

A vibrant, stylized illustration of a spring landscape. In the foreground, there are rolling green hills with various flowers including yellow daisies, blue tulips, and small pink and red blossoms. Several white butterflies are fluttering around. Two large, conical evergreen trees stand on the left and right sides of the middle ground. In the background, more green hills are visible under a bright yellow sun that is partially obscured by the title text. The sky is a gradient of light blue with soft, white clouds.

Bridgelea Newsletter

SPRING 2025



Message from Kelly

As we approach the end of another successful term, I am delighted to share with you the numerous achievements and exciting developments that have taken place at Bridgelea Primary School.

- Our children have been engaging in a variety of enriching experiences beyond the classroom. The Year 5 residential trip to Ghyll Head provided an excellent opportunity for our pupils to develop their independence and teamwork skills. Additionally, we have organised visits to local parks, museums, and libraries, enhancing our children's cultural and educational experiences. A particularly memorable excursion was our trip to Formby Beach, which allowed our pupils to explore and appreciate the natural environment.
- I am immensely proud to announce that Bridgelea has fielded its first football team. Our children demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship, showcasing not only their football skills but also exemplary attitude and behaviour. Their performance was a testament to the values we instil at Bridgelea, and they represented our school admirably.
- We have some staffing updates to share. It is with great pleasure that we congratulate our Assistant Head and SENCO, Caroline Gibson, on the arrival of her new baby, Parker. We look forward to meeting him and wish Caroline an enjoyable maternity leave. We would also like to express our gratitude to several staff members who have left Bridgelea this spring term: Dipo Sulaman, Max Cumbes, Lindsey Smith, Nicole Newton Neenan, Jackee Anderson, Olivia Youdell, and Dave Bowie. We thank them for their contributions and wish them the very best in their future endeavours.
- Looking ahead, please note that we return to school on Tuesday, 22nd April, and break up for the summer half term on Friday, 23rd May. The dates for the 2025-2026 academic year have been finalised and will be distributed alongside this newsletter.
- I must draw your attention to some safety concerns regarding increased traffic at the end of the school day. A separate letter detailing steps to mitigate this risk has been sent out. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.
- Attendance remains a priority at Bridgelea. We are committed to working collaboratively with families to address any barriers that may be affecting regular attendance. Our goal is to ensure every child is in school every day, maximising their learning opportunities.
- Finally, I would like to address the upcoming Year 6 SATs, scheduled for the week beginning 12th May. While these tests are designed for pupils working at the expected national curriculum standard for the end of KS2, we recognise that some children may not sit the tests due to their complex SEND and SEMH needs. We have used our internal assessments to make appropriate decisions for each child, and parents will be notified individually regarding the specific arrangements for their child.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

Kelly Eyre

Head Teacher

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Blue Inset Days

Red Bank Holidays

Yellow School Holidays



| Bank holidays 2025/26 UK | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 25 December '25 | Christmas Day | 1 January '26 | New Year's Day | 6 April '26 | Easter Monday | 25 May '26 | Spring Bank Holiday |
| 26 December '25 | Boxing Day | 3 April '26 | Good Friday | 4 May '26 | Early May Bank Holiday | 31 August '26 | August Bank Holiday |
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Ghyll Head



All the children who attended our annual residential trip to Ghyll Head made us really proud, we all had lots of fun together!



Ash Class

We had so much fun carrying out our egg drop Science investigation. We explored and selected different materials based on their properties, choosing how we could protect our eggs. We then dropped them from different heights, to see which materials worked best. Well done to Ava, who managed to keep her egg intact!

We had lots of fun in our Art lessons this term. Our art teacher, Emma, visited Ash Class. The children had fun learning how to mix tints and tones, all linked to our History Topic of The Great Fire of London. Well done to all of our amazing artists! The children also loved learning about printing with different shapes to create buildings and landscapes.

In English, we have been reading and looking at the story 'Lost in the Toy Museum'. We have then changed the main character and certain events to help the children in using their imagination to tell their own stories. We completed story maps where we acted out the original story from 'Lost in a Toy Museum' using talk for writing, and then changed different aspects of the story and incorporated their own actions to match the pictures.

We had a fabulous world book day! All the children dressed up as the characters from their favourite books and were so excited to show off their costumes and to talk about their favourite books! Thank you to all the parents who came to visit to partake in our afternoon world book day activities. We had lots of fun making our superhero potatoes that were based on the book 'Supertato'.

In maths this term we have been focusing on Number & place value, addition using our Numicon resources. More recently, we have been looking at fractions and geometry. Focusing on halves and what makes a whole using our playdough resources.





