



School Newsletter

Bridgetown Primary School

Ready, Respectful, Safe

4 September 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the first week of our new school year, I wanted to take the opportunity to say how wonderful it has been to welcome everyone back to school.

Bridgetown has been buzzing with excitement, smiles and laughter, and it has been a real pleasure to see our children settle so quickly into their new classes. They have embraced new routines with confidence and have already made a fantastic start to the year. We are incredibly proud of the positive attitudes and enthusiasm they have shown.

Over the summer holidays, we also had some wonderful news to celebrate within our staff team. Many of you will know that Miss Bird got married during the break. I am sure you will join me in offering our heartfelt congratulations as she begins this exciting new chapter. We are

delighted to welcome her back to school as Mrs Boylan, and we wish her and her husband every happiness for the future.

At the heart of everything we do is the partnership between home and school. We know that children achieve their very best when families and staff work together, and we are grateful for the support, encouragement and trust you continue to show our school. We look forward to working closely with you throughout the year to provide the very best opportunities for every child. Thank you for all your support in ensuring such a positive start to the term.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.



Best wishes,

Mark Szortowski
Headteacher



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Bridgetown Primary School, Byron Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 7JP

Library Transformation

Over the summer holiday, our school library has undergone an incredible transformation, and we are absolutely delighted with the results. Thanks to the dedication, expertise and hard work of an amazing team of parent and staff volunteers, led by Mrs Bandanwal and Mrs Bradley, the library has been refreshed into a brighter, more inspiring space for pupils to enjoy. Shelving has been reorganised, hundreds of books have been sorted and catalogued, the room has been thoroughly cleaned, and the layout has been redesigned to create a more open environment that encourages reading, curiosity and learning. This has been a truly enormous undertaking, requiring many hours of careful planning and hard work throughout the summer holidays. The commitment shown by everyone involved has been nothing short of remarkable, and we are incredibly grateful for the time, energy and expertise they have so generously given.

Some of the volunteers!



New open-plan library space



The refreshed library will play a vital role in supporting reading for pleasure, developing a love of books and providing an engaging learning environment for all our pupils. We look forward to sharing the space with the children over the coming weeks and celebrating everything it has to offer. On behalf of everyone at school, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to every volunteer who contributed to this wonderful project. Your generosity and dedication have created a lasting legacy that will benefit our children for years to come.

News

Summer Improvements

In addition to the transformation of the library, there has been plenty happening behind the scenes to get school looking its best! Our Year 2 classrooms have been given a fresh new look, with both classrooms fully repainted. There has also been redecoration around other key areas of school, with multiple corridors painted and carpet cleaning having taken place.

Value in Focus

We are delighted to introduce our new school value for this half term: **Sharing**. Sharing means willingly giving, using, or enjoying something with others. It shows kindness, generosity, and respect, helping everyone to feel included, valued, and part of our school community. We encourage you to talk with your child about how they can show sharing at home, whether that's sharing their time, helping with jobs, or showing kindness to family and friends. This value will be explored throughout the half term in our assemblies and across school life.

Parent Forum

We would like to invite all parents and carers to our first Parent Forum of the year at 6pm on Wednesday 14th October in the school hall. This is an important opportunity to meet the leadership team, and to hear about the school's priorities for the year ahead.

Facebook

Keep up-to-date with the latest news, events and celebrations from around the school by following us on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/108260537224021?ref=embed_page

Newsletters

Fortnightly newsletters will keep you informed with what has been happening in school, celebrating the achievements and successes of everyone, as well as providing you with details of upcoming events.

Important Dates

Key dates for the whole year ahead can be found on this and every subsequent newsletter, and are also on our website for reference. Whilst all dates and times are subject to change, we try to avoid this where possible and if unavoidable, give families as much notice as possible.

