



Bridestowe Primary School – With Respect and Ambition We Flourish Together

25/06/2021

Remaining vigilant

Recent increases in the number of confirmed Covid-19 cases have starkly reminded us that now is not the time to become complacent. Our school, hub and Trust has worked extremely hard over the last 14 months to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our children: – acting before Government guidance, maintaining high levels of safety procedures and working collaboratively to ensure we had the correct PPE and cleaning supplies. We must continue this effort into the summer months and think cautiously about each situation we place ourselves in. Please remind yourselves of our Covid procedures, below. Stay well and safe.

Covid Procedures in School

- If you or **any household member** displays symptoms of Covid 19, do not attend school.
 - Book a PCR Covid test at a local testing facility.
 - Inform school at your earliest convenience.
 - Remain isolated at home until symptoms have passed AND you have received a negative test result.
- Please wear a mask at all times when dropping off or collecting your children.
- Please ensure social distancing at all times when dropping off or collecting your children.
- If you are invited onto the school site for any reason, please use the hand sanitiser provided, wear a face covering when moving around the school, and ensure social distancing.
- Children or adults who start to display symptoms whilst at school will be placed into the isolation room awaiting collection.
- Children and adults continue to wash and sanitise hands at regular intervals.
- Children remain in their 'bubble' and do not mix with other classes.
- Enhanced cleaning continues.

Please see the attached risk assessment as a reminder of our full procedures.

RNLI virtual visit

The children were visited (virtually) by a member of the RNLI last week to discuss beach and sea safety which was well received by the children and adults alike.

Transition

Our transition visits for our new EYFS children have continued and it has been a joy to welcome our new children to school.

We have carefully considered, and risk assessed, the health and safety implications of these visits, maintaining a single transition 'bubble', as well as cleaning any learning resources used. The vast benefits of successfully transitioning our children to school have been proven over a number of years and cohorts.



Year 5 and 6 Residential

Next week will be our Year 5 and 6 residential. Children will be camping on the field with activities being hosted at Okehampton YHA. We are pleased to be welcoming the Year 5 and 6 children from Lydford Primary to also camp on our field. Bubbles and social distancing will be in place, but this will still allow for the sharing of meals, games, and campfire.

The Barn Owls class have written this note for local residents:

Dear Bridestowe Resident,

Years Five and Six at Bridestowe Primary School are scheduled to take part in a residential on the 1st and 2nd of July.

As part of this, tents will be pitched in the School Field to allow us to stay overnight on Thursday, 1st July. We will have our meals on site and play games in the evening so you may hear some excited children's voices. There will be a campfire in the wooded far corner of the field during that evening, so you may notice smoke. We, and the staff will be transported to and from the School by coaches in the mornings and early evenings.

The residential will be concluded at around 5pm on Friday, 2nd July.

May we thank you in advance for your patience and understanding and I am sure you will agree that this is an exciting opportunity for us.

Yours faithfully,

Barn Owls Class - Bridestowe Primary School

Sports Day

Sports Day will continue as planned on Tuesday 13th July. Having carefully risk assessed and mapped the site, we are pleased to be able to offer parents and carers the opportunity to spectate on the day. Government guidance allows groups of up to 30 to meet outdoors with social distancing in place. The latest government guidance states:

Will parents and families be able to attend sports days?

It's up to schools to risk assess their sports day plans and decide if it is appropriate to invite spectators. Any spectators must stick to social distancing requirements and legal gathering limits where, outdoors, spectators can gather in separate groups of up to 30. This means, dependent on the size of the area available, multiple groups of 30 could theoretically attend events as long as there is no mixing between groups at any stage.

Therefore, on the day:

- Parents/carers may arrive from 12.15 for a 12.30 start.
- Parents/carers must wear a face covering until seated/in their area.
- Parents/carers will be directed to a socially distanced viewing area.
- Parents/carers must remain in their socially distanced viewing area.
 - Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide refreshments or toilet facilities.
 - Please feel free to bring your own (non-alcoholic) refreshments.
 - Refreshments and food should not be shared with school children – they will have access to their own drinks and fruit snack if required.
- Non-school age children may attend but should remain with their parents/carers at all times.
- The school retains the right to refuse entry to the school grounds in the event of the maximum number being reached.

