

December 2022



As we come towards the end of a very busy term we wanted to share with you what has been happening at Bridgewater.



A huge **thank you** to everyone who helped donate money or food this term. We collected for Jeans for Genes Day, Harvest, Poppy day, Children in Need and this Thursday is Christmas jumper day and we will be collecting for Save the Children if you would like to make a donation.

Y6 Our amazing teachers decided to let us **make hot chocolate** since we had to write instructions about something as a part of our English. We all had a blast at making our hot chocolate and some of us made some for our staff in school. We are all very grateful for this experience and hope to make some hot chocolate another time. *By Zaynah Year 6*



NSPCC



Year 6 were visited by the NSPCC to inform us about the dangers on the internet and what to do if you get into trouble while you're on it.

Their lovely mascot is a green speech bubble that encourages children to be safe on the internet and tell their worries to a trusted adult. Their phone number is 0800 1111 if you need to inform anyone about something bad that has happened to you. *Bye – Sara, year 6.*



Year 6 went on a trip through time to find out about Newcastle History. They visited two locations from our class reader "Walking with Witches". They started at the Lit and Phil library, the classes were able to look at all the old books and even climbed up the spiral stair case that lead to the balcony where the characters saw the shadow. After that, they went to the Castle Keep where the both of the staff showed us around the castle. We climbed up the 99 steps to get up to the Great Hall where both classes saw the blood stain on the wall of the cell. Near that there was the Queen or Kings room. Soon after, we went up to the roof that had a whole 360 degree view of the surroundings. Both classes really enjoyed the trip and are hoping to go again!

By Lena Sikorska Leopards.



Y5

Year 5, have been enjoying their science lessons this term using the Thinking Doing Talking science approach. The children have been using talk and discussion as a vehicle for science and have developed their scientific enquiry skills all while having lots of fun carrying out experiments!



Year 5, have thoroughly enjoyed many Newcastle Eagles experiences this term. They have been to STEM workshops

learning about the importance of Science, technology, engineering and mathematics in sport and taken part in lots of active Hoops for Health sessions in the gym with a coach!



The **year 5** children have now formed a whole year group orchestra and played together as an ensemble with all the

different instruments; learning to play as one! They are doing absolutely amazingly and they cannot wait to showcase their talent at the parent performance!

Y4

In Commando Joes we had to pass water safely from one part of the playground to the other, using pipes and lots of communication whilst working in our teams. They also made bridges in Commando Joes.



The children really enjoy Commando Joes.



Y3



Year 3 were visited by dental students. They learned all about the amount of sugar in different foods and how to brush their teeth properly.



They also love playtimes!



In English we read George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl. We got to make our own marvellous medicine using lots of different things. It didn't smell nice and it looked horrible. I wouldn't

drink it!

By Charlie



Year 3 Tigers visited Segedunum and were able to learn lots about the Romans. We got to dress up as a Roman and look around the museum to see all the things Romans used. We even got to hold different items such as shields. There were paintings of the Romans at war. We could also try on helmets and spears. It was a really amazing trip!

By Diamond.

Y2



Year 2 Seals enjoyed going on a walk in their Geography lesson to find human and physical features of the local area.

Y1



Y1 enjoyed a trip to the Discovery Museum where we learned how Newcastle has changed over time.



This term we have been learning to play a cello, violin and viola in our In Harmony lessons.

Early Years

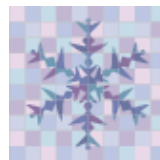


Last Wednesday parents came for a stay and play into the Squirrels and Hedgehog classes. The children were

very proud to show their parents around their classroom. Parents had the opportunity to look through their child's learning journal and were extremely impressed with their child's



nursery journey. It was a lovely morning to meet the parents and to see the children proud and happy to come to nursery.



We will be breaking up for Christmas at 1pm on Friday 23rd December.

Choir Christmas performances



Our choir have been performing at various locations during this festive season and have a number of performances over the next two weeks too. Parents of choir children will be sent letters before each event if they are involved. All children will be singing at our carol concerts at St James' church on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd December.



In Harmony – End of term performances

All year groups will be performing for their parents before the end of term. Separate letters have come out about this. There will be no In Harmony lessons during the last week of term from Monday 19th December and the first week back after Christmas. In Harmony lessons start on Monday 16th January.



Children with good **attendance** this term will go into a raffle draw to have the chance to go to the pantomime at the Theatre Royal. Good luck everyone!! Winners will find out next week. Some children have also won a Christmas gift to visit John Lewis.

Everyone in school will get the chance to watch an online pantomime.

Staffing changes

Miss Darrah has achieved a promotion and will be leaving us at Christmas to take up a senior leader's position at a school in Gateshead. Miss Sowerby will be taking over as class teacher of the Hippos.

Miss Pirie, our English as an Additional Language teacher is also leaving to take up a full time post in South Tyneside and Miss Walton started her maternity leave a couple of weeks ago and the Squirrel class is being taught by Miss Snell.

We wish all of these staff well for the future.

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, Counsellor, Occupational Therapist and School Nurse 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.