Staffing Update

Over the summer, we said farewell to two members of the team, who have both moved on to new opportunities at the local secondary school. Miss Chalk has returned to secondary education, teaching GCSE Chemistry! She is enjoying combining her passion for science with a return to the secondary classroom. Mrs Leach, Teaching Assistant, has also moved on to take up a new role at the secondary school. We are delighted for her and grateful for all she has contributed to Bridgetown over the years. We know you will join us in thanking both members of staff for their hard work and dedication, and in wishing them every happiness and success in their new roles.

In other staffing news, Mrs Hykin has returned to her maiden name professionally and is now known in school as **Miss Richmond**. We appreciate that it may take the children and families a little time to become accustomed to the change. We would be grateful if you could use Miss Richmond in future communications and help your child become familiar with her new professional name.

Class News

Find out what's going on in classes, by checking-in on the Class Pages section of our website. Here you will find key information, knowledge organisers and photos of recent learning experiences.

<https://www.bridgetown.warwickshire.sch.uk/class-pages/>

Curriculum Conversations

Talk Together at Home

One of the best ways to help children remember and deepen their learning is simply to talk about it. Research shows that when children explain their thinking, retrieve what they have learned and discuss different viewpoints, their understanding becomes stronger and longer lasting. This fortnight, try these conversation starters at home. They are designed to help children **remember, explain** and **think like an expert**.



Can you remember...?

Can you explain...?



What do you think...?



Personal Development

Simple conversations to help your child grow into a confident, kind and safe individual.

Reception



What are your five senses?

How do your senses help you every day?



Why is it tricky to live without one of your senses?



Who are your Safe Adults?

What does your body feel like when you feel happy, worried or scared?

When is it important to ask a grown up for help?

Year 1



Can you retell your favourite fairy tale?

What makes a story a fairy tale?



Which character made the best choices? Why?



What makes a good friend?

How can you tell if someone feels sad/lonely?

What could you do to help someone feel included?

Year 2



How have phones changed over time?

Why have phones changed?



Which invention do you think was most important? Why?



Why is listening important?

What does respectful talking sound like?

What should we do if we fall out with someone?

Curriculum Conversations (cont.)

Year 3



Who was Gutenberg?



Why is it important that news is truthful?

Why was the printing press important?



How can we tell if information can be trusted?



What if printing had never been invented?

Why shouldn't we believe everything we see online?

Year 4



What's the difference between the Internet and the Web?



What makes a strong password?

How do computers communicate?



Why shouldn't we share passwords with friends?



Could we live without the Internet?

How do passwords help keep us safe?

Year 5



Why do we have day and night?



Why is teamwork important?

How do the Earth, Sun and Moon work together?



What makes a good leader?



Why do we explore space?

How can we disagree respectfully?

Year 6



What is Morse code?



Why do people keep secrets?

Why do people use codes?



What's the difference between a safe secret and an unsafe secret?



Where do we use codes today?

Who could you talk to if you were worried about a secret?

Attendance - Important Info

Good attendance is essential to ensure your child achieves their full potential.

The Department for Education highlights that being in school underpins your child's learning, wellbeing and wider development, and we are committed to working in partnership with you to support this.

Expectations for Attendance

As set out in [Working together to improve school attendance: July 2026](#)

- Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child receives a suitable full-time education.
- Children should attend school every day unless there is a valid reason, such as illness or authorised absence.
- Regular attendance supports not only academic progress, but also friendships, confidence and a sense of belonging.

Establishing Strong Daily Routines

To support good attendance, we ask all families to:

- Ensure your child has a consistent morning and bedtime routine
- Make sure your child arrives on time and ready to learn each day
- Reinforce the importance of school and positive expectations about attendance

Developing these routines helps children feel secure, prepared and able to engage successfully in school life.

Reporting Absence

If your child is unable to attend school, it is essential that you:

- Contact the school on the first day of absence as early as possible, providing a reason
- Continue to inform the school on each day of absence unless otherwise agreed
- Understand that, if we do not hear from you, the school will contact you to establish the reason for absence.

This process ensures that we can safeguard pupils and provide appropriate support where needed.