Birch Class

What a busy term we have had in Birch Class! It's hard to believe that we have completed two full terms already this school year. The children have developed in confidence, learnt lots of new facts and built some lovely friendships.

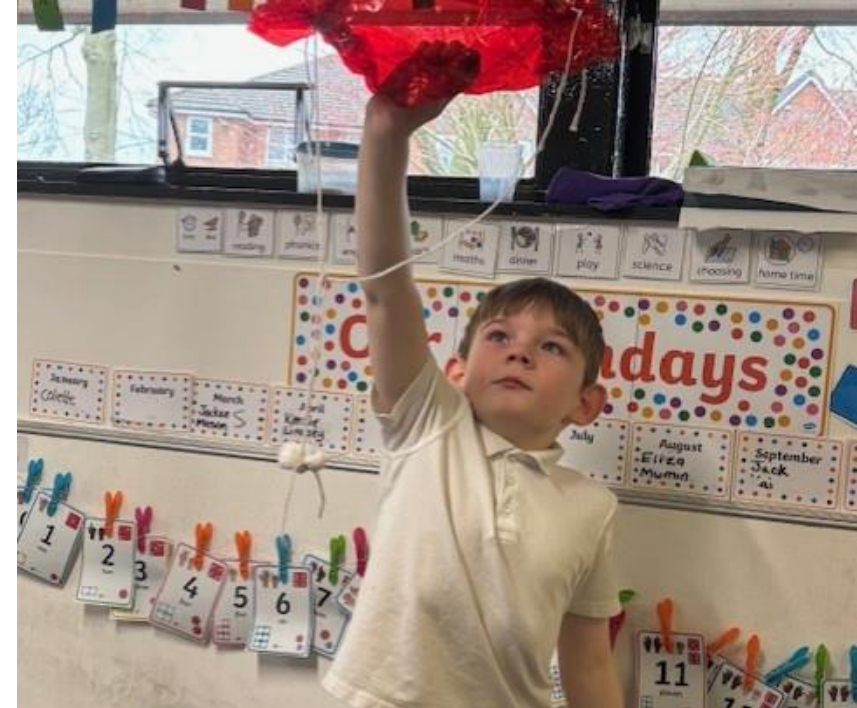
The Great Fire of London. All of our class absolutely loved learning about The Great Fire. The children learnt key dates and facts through drama, video clips and songs and were quick to share their learning with others. The children's recall of facts was phenomenal and would certainly give a Mastermind contestant a run for their money!

Art with Emma. Our sessions with Emma have been very well received by all children. Emma introduced the class to 'hot' and 'cold' colours and then demonstrated how to create tints and tones. Colour mixing was enjoyed and applied to create both fire and water scenes. On her next visit, Emma introduced the class to the artist, Paul Klee. Once again, the children used hot and cold colours but this time alongside printing to create a building scape.

Skills Builder Day – Game On. It has been great to spend so much time outside recently. Our Skills Builder Day was based around being positive, working as a team, leadership and communication. The children re-visited skills that they had previously worked on and then developed these further. They were listening to instructions and to each other, explaining how different scenarios and activities made them feel and then taught others how to complete a range of sporting tasks using step by step instructions. From here, they devised their own, adapted version, of a game of football, presented this to others and evaluated own and others work. The children had lots of fun whilst incorporating lots of valuable skills.

Science – Materials. All have loved using and applying their knowledge of materials to devise, predict and undertake investigations. The children have looked at the effectiveness of materials in order to protect an egg dropped from height, have identified the bendiest sticks and then seen which type would be best suited to make a bird's nest and used a range of materials to see which are best suited to making parachutes.

We are committed to providing educational, fun and engaging experiences that contribute to your child's individual growth. Thank you for your continued support, communication and encouragement in your child's journey in Birch Class. We wish you a happy holiday and can't wait to welcome your child back in after the Easter break!



Cedar Class

Cedar class enjoyed our trip to RHS Bridgewater. They explored the forest found some magical things that they could describe with super adjectives! This was for our story in English 'Hansel and Gretal' where they were working on setting description. This was an amazing trip!

We took the children to the local park as a reward for having an amazing Spring term overall. Well done Cedar class!





Damson Class

Damson class have been busy this term with their learning. The children have made lots of progress with phonics and reading, making Natural Mandalas in Georgraphy and in Science Changing States.

The children have also used their imaginations to retell the story of Hanel and Grettle.



Elm Class

Elm have been doing amazing English based on the story The Selfish Giant by Oscar Wilde. We have been focusing on settings and have written our own setting descriptions. The children have used their senses to come up with lots of brilliant vocabulary.

In Maths we have been focusing on column addition and subtraction. We have started to look at money too and the children have been working out their change.

