

# <u>Bridestowe Primary School – With Respect and Ambition We Flourish Together</u> <u>17/09/2021</u>

#### Welcome back

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome the children back to school over the last 10 days. All the children have returned with smiling faces, kind words and excited for learning. We have welcomed many new faces to our school, not only our 13 new EYFS children but friends in other year groups too. The way these children have been welcomed by their peers has been nothing short of brilliant.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the school staff, teachers, TAs, Mr Friend and Mrs Lowden who have worked tirelessly over the summer and into the new term to ensure the school was ready to welcome the children back. Classrooms have been decluttered, cleaned, painted and reorganised to make them purposeful and enjoyable learning environments. Covid risk assessments, administration tasks and digital platforms also have taken a large percentage of adult time.

Thanks also to FoBS who supported the school with the new Forest School fence and the soon to be completed sensory garden.

As school covid restrictions start to ease, we are looking forward to returning to some of our normal school practices including inviting parents in – look out for more details.

## **Covid Procedures in School**

Covid safety remains a high priority in school and we continue to follow preventative measures as led by HM Government guidance.

- If your child displays symptoms of Covid 19, they should not attend school.
  - Book a PCR Covid test at a local testing facility.
  - Inform school at your earliest convenience.
  - Remain isolated at home until you they received a negative test result or the end of the isolation period.
- If your child has been identified as a close contact of a positive covid case, you should book a PCR test as soon as possible.
  - o They do not need to isolate and can continue to attend school.
- All children and adults on site will follow enhanced hygiene procedures
  - Regular hand washing
  - Use of hand sanitiser
  - o Catch it, bin it, kill it routines
- Visitors to school should wear a face mask unless medically exempt.
- Children or adults who start to display symptoms whilst at school will be placed into the isolation room awaiting collection.
- Enhanced cleaning procedures of regularly touched items.

Our Covid risk assessment and Outbreak contingency plan can be found on our website.

## **School Website**

We are pleased to be launching a new school website early next week. We hope that you find the new website refreshing and easy to navigate.

## **Subject Specialist Teaching**

The Multi Academy Trust has negotiated on our behalf specialist teachers in PE and Modern Foreign Languages (French). Mr Pugh will be joining us for PE on a Tuesday morning with Madame Jordan joining us on Thursday afternoons.

Mr Pugh and Madame Jordan are able to provide bespoke lessons and specialist expertise to our school whilst supporting our teachers' development.

We have exciting plans to link with specialist teachers at other Trust Primary schools and Okehampton College for Design and Technology and Computing workshops in the near future.



## **Trips and Visits**

With restrictions easing we are now able to re-start our curriculum enrichment programme of trips and visits. Next week we will be visited by author and storyteller Clive Pig as he recreates historical characters through drama and storytelling. Teachers are working on plans for curriculum trips and our annual trip to the theatre.

# **Devon Wildlife Trust Partnership**

We are excited to share a new partnership with the Devon Wildlife Trust. The DWT will be delivering workshops and projects with our children on rewilding, environmental issues and outdoor education. Look out for more details soon.

## **Snowy Owls News**

The Snowy Owls have been busy exploring their ambitions and how we should never let anything stand in the way of us flourishing. They have read about inspiring role models who

have achieved their dreams despite having a disability. The Snowy Owls have made an exciting start to their Romans project, enjoyed testing cars on a ramp in Science, and determining whether they have conducted a fair test.

#### **Free School Meals**

A reminder for families to check their eligibility for Free School Meals. Information was sent to parents earlier this week, and details can be found on our website HERE

#### **Dates**

## September 2021

24<sup>th</sup> – Clive Pig Drama and Storytelling

#### October

TBC - Harvest Festival

WB 25<sup>th</sup> – Half term

## **November**

1st – Pupils return

11th - Remembrance service in Church yard

## December

TBC – Theatre trip – KS2

TBC - Carol singing

TBC - Christmas Play

WB 20<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Break

Mr A. Hill – Principal ahill@dmatschools.org.uk



Whole School Attendance 99.0%