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



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. 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. Please ensure you are signed up to class Dojo and let us know about permissions for photographs.



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 excellent provision from birth. If you would like to

find out more please ask Gillian Gibson or ask at the office.



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.

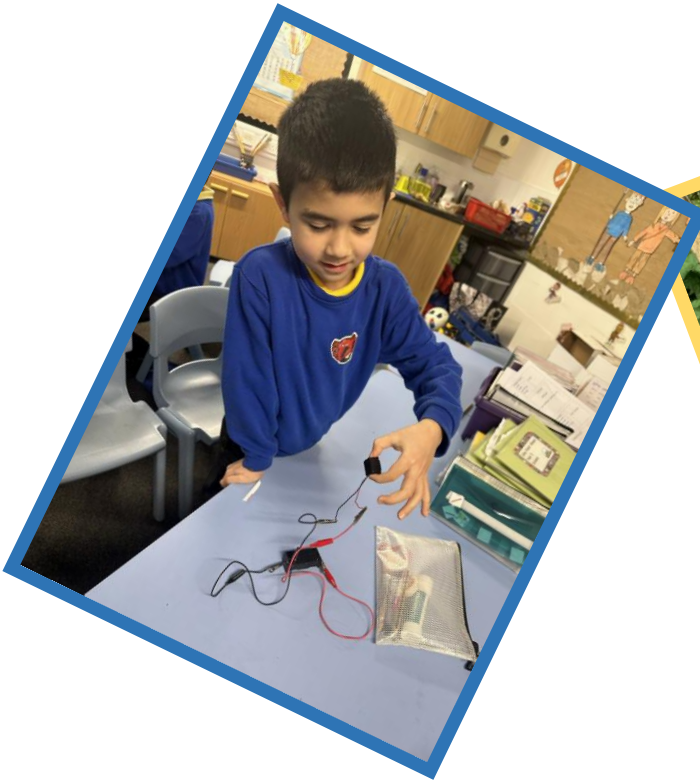
Diary Dates	See Countdown to Christmas
Friday 23 rd December	1pm Break up for Christmas
Monday 9 th January	Children to return to school.

Message about gifts:

As we approach the Christmas holidays we wanted to remind parents that no one expects them to buy presents for staff in school. While we greatly appreciate any presents we receive we don't want parents spending money on us, particularly with times being tough for everyone. Instead staff love to get positive messages and this could be done via dojo, written or even just said in person. So can I encourage parents to do this rather than spend money on gifts this Christmas.



Merry Christmas Everyone!!







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Deputy Head teacher: Mrs J. Stoker

Chair of Governors: Mr N. Shukla

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Countdown to Christmas 2022

Wednesday 30th November Brown Bears to Dobbies to see Santa

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd Dec Turtle's class In 'Harmony' Christmas performance for parents – 2.30pm

Monday 5th December Choir singing at the Grainger Market 10.30am*

Wednesday 7th December Polar Bears to Dobbies to see Santa, choir to Asda at the Metrocentre 9.30am, Amazon at Follingsby Drive at 2.30pm

Thursday 8th December Christmas Jumper Day – any donations will be sent to Save the Children – if anyone has pre-loved Christmas jumpers to pass on please send them to school by Monday 5th December

Monday 12th December pm Y3 In Harmony performances for parents in hall (letter to follow).

Tuesday 13th December pm Y6 In Harmony performance for parents in Gym (letter to follow).

Wednesday 14th December 9.30 Nativity performance for Polar Bear parents only, choir to Addison Court*, pm Y5 In Harmony performance for parents in Gym (letter to follow).

Tues 13th, Thurs 15th and Fri 16th December 0-3 to Dobbies to see Santa.

Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th December 2.30pm Y1 Pandas In Harmony Christmas performance for parents.

Thursday 15th December 9.30 nativity performance for Brown Bear parents only.

Friday 16th December Christmas lunch, pm Y2 and Y4 In Harmony performances for parents (letter to follow)

Early Years In Harmony open sessions during wb 12th December (letter to follow).

Monday 19th December No In Harmony this week, am reindeer visit, 10am Choir singing at Tesco Kingston Park*, Nursery, Koalas & Reception Christmas parties.

Tuesday 20th December 10am Choir singing at Beachcroft solicitors, 11am Welford day centre*

2pm Attendance prize winners to see Cinderella at the Theatre Royal (prize winners will be notified the week before). pm Y5 and Y6 Christmas parties.

Wednesday 21st December 0-3, Y3 and Y4 Christmas parties.

Thursday 22nd December 10am half the school to St James' Church for carol service, Y1 and Y2 Christmas parties.

Friday 23rd December 10am other half of school to St James' Church for carol service. **1pm Children to be collected from school – Break up for Christmas**

Monday 9th January Return to school

If anyone needs support towards Christmas please contact Gillian Gibson on the school number. All children receiving Free School Meals will receive £20 vouchers for each week of the Christmas holidays

- Choir children chosen for each event will receive a separate letter.

Best wishes

Mrs Robson

Headteacher

