



School Newsletter

Bridgetown Primary School

Ready, Respectful, Safe

16 October 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take a moment to reassure you following a routine lockdown drill that we carried out in school today as part of our ongoing safeguarding procedures.

I appreciate that the words "lockdown drill" can sound concerning. Please be assured that there was no emergency or threat to our school. The drill was carefully planned in advance and provided an opportunity for our staff and children to practise the procedures we would follow in the very unlikely event that they were ever needed.

Our children were supported and reassured throughout the exercise, and our staff

followed the school's established procedures calmly and carefully. These important practices help us to ensure that everyone knows what to do and can respond safely and confidently should a genuine emergency ever arise.

I am pleased to confirm that the drill has now been completed and everything is absolutely fine. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and understanding as we work together to keep our pupils and staff safe, happy and well cared for.



Best wishes,

Mark Szortowski
Headteacher



Website:
www.bridgetown.warwickshire.sch.uk



Phone:
01789 205092



Email:
admin2053@welearn365.com

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

News

Introducing Our Pupil Leadership Team

We are delighted to introduce our new Pupil Leadership Team for this academic year. Shortlisted candidates had the opportunity to present their ideas, aspirations and vision for the school during an assembly. Following their presentations, all staff were invited to vote for the pupils they felt would best represent and lead our school community. We are pleased to announce our new team:

Head Girl: Nancy
Head Boy: Damian
Deputy Head Girl: Tatiana
Deputy Head Boy: Harrison
Prefects: Mila, Ava, Gabby and Millie



We would like to congratulate all of the pupils who put themselves forward and thank them for their enthusiasm, confidence and commitment. We are very proud of our new pupil leaders and look forward to seeing them take on their new responsibilities and make further positive contributions to school life. We wish them every success as they begin their first official duties!

Parent Forum

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the parents and carers who joined us for our Parent Forum earlier this week. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to come together and share our priorities for the year ahead and greatly appreciate the open and positive conversations that took place. Thank you for your continued support, engagement and commitment to Bridgetown Primary School.

We look forward to building on these discussions and working together to ensure every child and family feels proud to be part of our school community. The link to the presentation used can be found below:

<https://www.bridgetown.warwickshire.sch.uk/briefing-slides-for-parents/>

Harvest Performance

Our choir had a wonderful time performing a selection of Harvest songs for parents and families yesterday afternoon. A special favourite was Cauliflowers Fluffy, which the children performed with Makaton sign language. It was lovely to see their confidence and enthusiasm shine through, and we are so proud of them!

OPAL Event for Parents and Carers

Our OPAL event for parents and carers, originally planned for Monday 9 November, has been postponed until later in the school year. The new date is Thursday 11 March 2027 (1.45pm-3pm) when our external OPAL advisor will be attending Bridgetown to lead the session. Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to our OPAL event later in the school year!



Website:
www.bridgetown.warwickshire.sch.uk



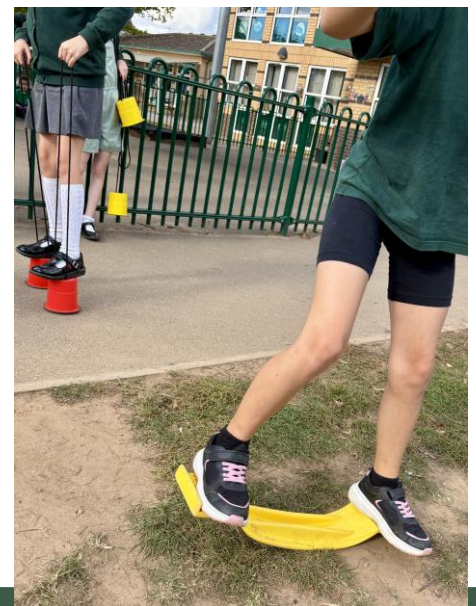
Phone:
01789 205092



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Talking of OPAL...

The children have been thoroughly enjoying our OPAL lunchtimes in the autumn sunshine!