We are looking forward to an enjoyable, active and fun afternoon.

KS2 End of Year Performance

The children in Snowy Owls and Barn Owls are starting to prepare for an end of year performance on Thursday 22nd July at 13.30.

This will be an open-air performance to allow for *some* spectators. Given the nature of the activity and the need to be able to see and hear the children well, we will be limiting the audience to **Year 6 parents/carers only**.

The performance will be filmed and shared with all participating parents privately to watch at home.

Confirmation of teaching staff and classrooms

You will have received a letter earlier this week confirming the staffing and classroom arrangements for September.

We welcome Mrs Natasha Whitelaw, Teaching Assistant, to our EYFS team.

Mrs Emma Harris will be taking the Snowy Owls (Year 3/4) from September with Mrs Alison Sharland becoming an intervention teacher for the 2 months before she begins maternity leave.

Miss Dani Bryant will increase her days of work with Bridestowe to teach the Owlets (EYFS) class from September.

These changes have been carefully considered to provide the best consistency and stability for our children.

In addition, each class will be changing classrooms for September. This is to allow all children the space and learning environment appropriate to their cohort and needs. The Owlets (EYFS) Class will move to the classroom adjacent to the school field. Tawny Owls (Year 1 and 2) will move to the front classroom adjacent to the front playground. Snowy Owls (Year 3 and 4) will move to the back classroom adjacent to the school kitchen. Barn Owls (Year 5 and 6) will move to the middle classroom of the main school building.



Mrs Whitelaw

Introduction to Chair of Governors, Moorland Hub



Hello, my name is Bridget Down and I am the Chair of Governors for the Moorland LSB. I am passionate about hearing and seeing the view of the schools at playground level. I have been a governor with the Dartmoor Federation for 5 years and during this time I have loved getting to know so many of you. **Please do feel welcome to always get in touch.**

I am a Mummy of four creative, outdoor loving children, which is handy as we live on my husband's family farm in West Devon. I work full time for the Methodist Church as a Learning and Development Officer and am a member of the Parish Council.

I need YOUR help! I am looking for more on the ground governors! Governors who know their communities and have a passion to see quality education and opportunities for all. We need a Community Governor as well as Parent Governors and a Staff Governor too!

We meet once a half term, online, currently on a Wednesday at 5pm and our meetings last 1 ½ hrs. We hear about the joys and the lows of the schools and feedback ideas and community voice back into the pot. Yes there is more to the role, to hear more please do get in touch bdown@dmatschools.org.uk or apply directly (go to the button at the bottom of the page: <https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/governance.html>)

Bikeability

Children in Year 4 and 6 completed Level 1 and 2 Bikeability respectively last week. This vital life skill is actively promoted as part of our commitment to healthy lifestyles and physical activity. During the session the children learnt to ride, maintain and use road sense and safety while enjoying being out and about in the beautiful weather.



Bridestowe in Bloom Mini-Beasts

Bridestowe in Bloom

The school has been invited to take part in Bridestowe in Bloom and the children, across all classes, have been busy working on a colourful display for the front of the school. They have been using papier mache to create flowers and mini-beasts. Please look out for the display – the children are very proud of it!

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

Dates

July

- 1st – Y6 transition parent meeting, 6pm Okehampton College via Teams
- 1st - Sept Starters transition, 11.45am – 3.05pm
- 1st and 2nd – Residential for Year 5+6
- 6th – Forest school – Year 4, Year 5, Year 6
- 7th – Y6 taster day at Okehampton College
- 8th - Sept Starters transition, all day
- 13th – Sports day – 12.30
- 15th – Y6 taster day at Okehampton College
- 15th - Sept Starters transition, all day
- 19th – Forest school – EYFS, Year 1+2, Year 3
- 19th – Y6 Meet the Tutor, Okehampton College, 4-6pm
- 22nd – KS2 end of year performance – 13.30
- 23rd – Last day of term

Mr A. Hill – Principal
ahill@dmatschools.org.uk
01837 861361

Attendance

96.3%