits, plus individually wrapped biscuits	Sanitary items
	High factor sun screen	Toiletries

Items in **bold and red** are urgently required. Please ensure sell-by dates are at least three months ahead.

Why not download the free Food Bank app and get weekly updates of urgent food requirements and other Food Bank news?



Height & Weight Checks for Children in Year R and Year 6

All parents of children in Year R and 6 should have received a letter via ParentMail about this national programme. If you have not then please speak to a member of staff in the office.

School Uniform & Lost Property

Please could parents ensure that school uniform is clearly labelled with their child's name? We have a great many unnamed sweatshirts appearing in lost property (some of which are brand new!) This also applied to PE kits, water bottles and lunchboxes!

In order to stop the lost property building up, we will be displaying it in the main playground each Friday. If you have lost anything, please speak to the office to check the cupboard in the week or come to the playground on Fridays.

Year 6 Residential (Current Year 5 Parents)

Following the Year 5 Meet the Teacher session on Tuesday, I'm aware that some parents are concerned that changing the Year 6 residential to the beginning of the academic year might have an impact on children being able to attend Open Days and Open Evenings for their preferred secondary schools.

The dates we have booked for next year's residential are Monday 28th September to Friday 2nd October.

I understand that it is vitally important that the children move on to the right school for them and I wanted to reassure parents that the reason we chose this particular week was because it did not fall at the same time of the Open Days and Open Evenings of the schools that the children from Bridge School, in the main, attend.

Obviously, we cannot guarantee that secondary schools won't change their dates but if they follow the same pattern as this year:

- **Spires** and **St Anselm's** will have their Open Days and Evenings the week before the residential.
- **Canterbury Academy** will hold their Open Days and Evening the week after the residential.
- **Simon Langton Boys, Simon Langton Girls** and **Barton Court** will have their Open Days and Evenings two weeks after the residential.
- The only local school (that we are aware of) that will hold their Open Days and Evening the week of the residential is **Archbishops**, but they also hold an Open Day on a Saturday.

As I said, we can't guarantee that the secondary schools will follow the same pattern as this year and I certainly would not discourage looking around schools this year in preparation for next year.

Secondary School transition is a stressful time for families and we want to do what we can support you and the children throughout the process. There will be an information session for parents later in the year but, in the meantime, if there is anything that we can do, then please do let us know.

PTA Officers

Finally I'd to welcome our three new PTA officers: Rebecca Morgan (Chair), Hayley Steer (Secretary) and Alan Goggin (Treasurer). Over the next couple of weeks they will be meeting the outgoing officers for handover and I'd like to thank Rob Moon, Megan Shirley and Steph Chapman for all their hard work over the years. The PTA has been an incredible support to the school over the years and this year in particular with their support of the school minibuses, the refurbishment of the school library, the development of the Year 1 courtyard and so many other smaller projects.



James Tibbles
Headteacher

Upcoming Events

Monday 23rd September			4pm: Governor Meeting
Tuesday 24th September			
Wednesday 25th September	First Class Year R Photos (KM Newspaper)		
Thursday 26th September		2.15pm Year R welcome service	Year 4 Swimming
Friday 27th September			

Monday 30th September	Mini Olympics Competition		
Tuesday 1st October			
Wednesday 2nd October	9.30am and 10.45am Harvest Services		
Thursday 3rd October	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Competition		Year 4 Swimming
Friday 4th October			

Monday 7th October			
Tuesday 8th October	School Photographer in (Individual & Sibling)		Year 5/6 Handball Competition
Wednesday 9th October	Year 5 Thanet Science Challenge		
Thursday 10th October			Year 4 Swimming
Friday 11th October	Year 5/6 Able Writers' Day		Road Safety Assemblies

Monday 14th October			
Tuesday 15th October	Tennis Festival		
Wednesday 16th October			
Thursday 17th October	Kent Test Results to Year 6 Parents		Year 4 Swimming
Friday 18th October			 Messy Church on Saturday!

Term Dates (2019-20)

These have now been set and are as follows:

- Term 1:** Wednesday 4th Sept to Friday 18th Oct
- Term 2:** Wednesday 30th Oct to Wednesday 18th Dec
- Term 3:** Monday 6th Jan to Friday 14th Feb
- Term 4:** Monday 24th Feb to Wednesday 1st April
- Term 5:** Thursday 16th April to Friday 22nd May
- Term 6:** Tuesday 2nd June to Wednesday 22nd July

Term Dates (2020-21)

* Five staff training days to be determined

- Term 1:** Tuesday 1st Sept to Friday 23rd Oct
- Term 2:** Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th Dec
- Term 3:** Monday 4th Jan to Friday 12th Feb
- Term 4:** Monday 22nd Feb to Thursday 1st April
- Term 5:** Monday 19th April to Friday 28th May
- Term 6:** Tuesday 7th June to Wednesday 21st July