



Bridstow CE Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 17th November 2016

Diary Dates

- **Friday 18th November**
Children in Need Day
- **Friday 25th November**
Celebration Assembly at **2.30pm**
- **Tuesday 29th November**
Open Morning and Craft Morning 9.15am-11.45am
Open Evening 5.30pm-7pm

This month's value is

Compassion

**DRAMA CLUB
EXTRA SESSION
TUESDAY 13th
DECEMBER**

*in lieu of missed
session 8/11*

*The session missed
on 18/10 will be
credited in the
Spring Term*

Children in Need Day

As advised earlier this week, we will be participating in 'Children in Need' tomorrow. To take part a donation can be made for your child to wear non uniform. Other events will take place during the morning for the children. These will include buying cakes, Pudsey biscuits and chocolates as well as a few activities. Please send your child in with some extra money if you would like them to participate. From 3pm you are invited to come into the hall for a 'cuppa and cake' to help raise further funds for this very worthy cause.

School Grounds and Garden Update

If you have been at school recently you will have noticed the clearance of large shrubs and other plants in the bank between the classrooms and the playground – it is very light and open now. A big thank you goes out to all the parents/carers, children and staff who turned out to help with this on Saturday morning.

The next phase will be the removal of the metal mesh fence that divides the playground from the planting area – this will be replaced with a lower wooden fence. The planting areas will be rebuilt and rejuvenated using timbers and some new topsoil as well as eventually new plants and planting zones. The design and plant expertise, as well as most of the plants themselves and much else will be part of our ongoing partnership with Ross Garden Centre and their generous support for our school.

New 'Pupil Attendance' Policy

We have recently updated the school's attendance policy for our children. A copy of the full policy can be found on our school website, but it is important to make you aware of some updates to ensure that we are in-line with government protocols:

1. **Reporting Absence** – All parents/carers are asked to notify school on each day of absence, and are encouraged to keep school informed about re-attendance for the period of the absence. This can be done in person, by telephone or in a written note to the school office or via the child's class teacher.
2. **First Day Calling** – We call parents/ carers on the morning of first absence if we have not received a reason for absence.
3. **Monitoring Attendance** – The Head will monitor school attendance on a regular basis. He will ensure that attendance figures are in line with school targets set with the Education Welfare Officer.
4. **Authorised Holiday** – It is unlikely that the school will be able to authorise any amount of holiday taken during the school term. However, please inform the school should you be planning to take your children out of school for any period of time.
5. **Unauthorised Leave** – If this is taken after the school has refused authorisation and reaches 5 days or more within an academic year, the Local Authority will be notified who may issue a penalty notice per parent of £60.

Thank you in advance for helping to support good attendance in school. Our attendance last year was over 96% - in line with National Averages.

Please turn over

Proud to be a member of the:



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

Find us on  ["Bridstow CE Primary School"](https://www.facebook.com/BridstowCEPrimarySchool)

**NEWSLETTERS &
DIARY DATES CAN BE
FOUND ON THE
WEBSITE**

**See also separate list
for Autumn Term
dates**

**LAST REMINDER
FOR PHOTO
ORDERS**

**RETURN TO
SCHOOL BY
MONDAY 21/11
MORNING**

Can You Help?

We are sending a 'Parent Skills Audit' out with this newsletter asking for anyone with gardening/landscaping/building skills and/or painting/decorating skills. If you are prepared to use these skills occasionally for the good of the school, please fill in the form and send it back into us. There are a number of projects planned for both outside and inside the school building that will be taking place over the next year or so which can only happen if we tap into the goodwill, expertise and help of our school community.

Class 1 Start of Day

From Monday 21st November, Class 1 children will be starting their day in the same way as all the other children. Parents/Carers can leave Class 1 children in the playground where they will play until the bell goes at 8.55am. The children will then line up in Year groups when their teacher will meet them before leading into school. Parents/Carers may, of course, stay with their children on the playground if they wish until 8.55am when the bell goes and the gate is closed.

Christmas Crafts Morning

If you would like to offer help in school on Tuesday 29th November with our Christmas Crafts morning please could you send a brief email to admin@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk. During the morning (9.15am – 11.45am), pupils in all classes will be making gifts and decorations which will be sold at the PTFA Christmas Fair on Friday of the following week.

Please note that if you do offer help, you may not necessarily be able to work in your own child's class as we will need help in all classes so adults will need to be distributed fairly evenly through the school.

Open Morning & Evening

This will also take place on Tuesday 29th November. The morning session will run from 9.15am – 11.45am with the evening session from 5.30pm – 7pm. We look forward to seeing you if you would like to come in.

Christmas Lunch

This will take place on Tuesday 13th December. As usual, the PTFA will be helping to serve the food and take meals to the tables etc. If you would like to help with this please let a member of the PTFA or the school know. NB A separate lunch order form will be sent out nearer the date.

Digital Parenting Magazine

We are sending a copy of the latest 'Digital Parenting Magazine' out with this newsletter. It is a magazine designed to help families enjoy the exciting opportunities afforded by computers, 'phones, tablets and other digital devices safely and responsibly. Please take time to look through it as it contains a lot of very useful and interesting information.
