



THE BRIDGE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 2 - 2026

A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD ...

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy and rewarding term, I want to begin by offering a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent Parent Survey. Your feedback is incredibly valuable to us. We will now take time to analyse the results in detail, and we look forward to sharing key findings and our actions with you during the summer term.

This term has been filled with energy, enthusiasm and plenty of memorable learning moments. Pupils have thrown themselves into activities with curiosity and joy, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence and excitement grow each week.

A particular highlight has been our Stay and Read sessions, which ran during the week commencing 16th March. It was fantastic to welcome so many of you into school to share books and reading time with your children. Your involvement makes such a difference, and we are grateful for your support.

I would also like to extend a big thank you to Friends of The Bridge for organising the brilliant Easter Extravaganza. The pupils had a wonderful time, and we are delighted to share that details of the Summer Fayre will be coming your way shortly.

Key Dates

Please make a note of the following half-day closures in the summer term:

- Thursday 30th April
- Friday 5th June
- Monday 15th June
-

School will reopen to pupils after the Easter break on **Monday 13th April**.

Thank you once again for your continued support throughout the term. I wish all our pupils and families a restful and enjoyable Easter break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back very soon.

Warm regards,

Andrew Seager
Headteacher

IMPORTANT UPDATE: DfE CHANGES TO THE USE OF REASONABLE FORCE & RESTRICTIVE INTERVENTION GUIDANCE 2

The Department for Education (DfE) has recently updated its national guidance on the use of reasonable force and other restrictive interventions in schools, with new requirements coming into effect from April 2026. These changes strengthen expectations around how schools keep pupils safe, how incidents are recorded, and how families are informed.

At our school, we believe that all behaviour is a form of communication, often signalling an unmet need. The updated DfE guidance aligns closely with what we already do every day to support your child:

- We always prioritise de-escalation. Our staff use calming strategies, regulation approaches and relationship-based support before anything else. We work hard to unpick the communication behind behaviours so we can understand what your child is trying to express and address the underlying need.
- Physical intervention is only ever used to keep someone safe, and only when absolutely necessary and proportionate to the situation.
- If a significant incident occurs, we will continue to record it carefully and inform you as soon as possible, so you understand what happened and how your child was supported.
- We will also continue to work with external professionals where needed to ensure your child receives the right support at the right time.

Our approach remains centred on safety, dignity, communication and understanding, and these national updates simply strengthen the values and practices already embedded in our school.

What The Changes Might Mean for Parents

You may receive more communication from staff about occasions where your child requires additional support to remain safe and regulated in school. This ensures parents are fully informed as part of a transparent safeguarding system.

Safeguarding remains central. All recording and reporting requirements are designed to protect children and ensure that support needs are identified quickly.

Working Together

We appreciate your support as we implement these national updates. If you have any questions about our behaviour or safeguarding procedures, please contact the school office.

Together, we can ensure every child feels safe, supported, and understood.

EYFS BADGERS

Spring:

The children explored the signs of spring through sensory play and hands on activities. They have shared stories about chicks and other animals. They have enjoyed planting, felt different textures and experienced changes in the weather.

Planetarium Visit:

The planetarium visit was amazing. The children watched the stars and planets appear all around them. They further explored lights and stars, using specific actions to cause an effect and used switches to start and stop torches.

World Book Day:

The children enjoyed dressing up, sharing favourite stories, and taking part in sensory story sessions designed to help everyone join in.

Preparing for Eid and Easter:

We have been exploring patterns and colours linked to the celebration of Eid. We have started our Easter activities, including exploring symbols like eggs and chicks, taking part in sensory play linked to springtime.



OTTERS

Otters class have been exploring the seasonal changes outside the classroom.



SQUIRRELS

Spring has sprung and we have had so much fun. We started with Lunar New Year celebrations and had a visit from a lucky horse! Our learning has been based on The Enormous Turnip. The children have acted out the story, learned and performed a brilliant song and sequenced the story. We have grown cress head potatoes, sown seeds and gave them what they needed to grow. We have built amazing tractors and 'Scarecrow Joe' for world Recycling Day using recycling from home. We also went out of this world when we enjoyed the inflatable Planetarium for World Book Day. But the children have been most excited about swimming. It's been a fantastic half term. Have a great Easter.



FANTASTIC FOXES

This term, our class has been enjoying hands on learning through the story of The Enormous Turnip. The children had great fun exploring soil, digging and "planting" as we brought the story to life through practical play.

We also acted out the tale together, with pupils wearing character masks and joining in the movement of pulling the enormous turnip. We especially enjoyed listening to the repeated rhythm of "pull, pull, don't you stop, keep on pulling till the turnip goes POP!" as they took part in the actions.

In the classroom, the children engaged in mark making and crafting linked to the story, exploring textures, colours and characters in their own ways. It has been a joyful, sensory rich topic filled with teamwork, creativity and lots of muddy fun!



OWLS

The Optimistic Owls have had a wonderful half term engaging in new and exciting learning linked to our 'Plant it, Grow it, Eat it' topic.