We have loved having Jenny come in each week and doing music sessions with us. We have played many different instruments and are all getting really good at playing the ukulele. In science we have learnt about the digestive system and the function of our teeth.

We had a fantastic trip to the RHS Bridgewater this half term - we enjoyed walking around the gardens and having free time on the play park.

Fir Class

Fir class has had a fantastic term! Most of the children went to Ghyll Head and had an amazing time. They participated in lots of different activities, including late night walks, canoeing and going on the zip line!

The class have also been involved in Archery with the forest school leader, learning all the rules and having a go. Perhaps we will have an Archery competition soon, which will be incredible. All of the children listened well and followed the rules to ensure they stayed safe with the bows and arrows.



Hazel Class

This term has been packed with exciting activities and memorable experiences for the children. At Forest School, they explored the outdoors, built dens, and enjoyed making s'mores around the campfire. Fridays were dedicated to creativity and self-discovery through the *Art of Resilience* program in collaboration with Manchester Art Gallery. A highlight was the two-day trip to Ghyll Head, where children participated in thrilling outdoor adventures like kayaking and hiking, fostering teamwork and independence. World Book Day brought the school community together as parents joined in to celebrate a love of reading with themed activities. Additionally, the *Game On Challenge Day* encouraged skill-building through fun and engaging tasks.



Lime Class

Lime Class have had a wonderful and productive half term! The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Forest School, where they explored the natural environment, built confidence, and developed their teamwork skills through hands-on outdoor activities.

In class, we've been focusing on group circle games to encourage turn-taking, listening, and communication skills. It's been fantastic to see the children supporting each other and building positive relationships through these shared activities.



Maple Class

We have all been very busy in Maple class this term.

We have worked very hard in all areas of the curriculum this term. Especially with our reading and have set ourselves some really ambitious reading targets, reading thousands of words. We have been reading daily and completing quizzes. We are making great improvements in our reading.

We have been on a trip to the Skate Park, where we worked on our team building and listening skills. We have learned that we need to wear safety equipment when skating and scootering. There were some really big ramps that we could skate and scooter on.

Emma our visiting artist came to do some more work with us. This time we were looking at printing. We printed some underwater prints which fits with our geography topic on Oceans. We created great masterpieces.

Forest school has been amazing this term. We have been exploring games we can play together. Making tasty snacks has been a success. Everyone enjoyed the s'mores we made. We even made our own glue using bee's wax. Making our own arrows was fantastic. It took lots of skill and patience

Ghyll head! What can we say about this fantastic trip? This will be the highlight of the year! Going to Ghyll head, provided the children with the opportunity to experience activities they wouldn't usually experience in school. They pushed themselves out of their comfort zones by jumping into very cold waters, they canoed, climbed and made friends with new people in school. Well done to everyone involved.