News

Story Museum Visit

Year 1 had a fantastic time visiting the Story Museum in Oxford! As part of their Happily Ever After topic, the children enjoyed bringing stories to life, exploring the magic of storytelling and immersing themselves in the world of traditional tales. They explored the Whispering Woods, put on their detective hats in the Detective School and got lost in the Enchanted Library, with so many exciting areas to discover. After lunch, pupils had even more fun in the small world zone, with so many wonderful book themed areas to play in, including a secret passageway hidden underneath the sink in Goldilocks kitchen! Thanks to our wonderful volunteers.



Year 4 Assembly

Our Year 4 pupils delighted parents and carers yesterday morning with a wonderful assembly all about the origins of the internet. The children took us on a journey through its history, weaving in some really important messages about staying safe online. There was plenty to enjoy, with singing, drama and even some fantastic group xylophone performances! It was lovely to see the children sharing their learning with such enthusiasm and confidence. A huge well done to all in Year 4 for a great assembly!



Bringing Our Curriculum to Life at Bridgetown

It has been another exciting time at Bridgetown, with our children enjoying fantastic opportunities to learn new skills, meet inspiring visitors and discover more about the world around them. We are incredibly proud of the enrichment opportunities we provide, helping our children develop their interests, broaden their horizons and make meaningful connections beyond the classroom. Through our Dimensions curriculum, Communication is our core driver this half term. We want our children to become confident communicators who can express themselves, listen to others and appreciate different perspectives. Here are just a few of the wonderful experiences that have brought this to life since the last newsletter update!

Exploring Languages in Years 3 and 4

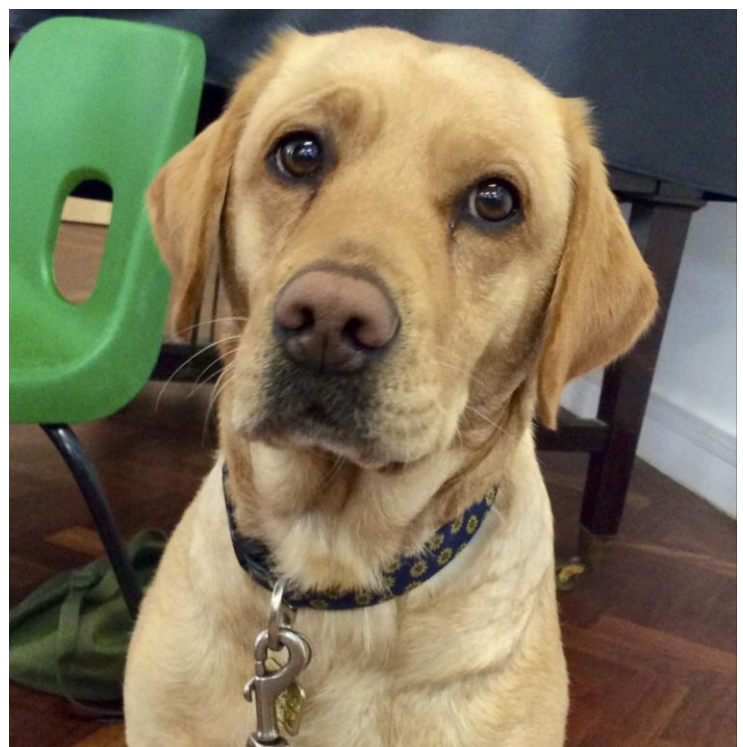
Our Year 3 and 4 children enjoyed a language enrichment workshop led by Mrs Jackson, a Bridgetown parent and language specialist working in secondary education. They explored how languages are connected, how words are derived from other languages and enjoyed a taster of Spanish and German. The children loved discovering new vocabulary and making connections between languages. A huge thank you to Mrs Jackson for sharing her expertise and inspiring our young linguists!

Introducing Makaton at Bridgetown

Mrs Cathline led a fantastic assembly introducing the children to Makaton, showing them how signs can be used alongside speech to support communication. They learnt why people communicate in different ways and how we can help everyone feel included, understood and valued. The children also learnt how to sign "Good morning, teacher!" Can your child remember the signs? Ask them to show you at home and see if they can teach you, too!

