



BRIDGEWATER NEWSLETTER



October 2014

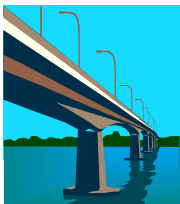


Welcome to the first newsletter of this academic year, the summer holidays seem a long and distant memory and there has been lots going on in school since we started in September. We hope you enjoy reading about all the exciting things that have been happening at Bridgewater and what is planned for the next half term.



Building work

Work is well under way on our new extension and over the next half term you will see the building start to go up. The builders are hoping to have the shell built before Christmas. The refurbishment of the older part of the school is also due to be finished by Christmas. Y2 have just moved in to a newly refurbished classroom and Y1 will move after the half term holiday. There is no change to where the children come in and out of the building though.



Trips galore

A number of classes have been on trips already this year. Y6 visited the bridges across the Tyne as they are learning about our local area of Newcastle and along with Y5 are reading 'Walking with Witches' which is set in Newcastle. Y3 and Y5 have also visited the 'Toby' at Kingston Park linked to their learning about healthy eating. Y1 have been on an Autumn walk and Reception will be visiting the Bear Factory on Friday.

New Roving Reporters



Meet our new reporters who are going to help write the newsletter this year.

New School Council



Our new school council who will be making important decisions about our school



New Buddies & Peer Mentors



Our new buddies and peer mentors will be helping to look after the children at break times.



Harvest

On Thursday 23rd October at 10am Key Stage Two children will be taking part in a Harvest Service at St Margaret's Church. Parents are welcome to join them. We would also welcome donations of food. We will send these donations to the People's Kitchen. Could all donations come in from Tuesday 21st. Thank you.



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 this half term will have the chance to go to the **pantomime at the Theatre Royal** at the end of November.



Clubs

Our clubs are up and running again this year and we have a couple of new ones including reading clubs and a blogging club. If your child is interested in joining a club please see the school office for a form. Next week will be our last swimming club. It will be starting again in the spring. We will be

running a family cookery club after half term on a Wednesday so watch out for the letter.

Trust status

Following the statutory consultation stage Governors will be making a final decision soon about whether or not we form a Trust with a number of local schools. We will let you know their decision when it is made. Remember we are proposing to do this as it would allow us to access additional funding and resources and work with other partners which would benefit our children.



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 after half term we are having a sensory room fitted which children will be able to go to chill out and de-stress. Y4 are taking part in roots of empathy again this year too which develops their ability to show empathy.

Reminder

Parents of nursery children need to apply for a Reception place for their child for September 2015 and Y6 parents also need to apply for a secondary school place by October 31st. 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.



Mrs Ridley and Mrs Jones are now on maternity leave so Y3 and Y4 classes are being taught by Mr Moralee and Mr Mugford. Mrs Davies our choir and drama teacher is also on maternity leave and recently had a little boy. We wish them all the best of luck.



World War 1

Y5 and Y6 are taking part in a topic all about World War 1. They will be taking part in drama activities, looking at objects and tasting food from the past and taking part in a music workshop. At the end of the project the children will do a performance for parents which we will invite you to.

This will coincide with our remembrance service where we will

remember those who died in the wars in this centenary anniversary year.



Friends of Bridgewater are organising a Christmas raffle and have managed to secure some wonderful prizes. If you have anything to donate as a prize please send them in to school before the half term holiday. Raffle tickets will go on sale after half term.



Football team

Our football team are taking part in the Westgate league this year and have already played two matches. They are playing again this Thursday and we wish them

the best of luck.
Ha'way the lads!!



Can all KS1 & 2 parents remember to wait at the class signs on the fence at home time except when it is raining. Only Y1 and 2 parents should come through the new gate, this is to try and stop some of the congestion at this time. 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.

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



After school club

Our after school childcare is proving very popular with our older children. 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 SIMs 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



Mrs Robson and Mrs Stoker will be visiting China next week. We are going to Beijing and Wuhan and will be visiting schools with other Heads and staff from schools in Newcastle. The children are finding out about

China and we will be having a China themed week after half term.



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 excellent 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.

School closes for half term on Thursday 23rd October at 3.10pm and opens again on Monday 3rd November

Diary Dates	
Thursday 23 rd October	10am Harvest Service for KS2 At St Margaret's Break up for half term
Monday 3 rd November	Return to school
Thursday 6 th November	Chinese lunch am KS1 trip to cinema
Friday 7 th November	am KS2 trip to cinema
Monday 10 th November	pm WW1 performance for parents Y5 & 6
Tuesday 12 th November	The author Craig Bradley visiting school
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need day
Friday 21 st November	Parents afternoon
Friday 25 th November	Bike ability Y5
Christmas Dates to follow	