Working in Partnership

The national guidance is clear that improving attendance is a shared responsibility between families, schools, and local authorities.

We are committed to working with you to:

- Understand any barriers to attendance
- Provide support at an early stage
- Help your child attend school regularly and successfully

If you are experiencing any difficulties that may impact your child's attendance, please contact the school so that we can work together to find a solution.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and **future success** starts with good attendance!



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EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and **future success** starts with good attendance!



Remember - your education is important - **don't miss out!**

Updated Guidance

Photography and Images in School

The guidance regarding the taking and use of photographs and videos of children in schools has been updated. Photographs and videos are an important part of school life. We regularly capture children taking part in lessons, trips, sporting events, performances and other activities, as well as celebrating their achievements through our newsletters, website and social media.

The Department for Education has recently updated its guidance around the use of photographs and videos in schools. The guidance reinforces the importance of schools being clear and transparent about how images are taken, stored and used, while ensuring that safeguarding and children's privacy remain at the heart of our approach.

What does this mean for your child?

We will continue to take photographs and videos of children as part of normal school activities, where this is appropriate and where we have the relevant permission or other lawful basis to do so. We will:

- Take photographs and videos responsibly and only for appropriate school purposes.
- Check our permissions records before using images publicly.
- Take particular care where there are safeguarding or other restrictions relating to an individual child.
- Make sure images are stored and shared securely.
- Be clear about where photographs and videos may be used, including school communications, our website and social media.
- Respect requests from parents/carers to opt out of particular uses of their child's image, where applicable.

It is important to note that the updated guidance does **not** mean that schools are no longer allowed to photograph children. Photographs and videos remain a normal and valuable part of school life.

Photographs taken by parents and carers

We also recognise that parents and family members naturally want to take photographs at events such as sports days, performances and celebrations.

Parents and carers may take photographs for their own personal and family use, but we ask everyone to be mindful of the privacy and safeguarding of other children. In particular, please do not share photographs or videos containing other children publicly on social media without considering whether you have permission to do so.

At some events, we may need to put additional arrangements in place around photography. If this is the case, we will explain these clearly beforehand.

What do you need to do?

At this stage, there is nothing you need to do unless you would like to discuss or change your preferences regarding the use of your child's image.

If you have any questions about how photographs or videos are used at Bridgetown, or would like to discuss your child's individual circumstances, please contact the school office.

Our aim is to continue celebrating and sharing the wonderful experiences of our children while making sure we do so safely, responsibly and in accordance with the latest guidance. Thank you, as always, for your support.



Behaviour at Lunchtimes!

OPAL Play

- 1 Put equipment back into the trolley when you have finished using it.



- 2 An adult will ask you to pick up equipment if you drop it on the floor.



Lining up and moving around school

1



1 whistle =
Stand still

2



2 whistles =
Line up

3



3 whistles =
**Silence,
hands behind
back**



All children silent,
hands behind backs.



Point given to the best class
for an **extra 10 minutes**
of playtime!



Ready



Respectful



Safe

Together we are Ready, Respectful and Safe.

Key Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term 1

Tuesday 1 September 2026	INSET Day
Wednesday 2 September 2026	Children return to school
Thursday 3 September 2026	Safeguarding Training for Governors/Volunteers 6pm
Monday 7 September 2026	Flu immunisation for Reception – Year 6
Monday 14 September 2026	Times Tables Rock Stars launch
Monday 14 September 2026	Clubs begin
Sunday 20 September 2026	FOBS Dragon Boat Race
Monday 21 September 2026	PLT applications in (Year 6 pupils)
Monday 21 September 2026	FGB meeting 6pm
Tuesday 6 October 2026	National Child Measurement Programme – Rec/Y6
12-16 October 2026	SEN Support Plan Meetings
Wednesday 14 October 2026	Parent Forum: Key Priorities for the year 6pm
Thursday 15 October 2026	Year 4 Class Assembly 9.15am
Friday 16 October 2026	FOBS Disco
Tuesday 20 October 2026	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 21 October 2026	Individual / sibling photographs
Thursday 22 October 2026	Parents' Evening
Friday 23 October 2026	INSET day
26-30 October 2026	HALF TERM BREAK (inc FOBS Scarecrow Trail)

