



Christmas date reminders:

- Friday 12th December – 9.30 KS1 performance in main hall-all welcome. Christmas lunch, Christmas jumper day (donation please)
 - Tuesday 16th December – 9.30am KS2 Hansel & Gretal performance. pm Y3 & Y4 Christmas party
 - Wednesday 17th December – Nursery, 0-3 and Y5&6 Christmas parties
 - Thursday 18th December Choir sing at Tesco-11am, Reception, KS1 & Koalas parties
 - Friday 19th December Carol service at St James church 11.15am, pm Gibber theatre company pantomime in school.
- 3.10 Children break up for Christmas**
- Monday 5th January Children return to School.

down. The builders also kindly donated a bike to the Friends of Bridgewater as a raffle prize.

Our Roving Reporters

Our roving reporters who help to write the newsletter.



Y5 Enterprise project

Y5 have been involved in an enterprise project this term with RHWE and virgin money.

They made a range of products and sold them at the Christmas Market in the Grainger Market last Saturday.

They worked really well in their teams, made fantastic original products and sold them all too. Alan Sugar watch out!



Building work

The new extension is well underway and the refurbishment of the older part of the school is almost complete. The whole thing is due to be finished by Easter so fingers crossed we don't get lots of bad weather to slow things



Y6 Journalists

Y6 recently wrote the 'our schools page' in the Chronicle. They found out what it was like being a journalist and had to write interesting articles in just a certain number of words and to a deadline. Each child was then given a copy of

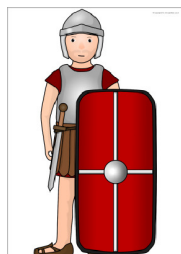
the final newspaper with their two page spread inside.



Y5 & 6 band in a box

Y5 and 6 have learnt how to play the violin this term with Newcastle's music service. **They**

will be performing for their parents this Thursday at 2.45pm in the main hall.



Y4 Sculpture project

Y4 are involved in a sculpture project working with willow artists to make a sculpture which will be put up in the Northumberland National Park next to many remains from

Roman times which is their topic this term. They also recently visited Arbeia, the Roman Fort in South Shields, as did Y3.



Y2 & 3 Able writers and Able maths.

Some Y2 & Y3 children were able to attend a maths challenge day and others a writing day with an author at Broadwood Primary this half term. They were able to join children from other schools and really extend their learning.

Craig Bradley visit



The hilarious poet Craig Bradley spent a day in school as part of the Northern Children's Book Festival. He

visited each class and shared lots of poems, rhymes and stories. He was really funny and he made everyone laugh. He was really hysterical. He taught us a tongue twister it goes like this:

One smart fellow he felt smart,
Two smart fellows he felt smart,
Three smart fellows they felt smart,
And they all felt smart together
Did you do it?

Megan and Shanice y4 sang it.

He taught us how to do funny clap. All you do is put your hand on your head and go la la la la la la la la.

He was hilarious! He made funny rhymes! He was awesome!

WE LOVE CRAIG BRADLEY!

By Megan and Shanice Y4



Raffle tickets for the Friends of Bridgewater Christmas raffle are on sale from the office daily. They are £1 and there are some great prizes.

The raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 16th December.



Some of our 100%

attenders got the chance to go to the Theatre Royal to see the dress rehearsal of the pantomime Snow White. It was a brilliant treat and everyone had a great time.

WEST Schools' Trust

All seven local primary schools have agreed to go ahead and form the West End Schools' Trust (WEST). So ourselves, Broadwood, Canning Street, St Johns, Wingrove, Hawthorn and St Paul's primaries will work very closely together to provide the best education for all our children. The official launch date is 1st February 2015.



Football Glory & basketball tournament.

We have been taking part in a number of sports events this half term and our

football team won one of their matches last Thursday night- yippee!! They were wearing their new strips which were sponsored by Data Supplies thanks to Mr Beechey for organising it.

Happy Retirement!

Miss French will be retiring at Christmas. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her a happy retirement. She will still come in to school to teach French to KS2 one

afternoon per week so we will still see lots of her.

