

Issue: 16

Date: 27.01.2021

**In this issue:**

- Snow day
- Schoolbag
- Food bank
- Thank you
- Lateral Flow Tests
- Operation Encompass
- Data Increase
- Makaton course
- Lockdown lunches
- Class Teacher
- Pupil News

Bridgtown Primary School  
North Street,  
Bridgtown,  
Cannock  
WS11 0AZ

**Mrs S. Buzzard**  
**Acting Head Teacher**

Phone: 01543 227100

Email:

office@

bridgtown.staffs.sch.uk

Web site:

www.bridgtown.

staffs.sch.uk



BRIDGTOWN PRIMARY

HAND IN HAND



Bridgtown Primary School

# HAND IN HAND - BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Newsletter



## Snow Day



This week you were all lucky enough to have a snow day. It was lovely to see photos of you all having fun in the snow, building snow men and sledging.

However, while you were having fun, the staff had the job of clearing all the

snow to make it safe for you to return to school.



## School Bag - a new parent/carer group.

Starting **Wednesday 20th January, 10am - 11am.**



They will be hosting a virtual coffee hour via Microsoft teams **every** Wednesday for parents and carers. It doesn't matter if your children are sitting on your knee, running around in the

background or sitting quietly by your side. There's no agenda, this is just an informal opportunity to chat to other parents, make friends, support each other, share tips, cry, laugh or just sit and listen and be listened to. If you'd like to join us, please email: [sun@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sun@staffordshire.gov.uk) We will then send you a joining link. If something unexpected comes up (as often does) and you can't make it on the day, don't worry, you can always join another session.



## Food Bank Partnership



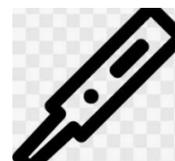
Bridgtown Primary school has recently partnered with the local food bank. If you are experiencing extreme hardship please contact the school where we may be able to offer support. [office@bridgtown.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bridgtown.staffs.sch.uk)



**Thank you** to all those parents who have taken the time to send in emails thanking all the staff for their hard work. We are in unprecedented times and an acknowledgement from parents certainly lifts spirits.

## Lateral Flow tests

As of this week, Bridgtown staff will start regular Covid-19 testing. We will test twice a week, every Monday and Thursday.



## Operation Encompass



All Staffordshire schools are now part of Operation Encompass.

Staffordshire Police will email the school prior to the school day if any child has been exposed to domestic violence the previous evening/day.

This will enable staff to support the children effected when they arrive at school.

## Free Data Increase

Are you struggling with live streaming? Does your screen keep freezing?

DfE is working in partnership with mobile network operators to help schools support disadvantaged pupils in years 3 to 11 who rely on a mobile internet connection when their face-to-face education is disrupted by coronavirus (COVID-19).

Disadvantaged families may be able to benefit from free increases to their mobile data if they're a customer of either:

- ◇ EE
- ◇ O2
- ◇ Sky Mobile
- ◇ SMARTY
- ◇ Tesco Mobile
- ◇ Three
- ◇ Virgin Mobile
- ◇ Vodafone



This scheme temporarily increases data allowances for mobile phone users on certain networks. This is so that children and young people can access remote education if their face-to-face education is disrupted.

Schools, trusts and local authorities can request mobile data increases for children and young people who meet all 3 of these criteria:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

Please contact the school on [office@bridgtown.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bridgtown.staffs.sch.uk) to see if you are eligible.

For each request, we need to know:

- the name of the account holder
- the number of the mobile device
- the mobile network of that device (for example Three)

## Another option for increasing internet access

If increasing mobile data isn't a suitable option for some children, schools can also request 4G wireless routers. Please contact the school office who can help: [office@bridgtown.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bridgtown.staffs.sch.uk)

BRIDGTOWN PRIMARY  
HAND IN HAND



## Diary Dates:

Wednesday  
10th February

Parents Evening via  
phone call.

Friday 12th February  
Half Term



SILVER AWARD



## Free online Makaton workshop for parents

Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help people to communicate.

The workshops will be run by a qualified Makaton tutor and you will;

- Begin to understand what Makaton is and who it can help.
- Begin to understand about symbols and how they can be used
- Learn 60 signs, everyday life signs and food and drink signs

**Due to the funding source, priority will be given to those living in the Cannock district, and they will have until Friday 29 January to request a place.**

After this date any remaining places will be offered to those on the waiting list. All sessions will run from 6pm - 7.30pm and there are 3 dates to choose from:

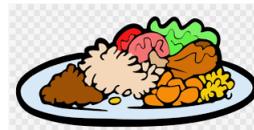
Tue 23/02/21 / Thu 25/02/21 / Tue 09/03/21

**Booking Is Essential.** To request a booking form please email [sun@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sun@staffordshire.gov.uk) stating your preferred date



## Lockdown lunches and meal plans

Do you have free school meal vouchers to spend? Are you struggling for meal inspiration with the children at home at the moment? We've got you covered



with our simple lunch ideas. Change4Life have created recipes and shopping lists for families which can be used to create lunches for around £15 each week. Please see the link below for inspiration.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>

## Free school meal VOUCHERS

## Class teacher

If you need to speak to the class teacher, please contact the school office who will happily arrange for the class teacher to give you a call back.



## Pupil News

Last week in reception, we were visited by the Evil Pea who had frozen some of our toys. We had to investigate ways in which we could free our toys the quickest. The children came up with some really exciting ways to melt the ice.



BRIDGTOWN PRIMARY  
HAND IN HAND