Autumn Term 2

Monday 2 November 2026	Children return to school
Friday 6 November 2026	Open Morning for Prospective Parents 9.15-11.30am
Monday 9 November 2026	OPAL event for parents 1.30pm
Wednesday 11 November 2026	Reception Curriculum Information evening 6pm
Sunday 14 November 2026	Remembrance Sunday Parade (PLT)
Friday 20 November 2026	FOBS Christmas Quiz Night
23-27 November 2026	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 23 November 2026	FGB meeting 6pm
Tuesday 24 November 2026	Maths Parent Open Afternoon
Friday 4 December 2026	FOBS Christmas Fayre
Monday 7 December 2026	Year 1 Nativity 2pm
Tuesday 8 December 2026	Reception Nativity Song Concert 2pm
Wednesday 9 December 2026	Year 2 Christingle at Holy Trinity Church 5.30pm
Friday 11 December 2026	Clubs end
Monday 14 December 2026	KS2 Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church 6pm
Tuesday 15 December 2026	Christmas Lunch and Class Parties
Friday 18 December 2026	Break up for Christmas Holidays at 1.30pm

Key Dates 2026-27

Spring Term 1

Monday 4 January 2027	INSET day
Tuesday 5 January 2027	Children return to school
Monday 11 January 2027	Clubs begin
Wednesday 20 January 2027	Year 6 Residential meeting 6pm
25-29 January 2027	Careers Week
Monday 25 January 2027	FGB meeting 6pm
Thursday 28 January 2027	Reception Class Assembly 9.15am
Thursday 4 February 2027	English Parent Open Afternoon
Friday 5 February 2027	FOBS Panto – evening
Saturday 6 February 2027	FOBS Panto – afternoon and evening
Tuesday 9 February 2027	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 10 February 2027	Parent Forum
Thursday 11 February 2027	Year 5 Class Assembly 9.15am
15-19 February 2027	HALF TERM BREAK

Spring Term 2

Monday 22 February 2027	Children return to school
22-26 February 2027	SEN Support Plan Meetings this week
Wednesday 3 March 2027	Year 6 SATs information evening
Friday 5 March 2027	World Book Day
15-19 March 2027	Year 6 Residential to Arête
Thursday 18 March 2027	Year 1 Class Assembly 9.15am
Friday 19 March 2027	Red Nose Day
Friday 19 March 2027	Clubs end
Monday 22 March 2027	FGB meeting 6pm
Tuesday 23 March 2027	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 24 March 2027	Parents' Evening
Thursday 25 March 2027	Year 2 Class Assembly 9.15am
Thursday 25 March 2027	FOBS Fundraising Finale event
Thursday 25 March 2027	Break up for Easter Holidays

Key Dates 2026-27

Summer Term 1

Monday 12 April 2027	Return to school
Monday 12 April 2027	Annual Stakeholder Surveys this week
Monday 19 April 2027	Clubs begin
Friday 23 April 2027	FOBS Disco
Saturday 24 April 2027	Shakespeare's birthday parade (PLT)
Monday 3 May 2027	May Day Bank Holiday – school closed
Wednesday 5 May 2027	Parent Forum 6pm
Thursday 6 May 2027	Year 3 Class Assembly 9.15am
10-13 May 2027	KS2 SATs Week
Friday 14 May 2027	FOBS Bake Sale after school
Friday 21 May 2027	Dimensions Parent Open Afternoon
Monday 24 May 2027	FGB meeting 6pm
Thursday 27 May 2027	Year 6 Class Assembly 9.15am
Friday 28 May 2028	FOBS Colour Run after school
31 May - 4 June 2027	HALF TERM BREAK