In English, we explored the exciting narrative of Oliver's Vegetables and engaged in sensory stories and practical learning opportunities linked to the story. 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 Geometry through building shapes, making shapes out of the environment and creating patterns using 2D and 3D shapes.

In Science, we have loved growing our own plants and testing how plants grow in different environments. A particular highlight was designing our own funny cress heads! In Art and Computing, we have made our own flowers using clay, mark making apps and modelling dough.

We have also enjoyed our Geography topic where we have conducted our own scavenger hunts and treasure hunts around the school, developing our knowledge of directions.

Owls class have also enjoyed a range of extra-curricular activities including weekly PE sessions engaging in activities linked to Target Games specifically developing our throwing and catching skills. 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 World Book Day, World Sleep Day, Mother's Day, Eid and Easter!

Wishing you all a happy and restful Spring break, Miss Jenkins and the Optimistic Owls.



HEDGEHOGS

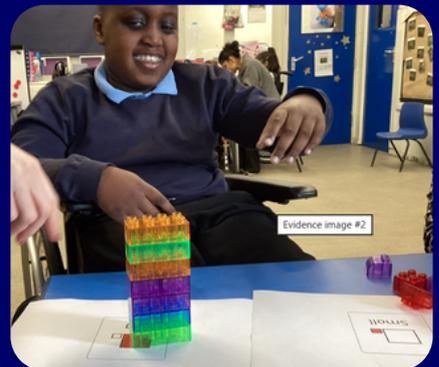
The Hardworking Hedgehogs have had a wonderfully busy half-term! We began with our Chinese New Year celebrations, where the children loved making colourful lanterns and acting out the story of the Zodiac Race.

In class, we explored our focus story *The Enormous Turnip*. The children planted seeds, learned the names of different vegetables using our "Enormous Turnip" tuff tray, and even chopped vegetables to make our own imaginary turnip soup!

In maths we have been comparing size, using word big, small, tall short heavy and light.

We also celebrated World Book Day, which was truly out of this world! The Hedgehogs transformed into astronauts for the day and enjoyed a fantastic trip to the planetarium.

It has been an exciting and enriching few weeks, and we are so proud of everything the Hedgehogs have achieved.

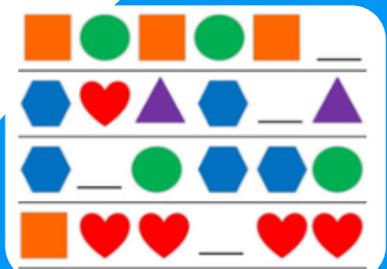


BUTTERFLIES

This term, the Butterflies have been busy doing some fantastic work centred around our story *Chicken Licken*. The children have loved creating their own collages using a range of materials, and they have also enjoyed taking part in some wonderful cooking and mark-making activities.

In maths, the children have been exploring and creating different patterns, showing great curiosity and creativity. They have also worked exceptionally hard on developing their turn-taking and sharing skills with their peers.

What an amazing term it has been — we are so proud of all their achievements!



BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE – SPRING FUN & ADVENTURES!

Over the Easter holiday is a perfect opportunity for children to enjoy some **Spring-themed enrichment activities** at home as part of our Bridge to the Future programme.

At The Bridge School, we want every child to be happy, healthy and curious. Our 50 enrichment activities encourage children to try new things, build confidence, develop important life skills and make wonderful memories. Each activity they complete can be added to their enrichment portfolio, helping them work towards certificates and celebrate their achievements.

Here are some lovely Spring activities you and your child could enjoy today:

- Roll down a hill / lay on the grass
- Plant a seed and watch it grow
- Make a nature crown
- Feed the ducks
- Take part in a water fight
- Explore or help with a vegetable patch
- Create wild art using natural materials
- Do some litter picking
- Visit a farm
- Dress up as a character



These enrichment experiences help develop communication, curiosity, independence, creativity and wellbeing, and can be easily adapted to your child's interests, needs and sense of belonging within the community.

We would love to see what your child gets up to!

Please share photos and updates with your class team on Dojo so we can celebrate their Spring adventures.

Let's make the most of this exciting season of growth, learning and new experiences. We can't wait to see your child's Bridge to the Future achievements blossom!

Miss Jaques

DETERMINED DEERS

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very excited to share with you all what our wonderful Determined Deers have been up to this half term! Our story focus has been "The Enormous Turnip," and the children have enjoyed exploring a range of activities linked to the story. We have been learning all about push and pull, and the Deers have taken part in hands-on experiences to understand the two different forces.

The children have also loved planting their own fruit and vegetables, showing great curiosity and care as they explored how things grow. It has been a joy watching their excitement as they were planting and were exploring the soil.

Also, a huge thank you to all our amazing parents and carers for your continuous support this term. Thanks to you, we have even achieved 100% attendance – an amazing accomplishment that makes a real difference to the children’s learning
 #AttendanceMatters #SchoolSuccess #ProudMoment

Kind regards,

The Determined Deers Team



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 T: 0121 464 8265 • E: enquiry@bridge.fet.ac

