

We have a new **School Council, Roving Reporters, Buddies and Peer Mentors** and they have all started working. All the interested children completed application forms and were selected or elected by their peers. They are to have some training to help them do a good job. Just like real jobs that they will do when they are older.



**In Year 5**, the Hippos, we go swimming every Friday afternoon with the Giraffes at 1:40. We

go in 3 groups in the minibuses. The reason we go is to learn how to swim successfully. The water is only 1 metre deep. Our swimming instructors are Karen, Joe and Graeme. We use swimming goggles and most important the hats, some Hippos are with the Giraffes. The reason for this is because we are put into groups based on our confidence and ability. The people that are confident are with Joe the people that can kind of swim are with Graeme and the rest of the children are with Karen in the small pool. Learning to swim is very hard no matter how hard you try you still have to keep trying. Swimming is lots of FUN!!!!



### **Hippos visit to Hodgkin Park**

On Friday the 29th of September, the Hippos visited Hodgkin Park because in Year 5 we're learning

about the local areas and its history. Some of the things that we saw were: The fountain, sculptures, the play area, Benwell Dene and the designs of the gates. We took some paper and clipboards to sketch the different things that we saw and took lots of photos. Finally when we got back to school we

compared the differences from then to now and wrote about it using comparative adverbs.



By Dhulfiqar

**Excellent news children at Bridgewater did exceptionally well in exams this year and we are ranked in the top 10% of schools in the country for progress. Well done everyone!!!**



A huge **thank you** to everyone who donated money for cancer charities and Jeans for Genes Day we raised £236.56 We have received a

thank you letter from the British Heart Foundation for the £206.55 that we raised in the summer term.



We will be selling poppies after half term and collecting for Children in Need.



### **Harvest donations and Harvest Service**

Please send donations of food to school from next

Wednesday for Harvest, we will be sending it to the People's Kitchen. Our Harvest Service will be at **St Margaret's Church at 10am on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**. Key Stage Two parents are welcome to attend.

**In Y3** in English we have been reading the story 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl and we have done lots of writing about it. We got to think of our own trick to play and acted it out

then we wrote a play script and we used exaggeration to frighten Mrs Twit.

*By Tyler*



### **Build a bear factory**

Reception went to the build a bear factory to find a bear that the children with **good attendance** can take home.

**In year 3** music we've been learning to play



the violins and we know all the strings, they are G, D, A, E and it is lots of fun. With Mrs Sinclair we have been learning to play the ukulele.



*By Robert*

**Science Day** Y5 and Y6 started the year with an amazing Science Day and they had lots of fun experimenting.

### **Holiday fines**

Just a reminder that we need holiday forms completed for any child taking time off during term time. No holidays will be authorised and parents will be fined if their child's absence exceeds 4.5 days (which is 10 sessions or more).

### **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.

### **Specialist Staff**

We have a Speech and Language Therapist, Educational Psychologist and Counsellor who support our staff team to meet the needs of our children. Please ask if you would like more information about this.



### **WEST Schools' Trust**

We are part of the West End Schools' Trust (WEST) with Broadwood, Canning Street, St Johns, Wingrove, Hawthorn and St Paul's Primaries. We work very closely together to provide the best education for all our children.



### **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 and every day they are off on **2745290** thank you.



### **Peer Massage**

Peer massage is part of our wellbeing provision for the children and we 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 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 these busy times. Also could parents please park considerately and safely inside and outside the school grounds. Your cooperation is appreciated. Thank you.**



### 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 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.*



**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 Nurse Drop in



If you would like to see our school nurse please see Donna Blacklock who will book an appointment for you. 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.**

*On Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup> children in Rec to Y4 will receive their flu vaccine. Watch out for the letter which will be coming soon.*

### 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.

***In Harmony in Early Years and Y1.*** You may have seen in the News that we are joining the 'In Harmony' project after half term and children in the early part of the school will work with musicians from the Sage Gateshead and all Y1 children will learn to play an instrument.



***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.***



Our new **Parent Council** have met again this term, if you would like to get involved please see Donna Blacklock.

***Friends of Bridgewater*** fund raising event, 'The Big Challenge' will take place this Friday and we are hoping to raise money for our counselling provision in school. If you would like to donate some money please contact the school office.

Diary Dates	
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Y5 fire safety talks
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Donations of food
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Y5 Heritage walk
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	10am Harvest Service at St Margarets for KS2 3.10 Break up for half term
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Children return to school Friendship week
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Parents afternoon
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Spanish Day
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	am KS2 to Cinema
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	am KS2 to Cinema

# A new school year!