China Visit



Mrs Stoker and I were very lucky to be able to visit

schools in China over the half term holiday. China is top of the education league tables internationally so it was an opportunity to see how they do things. We were surprised by the many similarities as well as the differences – some of the classes had up to 70 children with one teacher! The Chinese teachers wanted to learn from us too and are hoping to visit next year. Our children sent gifts and we brought back things for our children too. The children have really enjoyed learning about China and finding out about what we did and saw on our visit. The world now doesn't seem quite so big.



Beverley Knight

The Sage Gateshead is 10 years old and to celebrate Beverley Knight is

performing and 10 of our 10 year olds have been selected to sing with her and other children on stage next Tuesday night. What an amazing opportunity them and their families!



Visiting the new houses

Each class has been visiting the new housing development and seeing how the houses are being built. The builders all thought our children were

brilliant and I was very proud when I got an email from their boss saying how impressive our children were. People have started to move into the new houses and already we have children starting our school.

Also remember to apply for your Reception place for next year by January 15th 2015 if your child is currently in nursery. You can apply on line at www.newcastle.gov.uk or you can ask at the school office for a paper copy. If you

return this to the office we will send it to the Civic Centre for you. If you need any help with applying please see Donna Blacklock who will be happy to help.



CHRISTMAS DECO JOB IN HALL!

On Friday 5th December all the teachers and club children decorated the hall for Christmas. Firstly, we tied the classes hand made decos onto long string to hang up. Shanice and Demi helped each other tie ribbon onto string. IT WAS HARD NOT TO STEP ON THINGS! Then we helped to decorate the tree that MR TWEEDY put up. We put lights, tinsel, baubles and a wonky star on the top. We had lots of fun!

By Megan and Shanice year 4

Y4 WILLOW MAKING PROJECT

On Tuesday 2nd of December Y4 made things out of willow. Willow is a type of tree and you can get a lot of types of it. We all made either a ring or a star and then we got to decorate them with ribbon and leaves. We got to use the branch cutters and cut the willow. It was really fun. *By Megan and Shanice*



Attendance and Punctuality

Please ensure your child arrives on time every day and if they are poorly you **must** telephone the office on the first day of absence on **2745290** thank you. Children with good attendance next half term will have the chance to win a family pass for the Centre for Life.



Peer massage

The children are really enjoying taking part in peer massage and are finding it really relaxing. This is part of our wellbeing provision for the children and we now have a fabulous sensory room for children to go to chill out and de-stress.

A huge thank you to all our volunteers who help around school we really do appreciate your time.



Can all Y1 and Y2 parents please stand behind the white line at hometime and not crowd around the door so staff can clearly see children are handed over safely. Could parents also not congregate around gates and entrances to avoid congestion at this busy times. Your cooperation is appreciated. Thank you.

Updated policies

This term we have updated a number of policies please ask for a copy from the office or view them on our website.



After school club

In our after school childcare the children have the opportunity to do fun activities, have a snack and there is time to get their homework done too. We are offering free taster sessions and there will be themed nights for children to come to. Children will also be taken on trips out. If you are interested in applying for a place for your child please see Gillian Gibson our Extended Services Manager.



We now have a suggestion box for parents in the main reception area. Please put your comments in the box and Mrs Robson will be in touch.

School Nurse Drop in



The school nurse has a fortnightly drop in session at school every other Wednesday 2.45 to 3.15pm. See Donna Blacklock if you would like an appointment.

She gives advice about **headlice** and is happy to do this at anytime. If we see a child has headlice we will speak to the child's parent immediately to ask them to treat the child. The rest of the class will receive a letter

so parents are aware that there is a problem and check their child's hair. **We can treat children's hair if parents give consent but it is parents' responsibility to ensure their child's hair is treated.**



Medical needs

If your child has a medical need or condition can you let the school office know so it can be recorded on our system, that way all staff who need to know will. A care plan may need to be made with the school nurse and staff may need specialised training. We also need to know any changes that may occur immediately.



All **money** paid into school should either be paid directly to the school office or through the class teacher in a labelled envelope. This prevents any loss or confusion over money paid.



Remember here at Bridgewater we offer outstanding provision from birth. If you would like to find out more please ask Gillian Gibson or ask at the office, we also have space in some older classes so please come and have a look

If you know of any appropriate local business who would like to advertise in our half termly newsletter, for a donation, please contact the school office on

2745290



Remember to make sure we have up to date contact numbers for you in case we have to get in touch in an emergency. We also sent text messages to keep parents informed so it is vital our contact details are up to date.