



Newsletter for Parents and Carers Summer 2011

We have nearly completed our first full year as The Bridge School. It has been a very busy year with several challenges that we had prepared for and some that we had not. Who would have thought when the name of the school went out to vote and you all chose 'The Bridge School' and the logo of the Orwell Bridge was used as our school logo that we would be using the Orwell Bridge so often to get from one Campus to the other! It really has become a symbolic link between the two campuses!



Once again this is a very full newsletter full of news from both Campuses on activities that have been taking place and information on the many events that will be happening between now and the end of term. May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your help and support over the last year not only from myself but also Viv and Sara as we made the transition into one school.

I hope you all have a good Summer and hopefully I will see you at the many events we have planned for the end of term.

After School Club on Primary Campus

A number of the children who currently attend the After-School Club will be moving to the secondary campus in September so there will be spaces available on most nights. The cost of the session, from 3.00 p.m. to 5.40 p.m. is £7.00.

If you would like your child to attend the After-School Club in September or for more information please contact Amy Gardner, the Playleader by phoning 0795 664 8536, putting a note in your child's home/school diary or leaving a message in the school office for her to call you back.



Work Experience at Tesco

Jacob from Y10 has just completed his time at Tesco on Work Experience. Ben is about to start his also at Tesco. Here is a brief account of their day.

On arrival at Tesco we sign in and go to our locker to put on our badges. Then we check ourselves in the mirror to make sure we are smart. We work on the shop floor tidying and filling shelves. We have to check dates and return items that are on the wrong shelf and take out any damaged goods.

We have a break and go upstairs to the canteen. It is not such a long break as we get at school. We return to the shop floor and are directed to work in a different area. When we have finished it is time for us to return our badges to the locker room, sign out and return to school.



Jacob receiving his certificate

Well done Jacob and good luck Ben

Staffing in September

Shortly I will be sharing the class structures with you for the next academic year. It has been extremely difficult to arrange the staffing for this year for several reasons. Amy Van de Gucht, who has been with us all this year is taking a position at Claydon High. Nicky Peters is going to Suffolk One. Sadly Sarah Green, Margaret Baldry and Kerry Simoes are also leaving us at the end of term. Margaret may be back to do some supply cover. Jenny Steel and Charlotte Alexandou are both still on maternity leave. Jacqui Davies we hope will be back on a phased return in September and we will also be joined by Simon Black the new Campus Director. We will shortly be appointing some new teachers to replace those who are leaving us. Ann Wood who has been a TA on Primary Campus for a number of years, Jenny Chenery Supply TA on Secondary Campus and Sara Pells are all retiring. I am sure you will join me in wishing all those who are leaving us all the best for their new ventures whatever they may be.

Fund Raising

There has been a lot of fund raising taking place this term and we would like to thank everyone who participated and who contributed.

Phil the Bag – We have yet to be informed of the end total
Race For Life – Janet, Lisa, Lauren, Anita and Michelle (Janet's daughter) from Primary Campus took part in this and raised approximately £400 for Breast Cancer.

CLIC Sargent Practice-a-thon – Pupils on Primary Campus danced for a total of 126 hours and raised a fantastic £451 sponsorship for CLIC Sargent, the charity that supports children with cancer.

Africa Week- During the week long activities Primary Campus dressed up as animals and played African drums and at the special assembly they raised £81.43 for Hart House in Gambia

Wrong Trousers Day- On Primary Campus we raised £44.50 by wearing pyjamas etc for sick children in hospital and hospices. Thank you again for your continued generosity.



School Uniform



If you wish to order school uniform please either print an order form from the school website or request one from the school office. Teresa will be sending the next order off on Monday 18th July orders received after this date will be ordered in September. Unfortunately there has been a technical problem in setting up the orders online so hopefully these will go live in September.

Jacqui Davies

Jacqui has just had her last session of chemotherapy and she is due to start her radio therapy in July. The treatment is making her feel very tired but Jacqui is feeling very positive. We hope that if Jacqui is up to it she may be able to visit us for some of our celebrations at the end of term.

Achieving the Silver Sing Up Award

Thank you to everyone who attended our 'Sing A Long' coffee morning on Primary Campus. We have now been notified that we have achieved the Silver Sing-Up Award which will be on full display in the Primary Reception in the near future. Well done Lisa (Music Co-ordinator) and all the pupils for all their hard work in helping us achieve this award.

