



# THE BRIDGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 1 - 2026

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD ...

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. As we move further into the term, I wanted to take a moment to share some updates and express my thanks for your continued support.

### Improving Attendance

We have recently seen a positive improvement in pupils' attendance across the school, and I would like to thank families for working closely with us to make this possible. Good attendance is vital—every day in school helps children build confidence, strengthen friendships, and make steady academic progress. Please continue to support your child in attending regularly and punctually. If you ever need guidance or support with attendance, our team is here to help.

### Celebrating This Half Term

Please take a look at all the amazing things the children have been doing this half term. From creative classroom projects to sporting achievements and special events, it has been wonderful to see pupils engaging so enthusiastically in their learning. We are incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished.

### Star of the Week Assemblies

Our weekly Star of the Week assemblies continue to be a highlight. It is wonderful to see pupils celebrated for their effort, kindness, resilience, and achievements. These moments genuinely inspire the whole school community, and we are very proud of each pupil recognised.

### Parent Survey Opening – 23rd February

We will be launching our next Parent Survey on 23rd February. This will be available online, and we warmly encourage all families to take part. Your feedback is incredibly valuable—it helps us celebrate what is working well and identify areas where we can continue to grow and improve. A link will be shared closer to the date.

### Keeping Contact Details Up to Date

A gentle reminder to ensure that the school office has your most up-to-date contact information. This includes phone numbers, addresses, and emergency contacts. Accurate information helps us reach you quickly and keep communication smooth, especially in the event of an emergency or important update.

### Thank You

Finally, thank you for your constant support. The partnership between home and school makes such a difference to our pupils' success and wellbeing. We truly appreciate all you do.

Warm regards,

Andrew Seager  
Headteacher

## ATTENDANCE - BRIDGE IS THE PLACE TO BE!

As we reach the midpoint of the school year, we're delighted to celebrate a fantastic achievement: our whole-school attendance has improved significantly compared with last year. Our persistent absence rate has reduced by 5%, meaning more pupils are attending school regularly and benefiting from consistent learning.

A huge thank-you to all our parents and carers for your continued partnership and commitment to excellent attendance. Our Inclusive Attendance Programme is now taking shape and reflects our dedication to maintaining high standards while supporting the individual needs of our children. It also ensures our approach is fully aligned with the attendance law changes introduced in August 2024. This work highlights the strength of teamwork—between school, families and external agencies—all collaborating to help every child thrive. More information, including our Multi-Tiered System of Support, is available on our school website.

We also recognise that winter often brings seasonal illnesses. If you're ever unsure whether your child is well enough to attend school, please check the NHS guidance "Is My Child Too Ill for School?" online. And remember, we're always here to help—please speak to a member of our school staff if you have any concerns. The health and wellbeing of our pupils remain our highest priority.

Finally, we're excited to introduce our new mascot, Bertie The Bridge School Buddy, who has made a wonderful impression throughout the school. Staff, parents and visitors have loved seeing how all our pupils interact with him. He's also been starring in several Dojo videos to help share important messages. Keep an eye out for Bertie around school and on our online platforms!

**'Bridge is the place to be'**

**#ATTENDANCEMATTERS**

## EYFS BADGERS

As part of our Once upon a time... project this half term, EYFS Badgers have been exploring learning opportunities through play-based activities. We have been using materials to design and make with.

We have explored different building materials (wooden blocks, Duplo, Lego) to design and make the Three Bear's house and simple bridges for the Billy Goats Gruff to cross over. We persevered to make objects balance and had fun working alongside adults and peers. 🚀🌟



## OTTERS

We enjoyed a sensory experience in Otters class to learn about Burns Night. We explored tartan scarves and did mark making in oats. We listened to bagpipes and drumming and enjoyed experiencing the mist. 🚀🌟





## OPTIMISTIC OWLS

The Optimistic Owls have had an excellent half term engaging in new and exciting learning linked to our 'Toybox Adventure' topic. In English, we began by exploring the exciting narrative of 'The Old Toy Room' and created and performed a five-sentence story focused on our actions and practised signing Makaton signs associated with the story. We then explored the animation of Toy Story through engaging with matching games, role-play and constructing sentences using Colourful Semantics. We loved designing and describing characters from both narratives.



In Maths, we have been developing our knowledge of Place Value, comparing numbers and counting in steps of different integers. We have also been engaging with practical activities linked to counting and comparing using sweets, modelling dough and Lego. In Science and History, we have loved exploring old and new toys and the forces created when different toys and everyday objects move, we especially loved testing toy cars and exploring how fast and slow they move on different textured ramps. In DT, we have also explored a range of push and pull toys and made our own sock puppets, moving owls and split-pin toys.

