



Bridstow CE Primary School Newsletter

16th December 2021

Diary Dates

DECEMBER

- Thursday 16th

Last Day of term

Early finish 2pm

- Friday 17th

Day in Lieu for
Queen's Platinum
Jubilee in June 22

JANUARY

- Wednesday 5th

Spring Term begins
– normal times

Our Value for
December is:
HAPPINESS

Wishing you a Merry Christmas

Following a wonderful and magical visit to Clearwell Caves earlier this week and a great Christmas dinner on Tuesday, I write with only a very short time left before the end of term. I would like to start by thanking every child and family for their support and effort this term in everything we have done. I would also like to wish our whole community a very happy and restful Christmas break.

We hope you are all looking forward to our Hedgehog and Squirrel class Nativity that, we hope, will be with you before the end of this term – or just after. This will be released on our Facebook page and via email to all Hedgehog and Squirrel Class families.

End of an Era...

I am sure it will come as a surprise to hear that, after 15 years of service (and a total of 25 years in teaching), Mr Evans will be moving on to 'new pastures'. Mr Evans has secured a new and exciting role in the automotive industry and starts in mid-January. During his time teaching at Bridstow, Mr Evans also acted as Deputy Headteacher for a time some years ago. He has also arranged all the inter-school sport events and run and organised our annual Sports Days.

I know you will join the rest of the staff in wishing Mr Evans all the very best in his new role.

From the third week in January (17th January) onwards, Miss Owen will be the full-time teacher of Otter Class. This will be a permanent arrangement.

Parent Consultation Feedback

Thank you to all the families who have already taken the few minutes to feedback about parent consultations a number of weeks ago. Below is a brief summary of responses and our plans for future actions based upon your feedback:

- We had an equal response from all 4 classes across the school.
- The Reservio booking system had an average rating of 5 Stars!
- It was also commented how easy it was to use and that a reminder email was also sent.
- You rated Zoom as a means of Face to Face meeting as 4.33 Stars (out of 5) and 5 stars in terms of finding out about how your child was getting on in class.
- One area that was identified, was not having the ability to view children's work in their books. We are looking into means to enable this to happen more effectively in the future.

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Recent Funding

This term we have had several fundraising events. We thank you for your support in sending in donations as follows:

Poppy Appeal £126.47 Children in Need £104.50 Save the Children £65.70

Minibus Funding

We are in the process of fundraising for our school minibus again for this academic year. As you know, Bridstow School benefit from being able to collect and drop-off a number of children every day in and around Ross-on-Wye. We also benefit from the use of the bus for local school trips – dramatically reducing overall costs and making local trips more achievable on a regular basis.

We do our best to make it affordable and accessible for all, but our annual overheads (driving, petrol, insurance, tax and a little maintenance – thanks to GKC!) do add up. If you would like to ‘sponsor’ the bus or just make a donation to its upkeep, please contact Mr Brearey directly on head@bridstow.hereford.sch.uk and he will provide you with full details of ways that you can support.

Covid 19 Reminder – check current guidelines

Please also see the following extract from the recent Herefordshire Council Covid 19 letter emailed to parents on 15th November.

As parents, please continue to:

- Remain aware of any additional measures we may have in place and support our requests to maintain social distancing and wear face coverings when appropriate.
 - Stay at home and **get a PCR test** if you, or a household member, have a new continuous cough, high temperature or loss of smell or taste. To book your PCR test, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or phone 119.
 - **Contacts of cases outside the home should also follow the advice to get a PCR test. As we know that household transmission is extremely common, we are advising household contacts of cases to not go to school and remain at home until they receive a negative PCR test, and then to complete daily LFD tests for 7 days**
 - Take part in lateral flow testing 2 times per week if you are a parent or are a secondary school or college student. **To order your tests to be delivered to your home or find your nearest test site, please visit:** <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>
 - Let your school know as soon as possible if you have a positive test result, either on a lateral flow or PCR test.
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