Learning About Guide Dogs

Our whole school enjoyed a special assembly about the incredible work of Guide Dogs and how they support people who are blind or partially sighted. Children in Key Stage 1 and Year 6 also took part in follow up workshops to deepen their understanding. For Year 6, this linked beautifully to their English writing unit, which explores Braille and the perspective of a blind child. These experiences encouraged our children to consider different perspectives and understand the importance of inclusive communication.



Curriculum Updates Continued

Bike Maintenance Workshops

Year 5 and 6 children took part in practical bike maintenance workshops, learning how to care for their bikes and carry out essential maintenance. They developed valuable life skills while learning the importance of looking after their belongings.

The workshops also supported our commitment to sustainability, showing children how repairing and maintaining items can reduce waste and help resources last longer. By listening carefully, asking questions and learning new techniques, the children developed practical skills they can use well beyond the classroom. A huge thank you to Mr Welling for creating and leading such an interesting and engaging session for the children!



Maths Open Afternoon for Parents/Carers

We are delighted to invite parents and carers to our Maths Parent Open Afternoon on Tuesday 24 November 2026. This is a fantastic opportunity to join your child's class and see our maths curriculum in action.

During the session, you will observe how our mastery approach supports all learners to develop a deep understanding of mathematics rather than simply finding the correct answer. Our focus will be on:

- Mathematical reasoning
- Maths talk and vocabulary
- Concrete and visual representations
- Variation in learning

You will see how these approaches help children explain their thinking, make connections and develop confidence as mathematicians. Session times:

- KS2: 1.15pm - 2pm
- KS1: 2.15pm - 3pm

We encourage you to come prepared to talk maths with your child and discover how we promote depth of understanding and mathematical thinking in every lesson. We would love to see you there!

Class News

Keep up-to-date with all great things 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/>



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Explore
Create
Reuse
Play! ♥

BRIDGETOWN BINGO!

Loose Parts, Big Adventures!

Small Things
Make a
Big
Difference! ♥

We are collecting loose parts for our OPAL play areas and we need your help!

Each class has a Bridgetown Bingo board with items to collect linked to a fun theme.

Work together to find, gather and bring in the items from your board.

The first class to complete their board will win **15 minutes of extra OPAL playtime!**

How it works...

1



Each class has a themed bingo board with items to collect.

2



Look at the list before bringing anything in.

3



Bring in the items from your board.

We only need 1-2 of each item.

4



The first class to complete their board will win

15 minutes of extra OPAL playtime!

Our 8 exciting themes!

Make a Splash!



Mud, Mess and MasterChefs!



Imagine That!



Den-tastic!



Rooting Around!



X Marks the Spot!



The Great British Make Off!



Shake, Rattle and Roll!



Reuse
Recycle
Get Creative!
Thank you! ♥



Please remember...

- ✓ Only bring in items that are on your class bingo list.
- ✓ We only need 1-2 of each item.
- ✓ Please do not buy anything new.
- ✓ Check with an adult if you are unsure.

CHECK THE LIST!



OPAL

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 have you learned about yourself and your senses?

How are you similar to and different from your friends?



What makes you special?



Who are your trusted adults?

What could you do if something made you feel worried?

How can you help everyone feel they belong?

Year 1



Which fairy tales have you explored?

What lessons can fairy tales teach us?



If you could create your own fairy tale, what would happen?

Who could you ask for help if something worried you?



What makes someone a good friend?

What should you do if someone is unkind?

Year 2



How have phones changed over time?

How has technology changed the way we communicate?



Which invention has made the biggest difference to communication?



How can we communicate respectfully?

What information should we keep private online?

What would you do if a message made you uncomfortable?

Curriculum Conversations (cont.)

Year 3



How has printing changed since Gutenberg's time?

How do comics and animations bring stories to life?



If you could invent a new way to tell stories, what would it be?



Why is it important to check whether information is true?

How can our words affect other people?

What does being respectful online look like?

Year 4



What is the difference between the Internet and the World Wide Web?

How does information travel between connected computers?



How would our lives change without the Internet?



What makes a password strong?

How can you tell if something online might untrustworthy?

What would you do if something online didn't feel right?

Year 5



What have you learned about the Earth, Sun and Moon?

