Bridgewater Primary

Together rain or shine

Bridgewater Primary School
Bridle Way

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome to the third Travel Group Newsletter. We're a group of parents and local residents, meeting regularly to support the school to make travel safe and stress-free for everyone.

Walk to School Day – Friday 22nd May 2026

It's HCC Walk to School Week coming up, and we'd love everyone to get involved by joining us for a **Walk to School Day on Friday 22nd May!** If you're able to, please walk, cycle or scoot to school on this day. It's a great way to get more cars off the road and for children (and adults!) to start the day feeling calmer and better set for a great day of learning.

Pop it in your diary and please join in if you can – parking and striding counts too! We would love to have as many people as possible walking to school on this day.

The walking bus

The walking bus is up and running and a great success. It runs every Friday, with 12 children and our brilliant volunteers walking from Everyone Active up the hill to school. As well as keeping cars off the road, the children love walking together, learning better road sense, and chatting with their friends on the way to school.

To keep it running, we need new volunteers from September. If you have capacity to drive the bus on a Friday morning each week, please email the school using admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.uk.

We're also hoping to add another bus route, either a second bus going from Everyone Active or a walking bus starting at the Station. Please look out for a walking bus survey which we'll be sending out very soon.

The rear gate

The rear gate is now open every school day between 8.15 and 8.30am. It's accessible via the footpath that runs from Bridgewater Road, crosses Meadow Road and onto the corner of the school field. This gives families another option to travel to school, especially for families living near Bridgewater Road, and with quieter roads and a footpath, it is a

safer option for children who are walking independently.

We need some volunteers at the gate to greet the children as they come into school each day. If you could give less than half an hour one day a week (or more!) please get in touch with the school using admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.uk.

Improving parking and reducing our speed

As we know, double parking on Bridle Way is a problem at busy times and we've also noticed some cars parking on the pavement. This can be really dangerous for children and other pedestrians and sadly, there have been a couple of near misses. Let's all do our part to keep the paths clear so everyone can enjoy a safe walk to school each day.

We've been in touch with the council about future speed and parking measures. The council has completed its consultation with local residents with regard to parking measures and this will be going ahead. We'll keep you posted with any updates, but in the meantime, please:

- Complete this 'Report a parking problem' online form if you have a parking concern. If you want to report an incident, please contact us at school, but please bear in mind, we have no authority over the parking on the roads outside school - please also avoid confronting anybody directly.
- Check out our travel map and travel rules in the Travel to School section on the website – why not Park and Stride, use the KS2 drop off zone or use the back gate?
- Contact Councillor Nigel Taylor at Dacorum Borough Council using nigel.taylor@hertfordshire.gov.uk asking for a 20mph speed limit on the roads around the school. With or without an official reduction in the speed limit, we can all keep our speed down anyway – remember, twenty is plenty around a school!

No parking in the school car park between 7.45am and 4.30pm

And finally, a reminder that parking is not allowed for families in the school grounds **between 7.45am and 4.30pm** (unless you have permission from the school to do so). This is to keep the car park available for our staff and safe for our children.

Thanks for your support. And do get in touch if you'd like to get involved.

The Travel Group