



Bridstow CE Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2019

Diary Dates

September

- **Thursday 12th**
Timetable Rock Stars Launch for Otter and Badger pupils
- **Friday 27th**
Parents invited to Celebration Assembly at 9.15am

October

- **Date TBC** for Harvest Service
- **Thursday 24th**
Last day for half term

November

- **Monday 4th**
Return to school
- **Thursday 14th**
Individual and family photos
- **Thursday 21st**
Nasal Flu Immunisation YR – Y6 pupils
Letter to follow

Welcome Back!

A warm welcome to everyone especially to our new children and families who have joined us this year. We are very impressed with how well our children (old and new) have settled into the new term already – only 4 days in! This newsletter is jam-packed with important information this week. Please take the time to read every section.

PE Kits every Wednesday

We have decided, in order to get the most from PE lessons on Wednesdays, that all children should now wear their PE kit into school on Wednesdays for the day. This will minimise the changing time for children before lessons and give them the most time with Adriano. For reference, our PE kit is as follows:

Black shorts/skorts

White t-shirt

Grey, black, or navy tracksuit or jogging bottoms – please try to avoid large logos and bright colours

School sweatshirt (or plain navy or black sweatshirt)

Outdoor trainers

Indoor daps/pumps or trainers (these are in addition to the above and should be kept in school)

This will start from Wednesday 11th September onwards.

Clubs this term

A range of after school clubs have been arranged for this term. A separate letter will be coming out with details and how to sign up for clubs. All clubs are scheduled to start from the week **beginning Monday 16th September** and will continue until **Friday 13th December**.

Attendance Policy

Our school procedures are below (further detail can be found in our Attendance Policy on our website):

1. **Reporting absence** – please notify the school every day if your child is absent. This can be done in person, by telephone (you can use the answer phone out of hours), via email to the school office (admin@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk) or in a written note to the school office or via your child's class teacher.
2. **First day calling** – we will contact parents/carers on the morning of first absence if we have not received a reason for absence.
3. **Holiday requests** – all holiday requests will be unauthorised unless your request is deemed to be for 'exceptional circumstances'. Should the total of unauthorised absences reach 10 sessions (5 days) over any academic year, the school will refer your case to the Local Authority. This may result in a fine.

Proud to be a member of the:



www.bridstow-school.co.uk
admin@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk

Find us on

"Bridstow CE Primary School"

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Naming Clothes

Please can you check and make sure that ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING and footwear that come into school on or with your child are named. This not only includes all items of school uniform, particularly sweatshirts and cardigans but also all PE/sportswear and outdoor learning day clothing (again, particularly sweatshirts, hoodies, jumpers, tops). We always have quite large numbers of unnamed clothing in school especially sweatshirts and it is impossible for us to know who these items belong to. The best labelling is sewn-in name tags but we realise how time-consuming this is so there are sticky and iron on labels which can work quite well if they are replaced when they start to come off but even initials in a permanent marker on the clothing labels can help a lot. We will write initials on labels in clothes if they have no names and we definitely know who they belong to. Your cooperation in this will be extremely helpful and save a lot of staff time in trying to match unnamed clothing up with children.

Toys from Home in School

Please can you help us by making sure that children leave toys at home unless they have permission from a teacher to bring it in for a specific reason such as 'show and tell' or similar. Unfortunately, toys from home can get lost, broken and can lead to rivalry and jealousy on occasion.

Timetable Rock Stars Launch!

We are pleased to announce that Key Stage 2 (Otter and Badger Classes) will be moving from using Rainbow Maths to an online times table practice and learning site called Times Table Rock Stars (or TTRS for short!). In order to get the most out of the change and to inspire our children to really want to learn their times tables we will be running a launch day for Otter and Badger classes only. On **Thursday 12th September** we are asking for all Otter and Badger children (and their teachers!) to dress up as Rock Stars. Throughout the day there will be a number of fun sessions related to timetables and the new online platform ready to implement children accessing the site on a daily basis in school (and outside of school if they wish!). More specific details of how the system works at home will follow after the launch day.

Parking

As you already know, Bridstow School parking – particularly in the morning – is very congested. To help alleviate the problem, we use a number of approaches. We ask for your support in these to help the overall congestion:

1. Staff will endeavour to either park on the field (when weather permits) or use the less easy to access bays. This frees up more of the easy to access parking bays for more efficient dropping off and picking up.
2. Please can parents/carers only park on the one side of the road outside of the school. We have had a number of near misses and at least one accident in the past due to the bottle-neck created by parents/carers parking on both sides of the road.
3. Please try to drop off and leave quickly in the morning (from 8.40am onwards) whenever possible. This will free up more spaces in the car park to enable other parents/carers to do the same. A member of staff is always on duty in the playground.

4. Please do not park in the allocated mini bus bay. This is left clear for the school mini bus AND for any delivery vans or emergencies etc that may have to access the site. Blocking it can cause additional congestion.
5. Please keep to **below 5 mph** in the car park and stay on the left when entering or exiting the main gate into the carpark.

Mini Bus Update

Over the Summer break our shared mini bus has had further work done to it. Special thanks goes to GKC Motors in Ross-on-Wye for their incredible kindness and generosity for all the work they have done making the mini bus look and operate as well as it can. We now have tinted windows throughout the back of the bus to help to ensure that the children remain cooler on hot days.

The school would also like to pass on its gratitude for the generous donations received from a number of local companies (some of which are owned by parents at Bristow). These include:

GKC Motors

Lexall Heating Services

AS Window Cleaning

Orles Barn – Hotel & Restaurant

JP Produce Ltd

Wye River Cruises

The Co-Op Supermarket

Albion Computers

The Sign Shop

Final designs are currently being approved for the lettering and school/business logos on the mini bus so that the mini bus looks the part!

We are also hoping, with enough parent/carer support, to be able to start a pick up and drop off service for Bridstow children. This will involve a small donation to cover running costs. We will be sending out a short online survey to all parents about this in the next week to gauge whether this will be a viable venture. Please look out on email, text and Facebook.

School Times

In consultation with the school governors, it has been decided that we will synchronise the start and finish times of both schools. Therefore, starting from the week after half-term, **Monday 4th November**, Bridstow's start and finish times will be as follows:

Gate opens: 8.40am

School to start at 8.50am

School to finish at 3.05pm

School Money – Thank you

Mrs Naylor would like to pass on her thanks and gratitude to all existing and new parents for supporting and using our cashless payment system 'School Money'. This year we will be extending this from lunches, uniform and trips to include after school clubs. Do not panic, we will communicate details about this before we start.

Where is Mr Brearey?

Mr Brearey, the executive Headteacher, will be in school regularly each week. To help you, his core Bridstow times are:

Mondays – Morning or Afternoon on a fortnightly basis

Wednesdays – All day

Fridays – Morning

