



# Bridstow CE Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018

## Diary Dates

### October

- **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Nasal Flu  
Immunisation  
YR – Y5 pupils  
Letter to follow  
next week

- **Friday 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Harvest Service  
in Church at  
9.30am

- **Friday 26<sup>th</sup>**  
Last day for half  
term

### November

- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Return to  
school
- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Individual and  
family photos

Our value in  
October is  
Happiness

## Welcome Back!

A belated but 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.

## Class Names

Our classes have been renamed this term in an effort to give each class more of an identity. Please see the table below for details of your child's class name.

Former name	New name (September 2018)
Class 1	Hedgehog Class 
Class 2	Squirrel Class 
Class 3	Otter Class 
Class 4	Badger Class 

## Whole School Attendance

As part of a whole school drive to improve the overall attendance of the school, the newsletter will feature an overview of the whole school attendance (to date) and a breakdown by for class.

**Whole school attendance target this year: 96%**

Last year (2017-2018) we achieved 94.8%

**Whole school** (up to and including 26/9/18) **94.55%**

**Class Attendance** (up to and including 26/9/18)

Hedgehog Class: 97.33 %	Otter Class 93.55%
Squirrel Class: 94.38 %	Badger Class: 94.74%

**Congratulations to Hedgehog Class for the best attendance of the year to date**

Proud to be a member of the:



 [www.bridstow-school.co.uk](http://www.bridstow-school.co.uk)  
 [admin@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk)

Find us on   
"Bridstow CE Primary School"

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## 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](mailto: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.

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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.

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## Toys from Home in School

Recently, a number of children have started to bring toys into school from home. 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. We are reminding the children that all toys including the soft squishy toys that have recently become popular should be left at home for these reasons.

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## Summer Charity Shop

At the end of the Summer term and into the beginning of the Summer holidays, another large sum of money was raised for the school's outdoor learning fund through the fantastic charity shop in Ross run by Vicki Page and Iris Price. Vicki, who is a Teaching Assistant here at Bridstow, has had her 2 sons (now grown-up) come through this school and currently has a grandchild here! She has always been a staunch supporter of the school and we feel that it is right for us to give her a big THANK YOU for once again organising this for us. The total raised from the shop this time was **£1750**. Altogether, if we include all the monies raised through Vicki's various charity activities just for this school over the last 2 years including the shop, charity lunches and raffles, she has been responsible for raising **over £4000!** What a massive difference this money will make and

is already making for the school. The new EYFS/KS1 area wooden play equipment and sandpits due to arrive soon are a small part of the money raised.

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## Parking

As you may already know, Bridstow School was oversubscribed for Reception places for this academic year and we took the decision to have a sole Reception class of 22 children this year (the only year we will be able to do this!). As a result, parking – particularly in the morning – is getting very congested. To help alleviate the problem, we are trialling 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 will free 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 one side of the road outside of the school. We had a serious accident this week where a tractor and trailer could not fit through the bottle neck created by parents/carers parking on both sides of the road.
  3. Please try and 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 minibus bay. This is left clear for the school minibus 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.
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## Calling for all Old Wellies

We will be continuing with our focus on outdoor learning in all classes this academic year. As part of this, we ask that parents donate any part-worn or good condition wellington boots for use on these days for children that have either forgotten their boots or for those that do not have any. Please pass donations to the school office or through your child's class teacher.

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## Yoghurt Tubes

Please can we ask that you do not send yoghurt tubes in with packed lunches. Unfortunately, the children find it difficult/impossible to open these and when/if they are open they often lead to messy clothes due to squeezing them – often not on the child whose yoghurt tube it is. Thanks for your cooperation on this.

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