How has space exploration helped us understand our world?



Should humans explore other planets? Why?



Why is teamwork important when solving problems?

How can we disagree respectfully?

What responsibilities do scientists have when developing new technology?

Year 6



What different codes have you explored?

How can codes help people communicate securely?



How might communication change in the future?



Why is keeping personal information secure important?

How can we protect our privacy online?

How can we disagree with others respectfully, both online and offline?

A Splash of Autumn Colour

A whole page of beautiful autumn artwork from our Early Years children... just because! We could not resist sharing their wonderful creations, full of gorgeous seasonal colours and creativity. Enjoy!



School Awards

Well done to the following pupils who have received awards in Achievement Assemblies...

Week beginning: Monday 5 October 2026

Year 1: Grace and Miley

Year 2: Frankie and Tommy

Year 3: Elise and Henry

Year 4: Orla and Elvet

Year 5: Out on a school visit!

Year 6: Mila and Oliver

Values Champions: Ellis and Presley

Best Attendance for two weeks ago: Woodpeckers Class with **100%**



Week beginning: Monday 12 October 2026

Year 1: Connie and Talulah

Year 2: Warza and Aiden

Year 3: Ella and Lucas

Year 4: Lyla and Hania

Year 5: Donnie and all Herons

Year 6: Evie-Rose and Samuel

Values Champions: Ace and Amy

Best Attendance for last week: Woodpeckers Class with **100%**



Keeping Children Healthy This Term

As we approach the time of year when coughs and colds become more common, there are some simple but effective steps we can all take to help reduce the spread of illness and keep more children in school and learning. At school, we will continue to promote regular hand washing and good ventilation by opening windows, alongside our usual measures to support good hygiene and wellbeing. The Department for Education (DfE) has also produced a short, one-minute video for parents and carers, providing helpful advice about illness-related absence and staying healthy. Here is the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i5KxggkPTw

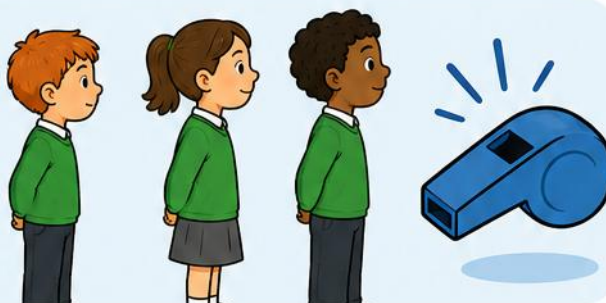


Behaviour in the Lunch Hall!



1

Line up when the whistle blows for your class's lunch.



2

Wait in the queue with your hands behind your back.
Say **thank you** to the school cooks.



3

Put your hand up when you want to leave your seat.



4

Carefully, empty your food into the bin using your fork.
Do not bang your tray or drop food on the floor.
Stack your trays neatly.



Ready



Respectful



Safe

Together we are Ready, Respectful and Safe.

Key Dates 2026-27

Autumn Term 1

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
Sunday 8 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
Monday 30 November 2026	Rocksteady Concert (Monday bands) 2.30pm
Friday 4 December 2026	Rocksteady Concert (Friday bands) 10.30am
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

**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!

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
Monday 8 March 2027	Rocksteady Concert (Monday bands) 2.30pm
Thursday 11 March 2027	OPAL Afternoon for Parents/Carers 1.45pm – 3pm
Friday 12 March 2027	Rocksteady Concert (Friday bands) 10.30am
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	Rocksteady Concert (Friday bands) 10.30am
Friday 2 July 2026	Clubs end
Monday 5 July 2027	Rocksteady Concert (Monday bands) 2.30pm
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

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



EVERY DAY COUNTS!

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



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

**Stratford
Youth
Theatre**

Stratford Youth Theatre
Presents:

Hans Christian Andersen's

THE SNOW QUEEN

'Perfect for the whole family
to enjoy this half term'



Wednesday 28th - Saturday 31st October

At Rother Street Arts House

Tickets available on line:
www.rotherstreetarts.org
or scan the QR code



SCAN HERE



www.stratfordyouththeatre.com