Rowan Class

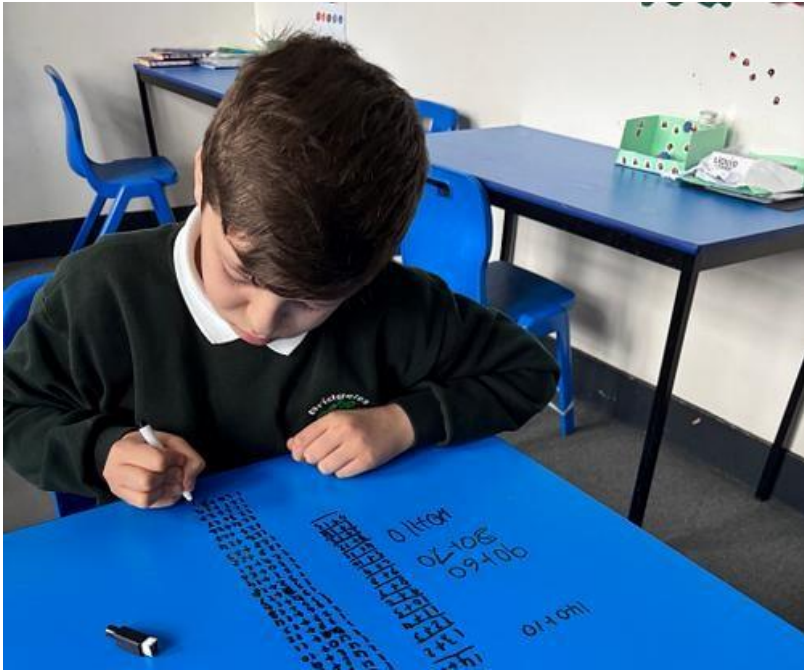
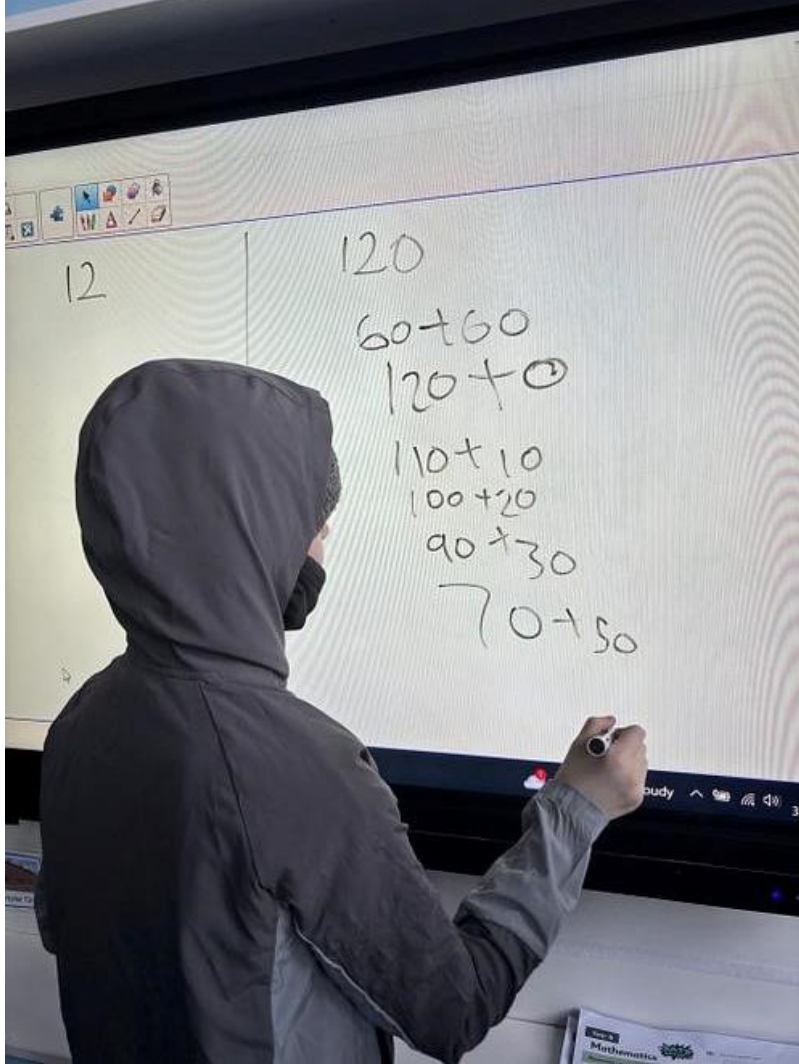
Rowan have been doing stunning English based on the stories Hansel and Gretel and Darwin's Dragons. We use graphic templates like mind maps, roles on the wall and character profiles to help plan and write setting descriptions and character descriptions taking inspiration from other authors.

In Maths we have been focusing on the vocabulary used in mathematics to secure a strong understanding of the processes used to solve problems. Rowan class have started to use reasoning and justification skills to explain their thinking.

In Science we have been exploring Evolution. Our unit 'Following Darwin's Footsteps' has made us think about scientific evidence and how we know how species have evolves. Rowan class loved our trip to the museum and have considered why collecting sources of information is important to our understanding of science and history.

We have enjoyed PSHE in class this term and students have shown great curiosity about mental health and have suggested wonderful strategies for maintaining positive mental health and friendships.

We had a fantastic trip to the Heaton Park. Students showed lovely communication and teamwork skills using problem solving and active listening to help others overcome fear or to work some of the equipment.





Willow Class

We've welcomed some new pupils to the class who've settled in well. The class have done some good literacy work on Darwin's dragon, looking at setting description.

They've enjoyed the oceans topic learning about how vital the ocean is to us and how we can protect it.

They got a surprise trip to the skate park, some pupils showing some bravery using the bigger ramps.

Yew Class

Yew class has happily welcomed the spring terms, we have continued to enjoy our swimming lessons each week. Throughout our spring term in science, we have focused on '*Following in Darwin's footsteps*'. Trying our hand at experiments showcasing how evolution works. In geography we have explored our oceans looking at trade routes, coral reefs and what is happening to them. This term in English we focused on Darwin's dragon's and looked at how we could create an amazing character description. Looking at all of the dragons from around the world, finding out that we still have dragons roaming the earth today. Although they are not quite the same as those in our book. To top off an already amazing term, we were pleased to welcome are families to join us for the afternoon on world Book Day, where we made our reading critters to help inspirer us to read more.

