



BRIDGEWATER NEWSLETTER



May 2019



A huge **thank you** to everyone who helped us collect for the homeless this half term. We will be taking all your donations on Friday 24th May to 'Vinnies'.

Another thank you for all the money you have collected for school in the milk bottles, we now have **over £300** to spend on reading books.

We currently have **526 children** attending Bridgewater. When I first became Head here ten years ago there were only 185 children in the school so it really has grown! We are the largest school in our Trust and in the Autumn Term we are likely to be full in all year groups. We also have a large staff team who are dedicated to providing the best education for our children.



This year Yr5 Hippos are doing the green power challenge, we have been building a car with Newcastle University. They have been helping us build the car to race against other schools. We have also been designing and they will decide whose is the best.

Yr5 Hippos have also been going swimming with a few of the Giraffes, some of us are learning how to just start swimming and also some of us are learning how to do back strokes and the rest are going into the big pool and learning how to swim without stopping.

By Rumaysa and Reece

Wed 22nd May we have the Book people Big Bus in the carpark for parents to visit. Books and other products are very reasonably priced. Please come along.

SATs

This week **Year 6** have been doing their SATs. These are important tests and the children have worked incredibly hard to prepare for them. Lots of children even came to school in the Easter holidays to do extra work to make sure they were ready to show their best. Most children also do tuition after school which helps them to focus on their targets and get better at things they have found tricky. Everyone will be pleased when the SATs are over and we hope that all of Year 6 get the fantastic results that they deserve for having a great attitude to their learning and working their socks off!

Y2 have also been preparing for their SATs next week. They too have been coming to extra classes and came to school during the Easter holidays, we wish them the best of luck for next week.

Y5 will start their preparation for Y6 SATs from next week. We would like them all to come to the computer suite for 8.30 to do online games linked to Maths and English and they will be asked to stay for tuition after school and attend climbing wall club to build their resilience. We appreciate parents' support with this as y6 is a crucial year for the children we like them to be well prepared.

A lot going on!!!

This term so far we have had a number of class assemblies. Y4 have been to seeds for life, visited St James' Church, entered the dance festival and had visits from dental students. Y5 have been involved with the omelette challenge with Excelsior Academy and won the trophy. They have also taken part in bikeability and visited the Victoria tunnels. Nursery have visited Dobbies and some Y3 children have been to the control

pad suite at The Gate. We have also been having Family Learning sessions for Early Years. Our choir were invited to perform at the citizen service at the Civic Centre before Easter.

Phonics tests and times table tests

Year 1 and some Y2 children will be having their phonics screen check week beginning June 10th so all children need to be in school for this. This year the Government are also introducing a times table test for **Y4** pupils which is done online. Y4 children are expected to know all of their times tables up to 12 x12. This will take place in June too. Can all parents help their child prepare for these tests please.

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).



KS1 children and their parents are invited to Sage Gateshead on Tuesday 25th June as part of their 'In Harmony' work to take part in performances as part of WEST's Music Festival. The Y5 samba band and Choir will also be performing. Nursery and Reception parents will be invited in to watch sessions during the last week of In Harmony this year.

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, Moorside 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.



Can I please remind all adults that the school and grounds is a no smoking zone and no one is allowed to smoke in this area. In fact it is illegal and anyone caught can face prosecution. Thank you for your support in this.



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.



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. 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.



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.**



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.

Our new **Parent Council** will meet every half term, if you would like to get involved please see Donna Blacklock/Gillian Gibson.



Website
Our website address is

www.bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk.

Keep up to date with all the latest news as we also have a facebook and twitter link.

Dates for your diary.

Diary Dates	
Monday 20 th May	Enterprise week & KS1 SATs Y6 to STEMtastic event at Centre for Life
Tuesday 21 st May	
Wednesday 22 nd May	am Y5 to Open Lab
Thursday 23 rd May	Y6 Play in a day 2.30 Parents welcome to watch.
Friday 24 th May	Enterprise fair (for children only) Come to school dressed up like you would for the job you want to do when you leave school. Break Up for half term
Monday 3 rd June	Children return to school Y6 Stay Away Mon & Tues
Wednesday 5 th June	am SEND parents' coffee morning Y4 to St James' Church
Thursday 6 th June	Y4 Broxfield Farm and Alnwick Castle
Friday 8 th June	Y1-Y5 heights and weights Reception to Garden Centre
Wb 10 th June	Y1 & Y2 phonics tests Y4 Times table check Reception to Sage
Tuesday 11 th June	Am Y4 Seeds for Life trip EYs photos
Thursday 13 th June	Y6 Lightwater Valley
Monday 17 th June	Y6 Health & Wellbeing day
Tuesday 18 th June	EYs & KS1 Sports day
Wednesday 19 th June	am Hedgehogs to St James KS2 Sports Day
Tuesday 25 th June	Music festival at Sage Gateshead
Wednesday 26 th June	Hedgehogs to St James' Church
Thursday 27 th June	Y4 Northumberland Trip
Monday 1 st July	Choir to Sage Gateshead
Wednesday 3 rd July	Y3-Y5 Beamish wild Y1 to St James' Church
Thursday 4 th July	Y1 zoo trip
Friday 5 th July	Y6 Sandcastle challenge
Tuesday 9 th July	Y4 seeds for life
Wednesday 10 th July	am Y4 St James' Church Parents' afternoon
Thursday 11 th July	Y1 zoo trip Reception assembly
Wednesday 17 th July	am Attendance and Achievement assemblies Nursery trip

Thursday 18 th July	3.30 Y6 Leavers Disco
Friday 19 th July	Y6 Leavers assembly Break up for summer holidays

Watch out for activities throughout half term and the summer holidays. More information to follow.

Please remember if children are signed up for clubs they must attend. If they can not a parent must inform the office well in advance. If they miss two or more sessions they will loose their place.