



St Bridget's C of E Primary School

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Together Everyone Achieves More

17-10-17

Dear Parents,

Building work update

The last of the building work has nearly been finished. Thank you for your patience. The children are certainly appreciating the new classes and playground. As well as providing two new reception classes and toilets, we also have a separate room for the before and after school club which has access via its own entrance. This additional class is now used as a teaching room for year 6 and we are able to provide 3 classes and 3 teachers for the large year 6 cohort of children. The project has finally linked all of our classes into one building. As an aside, in my first year of Headship at St. Bridget's we had only just moved two classes from what is now the museum and Church Centre into the school.

The last of the building company's containers will be moved on Friday so please watch out for big machinery on or near the school site. The next job is to create learning and play spaces in the infant playground. This will involve working with the Parents Association and organising playground marking so that we can identify areas which we will fence off for quiet spaces or ball games etc. We will develop this over the next term.

Sleepout Challenge

Following last years success a number of the staff from St. Bridget's are taking on the Sleepout Challenge. Some of the staff will Sleepout overnight in the school hall and some of the more adventurous members of staff will sleep out in the playground under the stars or the Gazebo if there is room! This is the second year we have decided to complete the challenge. Last year the weather was kind to us, but the church bells rang all night and literally shook us awake each hour. By 5.30am we were all in school having completed the fastest commute ever. We will see what challenges this year brings, remembering that for us it is only one night.

We are completing this a week before Advent starts because of the clash with the school fair. The Advent Sleepout is a national, sponsored event to help marginalised people in England transform their lives and communities through the work of the Church Urban Fund.

[Sleepout Challenge](#)

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the book fair. The school received £628.37 in rewards which we will use to update the library stock with.

Halloween/Bonfire Night

Parents please remember that some children's Hallowe'en costumes can be extremely flammable. There have been some horrific accidents in recent years. Check the labelling in any costumes you buy and tell your child to take care when near an open flame. Also, consider using LED lights in pumpkins instead of candles. If you do use candles, be extra careful both inside and outside the home. Bonfires and nuisance fires can quickly spiral out of control causing devastation to the community and even risking lives. If possible, attend an organised display rather than holding bonfires and hosting firework displays at home. Professional displays are bigger, brighter and much safer for yourself and your local community.

Digital Safety

I have been introduced to an invaluable website for parents www.internetmatters.org/. This is a website established by BT, Sky and TalkTalk to address safeguarding on devices and in gaming. It contains everything that you need to know about setting parental controls on different devices, with printable PDF versions of instructions. If you do give your child a mobile, current advice suggests that you give your old phones to your children rather than buy new/different models for them. In this way parents can control the settings on the phone because they are familiar with the phone. The app 'ourpact' is definitely worth investigating if you want to extend your parental controls. It establishes a 'pact' between your device and your child's device.

Community News

Eco-church Project

As part of our eco-church project we invite you to join us during half term for an eco-craft session. We will be making a full sized mini beast hotel and learning how to make bird food for our garden to keep the birds fed through winter. Sessions are free and all are very welcome (but children need to be accompanied please). Caldry Church Hall & grounds. Thursday 26th October. 10.30-12noon. You don't need to book, but it would help us if we knew you were coming. Contact Revd. Emma, 625 1727 rev.em@outlook.com

Friends of St. Bridget's

A group called "Friends of St Bridget's Church" has been set up recently. Its' objectives are to draw support and interest from people who have an affinity with St Bridget's Church but who are not members of the regular worshipping congregation. This may include many of the parents of St Bridget's School. Membership is only £5 per year. If you would like to join the Friends of St Bridget's Church then please email friends@stbridgets.org.uk.

The Friends of St Bridget's Church are also looking for more people to join their committee. There is very little work involved and their meetings are only once a quarter. If you feel you could commit an hour or so each quarter to join this committee, please contact Nick Ledingham on noledingham@btinternet.com or on 07778 527479.

Polite Reminders

Scooters/Bikes

The local roads are very busy in the morning. I have received emails asking me to remind parents about ensuring their child travels to school safely, especially if they are using a bike or scooter. We have had a few incidents where children have not been in control of their scooter and collided with other adults or children. This is never a good way to start or end the school day.

Voluntary One-way

To ease congestion in the morning we do operate a one-way driving approach on Ludlow Drive. We also have agreement from Hickorys and the Ring O'Bells that we can use their car parks for short periods of time. Please use the link for more information.

[Voluntary One-way driving at St. Bridgets](#)

Sports Events

Well done to all of the cross country team who have represented school. We have had some winners and fantastic performances. I am equally proud of all of those children who take part and finish their own race. Well done.

Key Dates (all dates on website)

Parents Evenings this week

Christmas Fair – Friday 1st December 5pm-8pm

Monday 18th December – EYFS Christmas Nativity - 9.30am in school

Tuesday 19th December - Year 1 Christmas Assembly - 9.30am in school

Wednesday 20th December – Year 2/3 – Christmas Service 9.30 am St. Bridget's Church

Thursday 21st December – Year 4-6 Christmas Service 9.30am St. Bridget's Church

Change of Inset day - Inset Day 3 is now scheduled for Friday 16th February and not Friday 25th May.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Le Feuvre

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