Summer Term 2

Monday 7 June 2027	INSET day
Tuesday 8 June 2027	Return to school
Wednesday 9 June 2027	Class Photos
14-18 June 2027	Year 4 Multiplication Checks
14-18 June 2027	Year 1 (and Year 2 resits) Phonics Screening Checks
Wednesday 16 June 2027	Reception Generation Day picnic 2pm
Friday 18 June 2027	Sports Days 1 st choice
Friday 25 June 2027	Sports Days 2 nd choice (in case of inclement weather)
Wednesday 30 June 2027	Forum - Transition (KS1 3.30pm / KS2 4.30pm / Rec 6pm)
Thursday 1 July 2027	Summer Music Concert 3.30pm
Friday 2 July 2027	Clubs end
Wednesday 7 July 2027	Transition Morning, Warwickshire secondary induction day
Thursday 8 July 2027	Helpers' Tea Party 2.30pm
Friday 9 July 2027	FOBS Summer Fayre 6pm-8pm
Monday 12 July 2027	FGB meeting 6pm
Tuesday 13 July 2027	Annual Reports published
Wednesday 14 July 2027	Year 6 Production 1.30pm
Thursday 15 July 2027	Year 6 Production 9.20am
Monday 19 July 2027	Staff vs Year 6 Rounders Match 3.30pm
Tuesday 20 July 2027	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9.15am
Tuesday 20 July 2027	Whole School Assembly 11am
Tuesday 20 July 2027	Break up for summer holidays 1.30pm



Bridgetown Primary School
Ready, Respectful, Safe

Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Is your child due to start school in September 2027?
If so, please come along to our Open Morning on **Friday 6th November** between **9.15am and 11.30am**. Please contact the school to book your appointment time.



Website:
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Bridgetown Primary School, Byron Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 7JP

SAFE PARKING REMINDER

Please park safely and
considerately around
our school.



Keep our children
safe – park away
from the school gate
and zig zags.



Do not park on
yellow lines,
dropped kerbs or
driveways.



Please drive
slowly and
carefully – children
are hard to see.



Be respectful of
our neighbours
and keep noise
to a minimum.

Thank you for helping to
keep our school community safe!

THINK
BEFORE
YOU PARK

KEEP
CLEAR





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TIMETABLE



Steps & Styles
JUNIOR (7-11)

TUESDAY
5:00PM – 5:55PM

Jazz, technique &
performance skills



Shuffle & Shimmy
TAP (7+)

TUESDAY
7:00PM – 7:30PM

Beginners tap class –
no experience needed!



*Strength, Conditioning
& Stretch*
AGES 7-18

THURSDAY
6:00PM – 6:40PM

Build strength, flexibility
& support your dancing



*Kicks, Leaps
& Turns*
AGES 7-18

THURSDAY
6:45PM – 7:25PM

Technique, progressions
& dynamic movement



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Stratford Upon Avon School

 **A FOUNDATION
FOR LIFE...**

Looking for a
Year 7 to 10
place for
**September
2027?**

Join us for our

Open Afternoon

Sunday 13 September 2026
2.00pm to 5.00pm

Year 6 Taster Days

Tuesday 15, Thursday 17 and
Wednesday 23 September 2026

**Entrance Examinations
for 2027 Entry**

Saturday 7 November 2026
9.30am to 3.45pm

Registration deadline for
2027 Year 7 to 10 Entrance
Examinations is Friday 25
September 2026



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Registered Charity Number 1087124.



Year 6 Open Evening

Thursday 24th September

4.30pm-7.30pm

Headteacher's speech at 4.45pm, 5.30pm and 6.15pm.

Come and see our new school and find out how we support our students in achieving their personal best



Stowe Valley
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Meet our teachers and students; take part in exciting subject activities and have a look at our fabulous facilities.



kinetonhighschool@stowevalley.com



www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk

Remember to
check out our
Facebook page!



Keep up to date with the latest news,
events and celebrations from
around school.



Visit our Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/108260537224021?ref=embed_page



Click the link!