



Bridstow CE Primary School Newsletter

Friday 9th October 2020

Diary Dates

October

- **Tuesday 20th**
Whole School
Individual Photos
- **Mon 26th to Fri 30th**
HALF TERM
- **Saturday 31st**
Deadline for Y6
high school
applications

November

- **Monday 2nd**
All children back for
2nd half of Autumn
term
- **Week of 16-20th**
Parent/teacher
Zoom video
consultations
- **Monday 23rd**
Nasal Flu spray
vaccinations –
whole school

Our Value for
October is:
Friendship

Video plans

Trying to keep parents and carers involved in our school life is quite a challenge for us at the moment! Not only can we not invite anyone in to share in our school assemblies – we cannot even have assemblies at all so that we avoid mixing ‘bubbles’. However, we are doing our best to provide photos on Facebook so you get a taste of life in classes.

We are not able to hold a Harvest Festival this year, but we are planning on making a short video of the different classes performing harvest songs and poems. As government guidelines do not allow us to sing in the building, we will be practising and filming songs outdoors – this will be quite a novel experience.

Looking further ahead, we are making plans to make a similar video for a lower school Nativity later in the term – let’s face it, no primary school year would be complete without a Nativity in some form!

‘New’ iPads

Thanks to a generous donation from a parent and funding from the PTFA we have been able to buy an extra 11 ‘legacy’ iPads. These will boost our small school stock of iPads meaning that we will have enough iPads for two classes to use devices at the same time, rather than having to share them which has been the case up until now.

Goodbye Miss Rice

Next week we will be saying goodbye to former pupil and teaching assistant Miss Rice who has been working at this school for the last 9 years. Miss Rice, who also runs Breakfast Club, is moving out of the area to a new job. We wish her all the very best.

Breakfast Club will now be run by Miss Harding (Teaching Assistant in Otter Class) on Mondays to Thursdays and by Mrs Davies (Lunchtime Supervisor) on Fridays.

Parent/teacher Zoom video consultations

We will be holding Zoom consultations on specific dates and times during the week beginning November 16th instead of face-to-face meetings so that you can meet with your child’s teacher to discuss how your child is getting on so far this year. The meetings will be strictly limited to 10 minutes and will be booked in advance using an online booking system. We will let you know the details of how to book these in the near future.

One-way system in the mornings

Please be aware that some parents are not correctly using the one-way system in the mornings when dropping off. We ask that ALL parents/carers and children, regardless of where they park, use the perimeter path that goes down to the school beside the playground. Some parents are choosing to send their children down through the car park (sometimes unsupervised) instead. This is potentially dangerous and not recommended as part of our Covid-secure risk assessments. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

School Minibus

We are very pleased with what our shared school minibus brings to our school. It has meant that many families can get to school easily and efficiently in the mornings. It also means that local trips and events can be easily attended with the minimum of additional cost.

Last year, we had a number of local businesses agree to sponsor the vehicle. The sponsorship went towards covering the costs of insurance, road tax, minor repairs and some running costs. This year, we are asking the same again of any local businesses that wish to sponsor the minibus. We are asking for between £100-£500 (or more if you wish) per business. In return, each business will receive a dedicated advertising space on the minibus and regular coverage in local press and the local area when the minibus is 'out and about'. Should you be interested in continuing or starting new sponsorship, please contact Mr Brearey directly on head@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk and he will give you all the information needed.

Outdoor clothing

As the weather becomes colder and wetter please can children come to school with suitable clothing. All children should come with a coat every day so that they can play outside even when there is a drizzle or light rain. Please also bear in mind that we need to keep classrooms well-ventilated even in colder weather which means that vests and sweatshirts will be necessary even indoors.

For designated class outdoor learning days it is really important that all children come to school wearing suitable clothes for possible muddy and wet conditions – this includes a change of footwear and wellies or similar outdoor footwear.

Class outdoor learning days are:

- Hedgehog Class - Mondays
- Squirrel Class – Fridays
- Otter Class - Tuesdays
- Badger Class – Thursdays

Poetry Zoom sessions in classes

All classes will be having a short Zoom workshop with poet Kate Williams next week. The theme is 'dragons' – we are looking forward to 'meeting' Kate for these sessions. To see some of her work visit <https://poemsforfun.wordpress.com/>

Tree planting plans

We are excited to announce that we have been successful in an application we made to the Woodland Trust for a mixed tree planting pack of 135 young trees! We are planning on planting at the top end of the school field this winter/early spring. Fourteen years ago, the beautiful small copse of trees that the children love the chance to play in, was planted by the then Year 5/6 pupils. We are lucky enough to have an extremely large field for the number of pupils in our school with more than enough space for both sports and wildlife areas. We will be asking for as many people as possible to volunteer to plant these next March.



The existing small copse planted 14 years ago