



Bridgend News

June 2021



Dear Parents/Carers

This is the final newsletter of this school session and I can't believe we have made it this far – what a challenging year and a half it's been for everyone.

I would like to thank you for all your support, especially in adhering to the tight restrictions and guidelines when coming in and around the vicinity of the school.

We look forward to welcoming our new children coming in to Primary 1 and would also take this opportunity, to wish our Primary 7 pupils the very best of luck as they move on to the next chapter of their journey.

Remember our nursery is open over the Summer break and the staff are ready to welcome your child/ren during this time.

Please keep yourselves safe and look after each other over the Summer break.

Kind regards

Jackie Aitken
Head Teacher

Staffing News



At this time of year there are also many changes, including to staffing. We are very sad to lose Miss Corsar, however, wish her all the very best in her new venture at Deans High

School. We are delighted to welcome Miss McGillivray who will be joining us for the next year. She will have responsibility for Primary 1/2 in August.

Mr Stewart will be reducing one of his days as he has been successful in securing a development post as Health and Wellbeing Development Officer for the Local Authority. Mr Stewart will continue to be with us on a Wednesday and alternative Fridays and we will continue to benefit from his expertise in this area.

A letter advising of staff roles will be issued shortly.

Health & Safety/Medical



A reminder please that if your child has any health/medical issues, then this information should be updated and the possibility of a Health Care Plan be discussed. Please contact us to discuss this if you have any concerns. For pupils with severe allergies, we need to ensure the appropriate risk assessment is in place, so once again, please alert us if this is the case.

Sometimes we make small changes and forget to inform all our contacts. In the event of you getting a new phone number, please ensure you update your contact details on the Parents' Portal. You can also check that all your contact details are up-to-date on this forum.

Remember to check the Scottish Government website ParentClub, for support/advice if required. This provides up-to-date and relevant information, covering a variety of themes, sleep, challenging behaviour, so definitely worth a look:

www.parentclub.scot/topics/coronavirus/coping-with-parenting

Online Safety



As previously mentioned, please ensure your child is safe and accessing age appropriate content on the internet, especially during their free time over the Summer break. I've included links that you can check, to ensure your child's access is managed accordingly. There are separate sections for parents/carers:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

- advice on setting up parental controls and advice on sexting, online games and video apps.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> - pros, cons and things for parents to be aware of for each of themain and emerging social media and gaming apps.

We continue to stress the importance of ensuring your child is safe and responsible when online.

Digital learning will continue to be a focus next session and we are extremely lucky to have Mrs Hunt lead on this area. We will keep you up-to-date with information in the new session.

Community News



LYPP: I can't believe the Summer is here already and can't wait to see something of a more LYPP programme take shape. This year we're planning on running a number of activities for both the primary aged young people and those in secondary school both as trips away and within the village. We are still waiting on our funding being confirmed however we'll release this information as soon as possible both on social media and through our Thursday evening football sessions. Please also keep a look out for the next Bridgend Community Newsletter arriving at the start of July and encourage your young people to enter the summer feeling photo competition. Hope to see you all soon and if you need to get in touch or need more information please contact us through social media or by emailing graeme@lypp.org.uk! Graeme

Church news: 'It is time for me to say farewell to Bridgend School community. I started visiting the school back in 1998 at the invitation of the then Head Teacher. But of course back in 1998 the school was in the original building down on the main road which is now converted into houses and flats. I have enjoyed visiting the school down the years and have always been made very welcome. When I arrived at the school for class visits there is often a welcome from the girls in the playground and in the corridor. In class, I have admired the enthusiasm of the children in answering questions and sometimes their imagination and ideas have given me answers I wasn't expecting. I have always enjoyed the end of term celebrations in the school and in Kingscavil church where the music and singing has lifted my spirit. But one of the memories I will always

recall, was the whole school performance in the theatre at the Howden Park Centre in Livingston. Bridgend may be a small school in a small community, but there are a lot of gifted adults and children who make it a special place. I wish everyone the very best and say a heartfelt thank you to the staff and children for making me feel at home in the Bridgend School Community. Best wishes, Scott Marshall.'

We wish Mr Marshall a long and happy retirement!

Uniform/Expectations



When we return in August, we will expect all pupils to be wearing school uniform. We have also had new flooring in several rooms throughout the school and in order to protect this, please ensure your child brings in their indoor shoes to wear.

Positive Behaviour Blueprint

Our Positive Response Behaviour blueprint will continue to be a focus next session and we look forward to working closely with you to further develop this.

Nursery



Remember to send your child to nursery with sun cream on, a sun hat and bring change of clothing, as there will be lots of outdoor water play!

Financial Support



Advice Shop
If you have money worries and need help, please contact the Advice Shop by phoning 01506

283000 to speak to an adviser who can offer advice and support. Or complete the referral form: <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/advice-shop-referral>

If you are in urgent need of immediate financial assistance West Lothian Council's Scottish Welfare Fund may be able to help. Please refer to the guidance to apply for a crisis grant:

<http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/old/article/4362/Scottish-Welfare-Fund>

Dates for your Diary



June

25 End of Term

August

16 In-Service Day

17 Pupils resume

