



Bridestowe Primary School – With Respect and Ambition We Flourish Together

23rd April 2021

Here comes the summer

It was joyful to see the children return to school happy, smiling and enthusiastic on Monday. The summer term is one always full of exciting opportunities, not least because it is warm and dry (some of the time!) and we can get out on the field. With lots of activities, forest schools, swimming, residentials and sports days to look forward to, this term is one of our favourites.

As ever, it is important we look after ourselves and are aware of the dangers of over exposure to the sun and heat – please ensure your child has a sun hat, sun cream applied and a refillable drink with them daily.

Extra-curricular clubs

Extra-curricular clubs available this half term:

Mondays – Archery club – open to KS2 (Snowy Owls and Barn Owls) – Mrs Sharland – Until 4pm

Tuesdays – Multi skills sports club – Open to all – Miss Bryant and Mrs Reid – Until 4pm

Wednesday – Forest schools club – Open to EYFS and KS1 (Owlets and Tawny Owls) – Mrs Lammas – until 4pm

Friday – Running club – Open to EYFS and KS1 (Owlets and Tawny Owls) – Mrs Harris – During lunch time (no parental sign-up necessary).

Please book your places via the School Gateway app. Places are limited to ensure safe ratios. If you are unable to book a place, we will endeavour to accommodate children on a rota basis.

Swimming

We are very pleased to be able to offer swimming this term.

Snowy Owls and Barn Owls will swim on Fridays from 23rd April – 28th May inclusive (6 weeks).

Owlets and Tawny Owls will swim on Fridays from 11th June – 16th July inclusive (6 weeks).

We will leave school at 12.30, having eaten lunch slightly early, to arrive in plenty of time at the pool for a 13.15 start.

The first group will swim at 13.15 for 45 minutes. The group not swimming will engage in teacher-led activities such as reading, spelling and timetables.

The second group will swim at 14.00 for 45 minutes.

We will return to school at 15.30.

Due to additional Covid cleaning at the pool, we cannot use the changing rooms **before** swimming.

Therefore, children should arrive at the pool 'ready to swim'. This means the children will need some loose-fitting clothes to wear over the top of their swimming costumes on the bus and to the pool. Tracksuit bottoms and a hooded jumper would be ideal. Children may wear this from first thing in the morning if they wish or can change before leaving school.

Children **can** use the changing rooms **after** swimming so do remember to bring underwear/clothes to change back into!

At all times, the two class bubbles will maintain distance between one another, including the use of two coaches.

Class and Y6 Leavers Photos

On Thursday 29th April we will be having Class Photos taken along with Y6 Leavers photos. The photographer will be following all Covid guidelines and will take the photos outdoors. Please could all children wear full winter uniform with ties on this day, and arrive at school smartly spruced up to look their best!

Fruit snacks

The children's lifelong health and healthy lifestyles are critical to our work as a school. As such, we are requesting that **all** children have a healthy fruit snack at morning break.

Children in Owlets and Tawny Owls will continue to receive a free fruit snack. Children in Snowy or Barn Owls who forget to bring a fruit snack may be offered one if there is spare fruit within school.

Please can you ensure that the children's morning snacks are fruit. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Breakfast boxes and milk vouchers from St Bridget's church

The church is extending its offer of a weekly breakfast box and milk vouchers to any family within our school community who is currently struggling due to the pandemic. Please contact the school office in confidentiality if you would like more information.

Please be reminded that families **MUST** return their milk bottles or they will be asked to pay the £1 deposit. Not returning bottles means the church has to pay the deposit instead which eats into the budget for the scheme. Thank you.

Forest School

We are very pleased to be offering forest school sessions with Ranger Rob again. EYFS, Year 1, 2 and 3 had their first session on Wednesday which was very much enjoyed. Please remember to bring a change of clothes and welly boots when it is your turn to do forest school.

We continue to update and develop our forest school area. Currently, we are searching for donations of soil to fill in leaking ponds. If you have, or know of anyone, with some clean soil to dispose of, we would welcome a contribution.

Volunteers and students

As a school, we always wish to support those looking to enter the educational workplace or profession. This term we have a number of placement students and volunteers.

Mrs Robinson, who is completing a PGCE with Canterbury University, has joined us in the Tawny Owls Class.

Miss Spooncer, who is completing a degree at Plymouth Marjon in sports, has joined us as a volunteer in Barn Owls and will be supporting cheerleading within the school.

Miss Stoneman, who is completing an Early Years Childcare qualification at Exeter College, will return to the school to complete her placement disrupted by Covid.

These additional adults are invaluable to our continued excellent teaching as well as learning useful skills for their future careers.

Environmental improvements over Easter

During the Easter break school and DMAT staff gave up some of their break to refresh some areas of the school. Improvements to the forest school area are ongoing with new log benches within the forest school shelter. The staff offices have been given a make-over with a fresh and de-cluttered look.

We are still seeking some low coffee tables if any members of the community have one not in use.

A special thank you goes to Mr Egford for the generous donation of fencing panels for the Owlets outdoor area.



Making insect homes in forest school

Change of email addresses

Please note that the school email address has now changed to admin@bridestoweprimary.org.uk
Mr Hill's email has also changed to ahill@dmatschools.org.uk

Diary Dates

April

26th – Extracurricular clubs start
29th – Class & Y6 Leavers Photos

May

3rd – Bank Holiday
5th – Forest school – Year 4, Year 5, Year 6
19th – Forest school – EYFS, Year 1+2, Year 3
20th – Recycling workshops
31st – 4th June – Half term

June

9th – Forest school – Year 4, Year 5, Year 6
22nd – Forest school – EYFS, Year 1+2, Year 3

July

1st and 2nd – Residential for Year 5+6
6th – Forest school – Year 4, Year 5, Year 6
15th – Sports day
19th – Forest school – EYFS, Year 1+2, Year 3
23rd – Last day of term

Mr A. Hill – Principal

ahill@dmatschools.org.uk

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Attendance

95.5%



Dissecting common flowers in Science.

Munching through fruit like the Hungry Caterpillar!



Today's outdoor celebration assembly with Mr Hill's Magic Bag: highlighting appropriate summertime protection - sunscreen, hats, and long-sleeved loose clothing, for example.