

As we come towards the end of a very busy term we wanted to share with you what has been happening at Bridgewater.



A huge **thank you** to everyone who helped donate money or food this term. We collected for Jeans for Genes Day, Harvest, Poppy day, Children in Need and Christmas jumper day.

This week we have had a visit from one of Santa's reindeers Chas. He brought presents from Santa for all of the children which they will get at their Christmas party. Santa also paid a visit today to some of our younger children. A big thank you to Project Santa who donated hundreds of parcels for our families.



Nursery and Reception had an amazing time visiting Santa at Plants Plus Garden Centre. The elves were exceptional, and the day was very well organised. Many fun things for children to do.



Year one have enjoyed learning and playing outdoors, we have explored human and physical features in

geography, made and used windsocks in science and had fun at playtimes.



Year 2 visited Beamish Museum as part of our History topic on Victorian Schools. We found out lots of differences between Victorian schools and schools nowadays. The teacher told us all about what the children learned and how the children were punished.

We decided we wouldn't have liked to be a child in Victorian times!

Y3 visit to Vindolanda



"At Vindolanda, we learned about the archaeologists' discovery of a statue of a

Roman Goddess. They don't know who it was so they need to do more



research!" – Cole

"There were lots of different sizes, shapes and colours of sandals, probably worn by the people who lived in Vindolanda under the Roman Empire." – Cole



Y6



Y6 visited the **Newcastle Keep** to find evidence of witches' trials. They spotted blood on the wall, in the exact space described in the

class novel!

We also had an opportunity to take part in a workshop. Where we learned about the persecution of men, women and children who were wrongly accused of witchcraft.



Following in the footsteps of our protagonists,

Eleanor and Izzy, we visited the Lit and Phil to explore the history of witches.



Y6 visit to Safety Works. We learned all about staying safe at

home, on the streets and on the Metro. Working with the police and fire brigade we also explored the laws and social responsibilities.



In Art, Y6 explored the artist of Georgia O Keefe. They created their own flower art, using watercolours.

Commando Joe



Working together; communicating effectively and collaborating as a team, we created different

types of transportation. Inspired by the work of Amelia Earhart, we pushed the boundaries to move objects in different ways.

overwhelmed by the number of parents would be able to come. In Harmony lessons start again on Monday 13th January.

Y6 Career Fair



We explored different career options as we spoke to the different companies at the Career Fair. It was our chance to try new skills and understand career routes.



Staffing changes

Mrs Oyston is starting her maternity leave in January and will be covered by Miss Fareed.

Holiday fines

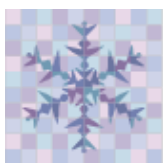
Just a reminder that we need holiday forms completed for any child taking time off during term time. No holidays will be authorised and parents will be fined if their child's absence exceeds 4.5 days (which is 10 sessions or more) across 12 weeks.

Updated Policies

This term we have updated a number of policies please ask for a copy from the office or view them on our website.

Specialist Staff

We have an Educational Psychologist, Counsellor, Well Being Officer and family support team to meet the needs of our children. Please ask if you would like more information about this.



We will be breaking up for Christmas on Thursday 19th December.

Choir Christmas performances



Our choir have been performing at various locations during this festive season. All children will be singing at our carol concerts at St Joseph's church this week.



In Harmony – End of term performances

All year groups performed for their parents before the end of term and we were



WEST Schools' Trust

We are part of the West End Schools' Trust (WEST) with Broadwood, Canning Street, St Johns, Wingrove, Hawthorn, Moorside, St Paul's Primary and Lemington Riverside We work very closely together to provide the best education for all our children.



Attendance and Punctuality

Please ensure your child arrives on time every day and if they are poorly you **must** telephone the office on the first day of absence and every day they are off on **2745290** thank you.



Can I please remind all adults that the school and grounds is a no smoking zone

and no one is allowed to smoke in this area, this includes vapes. In fact it is illegal and anyone caught can face prosecution. Thank you for your support in this.

A huge thank you to all our volunteers who help around school we really do appreciate your time.



After School Club

In our after school childcare the children have the opportunity to do fun activities, have a snack and there is time to get their homework done too. If you are interested in applying for a place please contact the school office. We also have a number of new clubs starting in January so watch out for the letters and holiday activities on Thursday and Friday of the second week of the Christmas holidays (2nd & 3rd Jan 2025).



Remember to make sure we have up to date contact numbers for you in case we have to get in touch in an emergency. We also sent text messages to keep parents informed so it is vital our contact details are up to date. Please ensure you are signed up to class Dojo and let us know about permissions for photographs.

Medical Needs



If your child has a medical need or condition can you let the school office know so it can be recorded on our system.



All **money** paid into school should either be paid directly to the school office or through the class teacher in a labelled envelope. This prevents any loss or confusion over money paid.

Remember here at Bridgewater we offer excellent provision from birth. If you would like to find out more please ask Wendy Harker or ask at the office.



Website

Our website address is

www.bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk

Keep up to date with all the latest news as we also have a facebook and twitter link

Dates for your diary.

Diary Dates	
Thursday 19th December	Break up for Christmas
Thursday 2 nd Jan and Friday 3 rd Jan	Childcare open and holiday activities.
Monday 6 th January	Children to return to school.
Friday 21st February	Break up for half term
Wednesday 5 th March	Parents' afternoon

Message about gifts:

As we approach the Christmas holidays we wanted to remind parents that no one expects them to buy presents for staff in school. While we greatly appreciate any presents received we don't want parents spending money on us, particularly with times being tough for everyone. Instead staff love to get positive messages and this could be done via dojo, written or even just said in person. So can I encourage parents to do this rather than spend money on gifts this Christmas. Thank you.



Merry Christmas Everyone!!