Owls have also enjoyed a range of extra-curricular activities including weekly PE sessions engaging in activities linked to Gymnastics and the movement of different creatures. We have also loved attending weekly music sessions on a Friday with Music for Life. Our class has actively engaged with and enjoyed a range of Topic based learning including activities linked to Valentines Day, Internet safety Day and families.

We have had a super start to 2026 and are looking forward to new and exciting learning next half term. Miss Jenkins and the Optimistic Owls. 🦉🌟





## SQUIRRELS

Toys, toys, toys! We've explored different types of toys and their movements in Science. We looked at different surfaces and how our cars flew down them!

We have designed and made sock puppets in DT.

We loved the snow and have had the best time in PE. From climbing to moving to archery; the children have had a blast. In maths, we have moved from number to shape and created our own shape islands.

In English we have sequenced, role played and created sentences based on old toys and the adventures of Woody and Buzz.



## THE DETERMINED DEERS AND THE THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF ADVENTURE

The Determined Deers have had a wonderful time bringing The Three Billy Goats Gruff to life in both our outdoor area and soft-play space.

This story has offered rich opportunities for the children to explore learning through movement, imagination, and problem-solving. As they stepped into the roles of the goats and the troll, the children practised important skills such as following multi-step sequences, taking turns, and navigating shared spaces safely. They worked on understanding story structure, using expressive language, and interpreting the actions and words of others. The physical nature of the activity—climbing, balancing, crawling, and navigating different textures—supported body awareness and coordination, while the playful interactions encouraged confidence, cooperation, and resilience.

It has been a joy to see each child engage at their own pace, express themselves creatively, and celebrate success in a way that felt meaningful to them. 🐐⭐



## REMARKABLE RABBITS

It's Remarkable Rabbits here! This half-term we have been exploring the theme of toys. Our main goal has been to help children explore a wider variety of toys and use these with function and purpose.

We loved taking part in the Big Garden bird Watch and all children helped to make a bird feeder. Our class are developing confidence and independence whilst at school and this is showing in the new friendships we have blossoming within the classroom.

We also recently took part in the National Storytelling Week and all children were given extra time to be read to 1 to 1 daily to boost their interest in reading. 🐰📖✨



## FANTASTIC FOXES ON THE MOVE!

This half term, the Fantastic Foxes have been incredibly busy in PE and Gymnastics, and we are so proud of all the amazing things they have achieved.

Our sessions have been full of movement, smiles and confidence building. The children have been jumping up and down on the spot, exploring how their bodies move and enjoying the feeling of being active. They have shown great focus while copying different poses and movements, watching carefully and having a go themselves. We've also been practising spinning, stretching, and moving up and down off the floor, helping the children to develop balance, coordination and body awareness. Every session has been full of fun as the children explored new ways to move, travel and express themselves. Most importantly, the Fantastic Foxes have shown fantastic engagement, confidence and enjoyment, celebrating their own successes and each other's efforts. It has been wonderful to see their smiles, determination and growing independence during PE.



Well done, Fantastic Foxes – we can't wait to see what exciting movements you'll master next! 🦊🦊🦊



## HEDGEHOGS

Our hardworking Hedgehogs have had a fantastic start to 2026! They have been learning all about our Toy theme and have enjoyed listening to stories such as The Old Toy Room and Toy Story. Using Talk for Writing, the children have been retelling stories with great enthusiasm, using words, gestures, and signs.

The Hedgehogs have also been practising our Singing Hands song "Roar", impressing us all with their wonderful singing and signing skills. In gymnastics this half term, they have been busy climbing, running, and jumping — and we may have even lost a few socks in the foam pit! In maths, the hardworking Hedgehogs have been focusing on money, learning the names and values of different coins. What a brilliant and busy start to the year! 🐾🌟



### FIND US ONLINE

If you are on facebook, please like, follow and share our page with family and friends. You'll find us under 'The Bridge School'.

If you are on X(Twitter), please follow @TheBridgeSch.

We pride ourselves on creating a happy, caring atmosphere where every child is encouraged and inspired to achieve their potential and develop a love of learning.

[www.bridge.fet.ac](http://www.bridge.fet.ac) T: 0121 464 8265 • E: [enquiry@bridge.fet.ac](mailto:enquiry@bridge.fet.ac)

