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Bridge & Patricbourne C.E.P. School

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Friday 6th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to my letter on Wednesday welcoming everyone back to Bridge School I wanted to get some information out to all parents as well as upcoming events and dates for your diary.

Meet the Teacher Sessions

These will be held over the next two weeks and will start at 2.40pm in the classrooms. As long as the weather holds, teachers will meet parents at our new double gates on the playground and then led parents through. Any parents who arrive after 2.40pm will need to come through the school office.

PESE: Kent Test (11+)

On Thursday, all Year 6 children who have been registered will be taking the Kent Test (11+). I cannot stress enough how important it is for the children to be relaxed and at ease on this day. We all know that children perform best when they are secure and confident and, as adults, it is so easy to pass on our own worries and anxieties about the test and its implications. As I mentioned at the Parent Information session, the Kent Test is not a pass/fail test, it is about helping to identify the right school for the right child and I would hate for any child to feel that they have failed if they do not meet the threshold. Thank you for your support in this.

Road Closure

We have been notified that part of Patricbourne Road will be closed for the majority of the day on Friday 13th September. Apparently this will be 'in the general vicinity of the bridge under the A2', I'm sorry I can't be more specific!



Year R Welcome Service

A date for your diaries for our new Year R children. 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.

School Dinners

Just to remind all parents that children in Key Stage 2 are not automatically eligible for Free School Meals. This is obviously a change for those who have children in Year 3 and I wouldn't want any families to unknowingly incur any debt.

School Photos

One final date for you – the school photographer will be in on Tuesday 8th October for individual and sibling photos.

James Tibbles

James Tibbles
Headteacher



Upcoming Events

Monday 9th September			
Tuesday 10th September		2.40pm Meet the Teacher (Year 2)	
Wednesday 11th September			
Thursday 12th September	Kent Test (for Year 6 children)	2.40pm Meet the Teacher (Year 3)	Year 4 Swimming
Friday 13th September			

Monday 16th September	1KC trip to Dover Transport Museum		
Tuesday 17th September	1LA trip to Dover Transport Museum	2.40pm Meet the Teacher (Year 5)	
Wednesday 18th September		2.40pm Meet the Teacher (Year 4)	
Thursday 19th September		2.40pm Meet the Teacher (Year 6)	Year 4 Swimming
Friday 20th September			 Messy Church on Saturday!

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 4 Swimming
Friday 4th October			

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

Home-Learning

At Bridge & Patricxbourne CEP School, we aim to develop an effective partnership between home and school and encourage pupils to link and extend their learning between the two. Following parental consultation it is apparent that, whilst there is broad support for the principle of home-learning, there is wide variation in opinion of its scope and time allocation.

Research carried out by the Education Endowment Fund shows that home-learning at primary level has minimal impact but we recognise that some parents may wish for their children to complete some or all of the home-learning activities detailed below.

Early Years

Learning together is the emphasis for children in Reception. It is an ideal time to lay the foundations for continuing work at home and will be enhanced by exploring a range of activities together. The following are excellent activities:

- Board games to encourage sharing, taking turns and the development of general language and social skills.
- Art and craft activities.
- Helping with everyday activities e.g. visits to the shops, baking (simple weighing), looking at environmental print such as signs.
- Imaginative play including dressing up.
- Oral games e.g. I spy.
- Daily Reading: Children love being read to at home and they will also bring home their reading book to share with you. Discussing the story and the characters and asking questions about the book will help with your child's understanding of language.

Key Stage 1

Daily Reading

Reading on a regular basis is vital when children are in Year 1 and 2. Children may bring their library book home every evening, and the role of the adult is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words i.e. using their phonics knowledge to sound words out, blend and read an unknown word. Just as important is discussing the book to check that your child has understood what they have read.

Termly Key Knowledge & Skills

At the beginning of each term, teachers send home an information leaflet detailing key mathematical and grammatical concepts as well as spellings that the parents could use to support their learning at home. These will also be uploaded to the school website.

Key Stage 2

Reading

Children may read to an adult, with an adult or read to themselves, in the presence of an adult. The story and characters should be talked about and new words discussed.

Termly Key Knowledge & Skills

At the beginning of each term, teachers send home an information leaflet detailing key mathematical and grammatical concepts as well as spellings that the parents could use to support their learning at home. These will also be uploaded to the school website.

Year 6

From Christmas, in preparation for secondary school, Year 6 will have regular English and Maths homework tasks alongside their termly home-learning sheet. These will have clear deadlines and there will be an expectation that the work is completed by all children to a high standard to the timetable set. This work will be completed in designated 'home learning' books to give children experience of looking after their own exercise books for use at home.

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



**Little Lambs
Toddler Group**
Back 5th September!

Every Thursday

**9am-11am (during term time) at
Bridge sports pavilion.**

Suggested donation £1 per child.

For more information call Estella on 01227 206272

