Bridgewater Primary

Together rain or shine

Bridgewater Primary School
Bridle Way
Berkhamsted
Herts. HP4 1ES
T 01442 871 231
E admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.uk

September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have all enjoyed the summer holidays and are looking forward to returning to school on Thursday. We are looking forward to welcoming the children back into their classes and hearing all about their summer adventures.

Start of term updates and reminders
Please see the table below with the usual start and end of day arrangements. For Nursery and Reception, please refer to your child's individual letter about staggered start times.

<table>
<tr><th></th><th>Drop off in the morning</th><th>Collection after school</th></tr>
<tr><td>Nursery</td><td>Nursery parents take children to the Nursery entrance up the steps by the main office area from 8.30am</td><td>Nursery parents collect from the Nursery entrance at the end of morning (11.30am), lunch (12.00) or afternoon sessions (3pm).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Reception</td><td>Reception children wait on the top playground and then enter school after Year 1 and 2 have exited at 8.30am.</td><td>At 3pm, teachers release children back to their parents from Reception doors.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 1</td><td rowspan="2">Year 1 and 2 children line up on the top playground at 8.30am, after the whistle blows. Teachers then take them to their classrooms.</td><td rowspan="2">Year 1 and 2 children are taken to the top playground where teachers release them to parents and carers (3.15pm).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 2</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 3</td><td rowspan="4">From 8.20am, children can enter via KS2 gate or the rear gate and walk straight to their classroom.

Children must be in class by 8.30am for morning registration.</td><td>Year 3 and 4 children are taken to the bottom playground by their teachers and then released to parents and carers (3.15pm)
Parents and carers must collect children from the playground as opposed to waiting on the driveway.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 4</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 5</td><td>Year 5 and 6 children are dismissed from their classes at 3.15pm and walk out of the KS2 gate.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 6</td></tr>
</table>

PE, Forest School Days and School Uniform

Your child's Year Group Booklet, containing lots of information about their routine will be circulated this week. The table below shows when your child will be doing PE, when they will need to come to school wearing their PE kit and trainers. It also shows when they have Forest School, so please ensure that they have their Forest School clothing and wellies in school by that day. For Nursery - Year 4 these should then remain in school until half term.

PE and Forest School begin week commencing Monday 8th September

Year Group	Forest School Day	PE Day
Reception	Thursday	Firecrest - Wednesday Goldcrest - Friday
Year 1	Wednesday	Wagtail - Tuesday Kingfisher - Friday
Year 2	Thursday	Tuesday Wednesday
Year 3	Monday	Tuesday Thursday
Year 4	Tuesday	Mallard - Wednesday All of Year 4 - Thursday Teal - Friday
Year 5	Once per half term - follow this link for details.	Monday Friday
Year 6	Once per half term - follow this link for details	Tuesday Wednesday

Forest School rotation timetables giving details of which houses do forest school each week are available on the school website.

School Uniform

As a reminder, I have also included a link to the letter which was sent out in June regarding school uniform requirements. Please note that since then, in response to parental feedback, we have changed our policy so that children can wear navy, grey or black skirts, skorts or pinafores (previously only navy was specified) as part of their uniform. N.B. there is no change to PE kit colours.

School uniform requirements 26/27

If you need more uniform we encourage you to buy pre-loved. Please contact admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.uk with your requirements.

Meet the Teacher Evening - Thursday 17th September

All parents and carers are invited to attend our 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Thursday 17th September. **Please note that this event is for parents only.** Parking will be available on the lower playground. If you park around the school please do so considerately.

Times	Event
6.00pm - 6.30pm	Meet class teachers in classroom (Reception-Year 6)
6.30pm - 7.00pm	Meet class teachers in the classroom (Nursery - Year 6 and The Haven)
7.00pm - 7.30pm	Headteacher's talk, where I will share our strategic priorities for the year.

Families who have more than two children will be able to make a separate appointment to visit any teachers that they were unable to meet on 17th September.

Home School Agreement, Home School Communication and Parent Code of Conduct Policies.
Please familiarise yourselves with the content of these policies and contact me if you have any questions.
Home School Agreement
Home School Communication Policy
Parent Code of Conduct Policy

Attendance Matters
At Bridgewater, we are committed to ensuring every child attends school regularly and feels safe, supported, and ready to learn. We know that strong attendance is closely linked to academic success, emotional wellbeing, and positive friendships. We work in partnership with families to remove barriers to attendance and support children in developing positive, confident routines for school.
Please see our updated website content regarding attendance.

Please follow the links below for reminders of our online systems for reporting absences, changes to your child's daily collection arrangements, and how to request that the school staff administer medication to your child. Please give the school office staff sufficient notice of these requests whenever possible.
Notifying school of a change of pick up arrangements & reporting absences.
Requests for administering medicine at school

Social Media Update
We will be closing our Bridgewater account on the X platform and opening a new Bridgewater Instagram account. Further details will follow in due course.

I would like to extend a warm welcome from Team Bridgewater to all of our new families and staff and I look forward to meeting you in person over the next few days.

Kind regards,
Andrea Bettridge
Headteacher