



St Bridget's C of E Primary School

St Bridget's Lane,
West Kirby,
Wirral CH48 3JT
Tel: 0151 625 7652

Headteacher: Mr Neil Le Feuvre
Email: schooloffice@stbridgets.wirral.sch.uk
Website: <https://st-bridgets.eschools.co.uk/website>



Together Everyone Achieves More

19-10-18

Dear Parents,

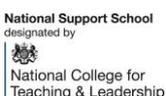
Yesterday, Year 6 led our Harvest Service in church. Thank you for all of the produce and gifts of food brought into school. We have sent all of the donations to the Charles Thompson Mission. During the service Year 6 reminded us of the imbalance of resources in the world and challenged us to consider how we can live by the Global Goals. Below are the Global Goals adopted by the UN, charting sustainable development for people and the planet by 2030. This year we are linking up with Chester Zoo to develop our ideas around the themes of Conservation and the effects of pollution, in particular problems caused by plastic. This will culminate in a school wide exhibition in the summer.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



More reading please

During half term, I am encouraging all children to keep reading and read more. I know during the holidays some children naturally have greater access to technology (please see our advice about Fortnite on the website), but I ask that you encourage your child to keep reading, visit bookshops and even the library. For our younger children I am reminded of the fact that **"if you read just one book a day to your child, they will have read 1825 books by their 5th birthday"**. For our older children the positive impacts of reading continue "children who read books often at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who read less regularly". More than this though, regular reading helps to build empathy and helps us build relationships with others.



Parent Evenings

Thank you for attending parents evening. As always we appreciate your feedback as this shapes how we approach these occasions. You will have received a link, via email, on which you can provide some quick feedback. Thank you in advance for your time.

Our vision statement

On the first training day in September the school staff and governors started to review our vision statement. This was a useful process which helps us to inform and define our purpose as a school. I would now like to invite some parents into school on **Thursday 1st November at 3pm**, to share in this review process. If you have some spare time and would like to contribute to discussion, please contact the school office and leave your name.

School success and development

Recently, the Local Authority have written to the school and governors to celebrate our school's overall achievements. The LA noted that the school has maintained high standards throughout the school and noted a particular improvement in phonics. When schools are in our position they are asked to share their knowledge and support other schools, when appropriate. We naturally do this as a recognised National Support School. Last year we worked with a number of local schools and some schools further afield in the Diocese. We have seen the effects through raised attainment and progress in schools, as well as helping one school to come out of an Ofsted category. One emerging strength at St. Bridget's is our approach to Maths, using Maths No Problem (Singapore approach). We are sharing this with several schools later this term who are coming to visit us and view lessons. Very shortly, two of our lead teachers will become accredited trainers using the Maths No Problem approach. This in turn helps us to maintain the standards of the highly skilled staff, who can also train all of the teachers within St. Bridget's.

Well done

Well done to Unai who has had his story published in a Young Writers' competition. We are very proud of him and what a great achievement. His story is published on our news feed.

Website update – only the Twitter feed works

Our website can no longer update both Twitter and Facebook at the same time. We have chosen to just concentrate on using Twitter.

Additional funding for children who have ceased to be looked after by a Local Authority in England and Wales

Due to new Government Regulations, schools can access additional funding for children who have ceased to be looked after by a Local Authority in England and Wales because of adoption, a special guardianship order (SGO), a child arrangements order or a residence order (RO).

This applies to:

- Children adopted from care on or after 30 December 2005;
- Children who left care under a SGO on or after 30 December 2005;
- Children who left care under a RO on or after 14 October 1991; who are currently in Years 7-11.

This information has to be self-declared by parents/carers, which means that we will require evidence of the child's status.

If this does apply to your family and you choose to inform the school, please be assured that this information will be kept completely confidential and will not be discussed with anyone, including your child. However, it may mean that School will then be able to better support your child's education with additional funding.

Leaving school at the end of the day

Recently, a number of parents and staff have expressed concern for the safety of children who have been left to climb trees on the field or the surrounding area. Please ask your children not to do this. The end of school is a busy time and we have reminded children to leave carefully, especially if they are riding a bike/scooter. I would ask that children do not ride their scooters and bikes on the narrow church paths.

Updates and reminders

- Payment of school meals – Please ensure you keep your payments for school meals up-to-date. The school cannot provide credit. Occasionally in our busy lives we sometimes forget, but my catering staff do send reminders and when you receive these it would help if you could respond to it quickly.
- Snacks and items in packed lunch that need to be cut up to avoid choking hazards include: grapes, cherry tomatoes, plum tomatoes and larger segments of fruit such as satsumas or oranges.
- Allergy awareness – please avoid sending in nuts or kiwi fruit. We have a few children in the school who are highly allergic to these foods.

Inset Days

Monday 3rd September

Tuesday 4th September

Friday 19th October

Monday 7th January

Friday 24th May

Yours sincerely,

Neil Le Feuvre

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