



Bridestowe Primary School – With Respect and Ambition, We Flourish Together

20th September 2019

A Busy Term

We have been busily planning lots of amazing opportunities for our children over the next 13 weeks and beyond. We strongly believe in going the extra mile for our children so that they get the best school experience possible with no excuses, such as being a small school for example, or in a rural location or smaller staff numbers. Of course these opportunities only work with parental support and contribution, and we thank you for that.



School Games Sports Award – Gold

The school is proud to announce that once again we have been awarded the Gold standard for school sports. This is a prestigious award that recognises the school's quality, range and commitment to school sports. You will see lots of examples of sports coming up, as well as healthy lifestyles and daily fitness activities happening in school. At the end of November we will welcome Team GB athlete Ezekiel Ewulo to the school - a further example of the priority status of sport in our school.

Young Play Leaders

On the 6th September the Year 6 children attended Young Play Leaders training and are now leading playtime games and sharing equipment. This is a vital life skill which contributes to our family ethos. Barn Owls have since taught a PE lesson for the younger children which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Forest Schools

The children have already enjoyed some sessions of Forest School with Dartmoor Ranger Rob Taylor. The next dates are:

Monday 30th September – Year 3, Year 4, Year 5

Tuesday 15th October – Year 6, Foundation, Year 3

Monday 28th October – Year 1, Year 4, Year 2

Monday 11th November – Year 5, Year 6, Foundation

Monday 25th November – Year 1, Year 3, Year 2

Monday 9th December – Year 4, Year 5, Year 6

Please make sure your children have old clothes and wellington boots to wear on these days - Thanks!



Happy and Safe Questions

In the event of an OFSTED inspection, parents will have the opportunity to state how much they agree with a series of statements.

The first two are **'My child is happy at this school'** and **'My child is safe at this school'**.

We have asked the children if they feel happy and safe at school.

We were delighted that **76 of 79** children we asked stated they were happy. The three that were not explained *'I'm not sure why'*, *'I'm always in trouble'* and *'The learning is hard'*. We will be discussing and working with these children to find solutions to their worries.

The school tirelessly endeavours to ensure all our children are happy by providing a warm and nurturing atmosphere, safe adults to speak to, and friendly children to play with.

77 of 79 children stated they felt safe. The two who did not explained *'I might give my cold to someone'* and *'People don't let me play'*. Again, we will be discussing these worries with the children to find a solution.

Safeguarding is the school's Number 1 priority; all staff are regularly and appropriately trained to keep children safe in all ways - safe environments, online safety, bullying etc., along with home and out of school issues. More can be found on the school website.

Behaviour

The third OFSTED statement in the event of an inspection is **'The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved'**.

We put this to the children today by asking 'Are children well behaved at this school?' and 'If they are not, do teachers and teaching assistants do something about it?' **78 of the 79** children we asked unreservedly answered 'Yes'. The one who did not stated they were unsure and may not have understood the question.

The behaviour of our children is something we are very proud of and, in general, we have excellent behaviour across the school. Positive behaviour is always praised and recognised first. Please see attached to today's newsletter the behaviour flow charts that show our actions in relation to positive and negative behaviours. If you have any

questions about this, please don't hesitate to ask your class teacher.

Year 6 Adventure Day

On Wednesday 18th September the Year 6 children participated in the OCRA Adventure Day, including orienteering and fencing. A fantastic time was had by all – thank you again to parents who helped transport the children.

School Harvest Festival

The children will be part of a Harvest Festival service on Monday 23rd September at 2.30pm in the Church with Revd Brook. The children will be decorating the Church with some art work and singing a communal song.

Parents and carers are welcome to join us for the service and see the children perform.



School Council Update – Crisp Packet Recycling

The School Council have met with Mr Hill to discuss their role within the school, charities they'd like to support and new school initiatives. Their first project is 'Crisp Packet Recycling' to help reduce waste going to landfill.

The school has registered to become a **Terracycle Collection Point** meaning all members of the community can bring empty (and preferably clean) crisp packets to the school which will then be sent for recycling.

An added bonus is that the school will receive **£1 for each kilogram** of crisp packets received. This money will be donated to FoBS to support their school projects.

Look out for posters and collection boxes!

Upcoming Sports Events

Dartmoor MAT Ability Games – Tavistock – 24th September

Children in Year 1 will be participating in a multi skills event on Friday 27th September at Okehampton College.

North Tawton Netball and Football tournament on Friday 4th October.

Year 6 Life Skills

On the 24th September Year 6 will take part in the annual lifeskills event which is attended by many emergency services to discuss with the children to importance of being safe in the event of an emergency, how to call 999 and understand the severity of fire.

Re-treat Workshops

On Tuesday 1st October we will welcome the Re-Treat team (Methodist Children's worker) to the school to deliver a Harvest workshop with the Snowy and Barn Owls classes.

Diary Dates

September

23rd – Harvest Festival in the Church – all welcome 2.30pm

24th – Ability games – Tavistock

24th – Junior life skills (Year 6)

25th – Okehampton College Open Day

26th – Okehampton College Open Evening

27th – Year 1 multi-skills festival – Okehampton College

October

1st – Re-treat workshops – Harvest

4th – Football and Netball tournament

7th – Adrian Brook – Autumn assembly

7th – Parent Forum – School Vision, 13.30

8th – Year 2 multi-skills

15th – Parent Consultations, 15.30 – 18.30

15th – FoBS AGM, White Hart, 19.30

21st – 25th – Half Term

28th – Adrian Brook – All souls day

November

18th – Parent Forum – 9am

28th – Visit from Team GB athlete Ezekial Ewulo

December

2nd – Adrian Brook – Advent

3rd – Re-Treat workshops – Christmas

11th – Christmas Nativity

17th – Northcott Theatre – Beauty & the Beast

20th – Carol Service

20th – Last day of term

Mr A. Hill – Acting Head of School

head@bridestowe-primary.devon.sch.uk

01837 861361

Attendance

99%

Achievements

Care & Courtesy: Seb, Gracie, Lara, Edith, Poppy S, Felix J, Zola and Dextah

Worker: Thia, Liam E, Millie, Molly Ea, Jolie, Emma Ba, Izzy and Zoe

Behaviour: Poppy H, May, Elena, Alistair, Ellenor, Emily, Alex and Noah

Outside Achievements: Myla has completed Stages 3 and 4 in swimming, and Noah has passed Stages 6 and 7. Johnathan gained his 4th Kup Green Belt in Tae Kwondo

Congratulations to all three!

Notices

Hello from Friends of Bridestowe School (FoBS) and welcome to all the new families starting this term. FoBS is a registered charity set-up to raise additional funds for Bridestowe Primary School so that our children get as much as they possibly can out of their time at school. Everyone with links to a child attending Bridestowe Primary is automatically a member of FoBS and you are very welcome to join in and support our fundraising in any capacity you may be able to offer – the more we can do the more our children will benefit! FoBS support the school to fund things that the standard education budget does not, which, as I'm sure you are all aware, is unfortunately quite a lot these days.

If you would like to find out more, get involved or receive information about meetings/events etc please get in touch!

Jo Pritchard: Chair of FoBS

jcw_101@hotmail.com / 01837 861114