Treat and Relax

You should have all received flyers advertising a 'Treat and Relax' fundraising Evening on Primary Campus on Friday 15th July starting at 7 pm. The profits are going to The Bridge School and Hart House, the special school in Gambia that we help support. We have several stalls and different treatments available with costs ranging from £5 to £10. Some of the treatments are:- hot stone massages, manicures, pedicures, Indian Head Massages, spray tans and eyebrow threading. If you have any items for the Tombola please send these in by July 7th. If you require any further information please contact Amy Gardiner, Playleader of the After School Club 0795 664 8536



The New Library on Secondary Campus

The library is now in regular use by students for individual reading with me, or with class visits. It's lovely to see the students enjoying the new bright and spacious surroundings. I'm still in the process of sorting a lot of resources, which will take some time, but we now have some lovely new books.

As we approach the end of the school year, I'd like to invite everyone to have a good look around their classes and at home, to see if you have any outstanding items borrowed from the library and to please return them before the end of term, so I can have an 'audit' – (no questions asked)!!
Many thanks:
Joan Gibson Librarian



Swimming Gala Secondary Campus

Secondary Campus will be hosting our Annual Swimming Gala on Wednesday the 6th July at 1.30. Parents and carers are welcome but be prepared to get wet as there is limited space around the pool! All Secondary Students will be invited to swim, a few pupils with hoisting requirements will swim in the morning to give parents/carers an opportunity to be amazed at their achievements and join them in the water if they wish. Hope to see you all on the day.

Frances Harbour: Swimming Teacher Secondary Campus



Suffolk Youth Games

At the Suffolk Youth Games at Northgate Sports Centre on 10th July there will be an opportunity for pupils aged 10 to 16 to take part. There are training sessions on 1st and 8th July at a cost £2 per session. For more information please contact Mitzi Read on 01473 258738 or 01473 259593



Visit by Horse and Dray

To celebrate 100 years of trading, staff at Ridgeons Timber & Builders Merchants, Ipswich recently visited the Secondary Campus with a specially commissioned Ridgeons' liveried dray, pulled by two beautiful Suffolk Punch Horses.

A number of Ridgeons employees dressed in 1911 style clothing and accompanied the horse and dray to the school. The students enjoyed meeting William and Bruce, the horses and had the opportunity to ride on the dray in the school grounds as well as seeing first-hand how the Group's founder Cyril Ridgeon would have delivered materials to his customers when the company started trading in 1911.

The school would like to thank Jane Hobson, administrator at Ridgeons for organising the visit which was thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and students.



Pink Class

Pink Class have been out and about this term, they visited Hollytrees museum, the sensory garden and Castle park in Colchester, where they had a wonderful time. Later this term they will be visiting Aldeburgh, as part of their geography topic, and Clacton to visit the themed gardens, as part of their science project. We also helped with the collection of the Phil the bag!



Dates for your Diary



6th July – Parents Evening - both Campuses
15th July Treat and Relax Evening – 7 pm Primary Campus
19th July – 1.00 pm Secondary Leavers BBQ
20th July – 10.00 am Sports Day Primary Campus
20th July – 1.30 Cream Teas on Secondary Campus
21st July – 9.30 am Leavers Assembly Secondary Campus
(Please note new time)
21st July – 1.30 pm Leavers Assembly Primary Campus
(Please note new time)
22nd July – Last Day of Term

5th & 6th September – Staff Training Days
7th September – Pupils return to school

Stars Fund Raising Day

On Sunday 10th July from 2-6 at The Dower House Badley, Needham Market IP6 8RJ there will be a Fund Raising Day in junction with Stars and Activities Unlimited for young people who need additional support to access inclusive leisure facilities. There will be a live band, cake stall, swimming pool, trampolining and food and drink. For more information call Activities unlimited 01473 832971 or email starsbelstead@btconnect.co



Sensory Garden on Secondary Campus

On the Secondary Campus we have a wonderful Sensory Garden that the students love to use. We are very fortunate in that we have volunteers from the local Women's' Institute who help with the general up keep up and planting on a weekly basis. We will be using this lovely setting for our 'Cream Tea' Afternoon on Wednesday 20th July from 1.30 pm. All Parents and Carers from Secondary Campus are invited and this will also be an opportunity to see Sara before she retires as she will be spending the afternoon on Secondary Campus. If you wish to attend please complete the form that will be coming home later in the week to allow time to arrange catering.



And Finally.....

As you are aware Sara Pells is retiring at the end of July after 33 years. I hope that several of you will be able to find the time to come to either the Sports Day on Primary Campus or The Cream Tea afternoon on Secondary Campus to say a fond 'Farewell' to Sara. Sara has been a great support to me both as a Deputy and in this last year as Campus Director of the Primary Campus. We will all miss her but I am pleased to say that she is not relinquishing all her ties with us as she has agreed to take over the management side of The Bridge School Holiday Club that runs every holiday on Primary. I am sure you all wish to join me in wishing Sara a long and happy, well deserved retirement.

