Bridgelea Newsletter

Summer 2026

Message from the Head Teacher

What a fantastic year we've had at Bridgelea Primary School! As we wrap up another brilliant year, I wanted to share some of the wonderful things that have been happening across our school.

We've welcomed some lovely new children to our school family this year, and it's been amazing to see how quickly they've settled in. Our team has worked hard to ensure that every child feels safe, happy and supported, especially our youngest pupils, who have made such a positive start to their school journey.

This year has also seen an exciting development for our Longsight site, where we welcomed two Key Stage 1 classes. From September, all Key Stage 1 classes will be based at Longsight. Our Withington site will continue to provide temporary placements for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children in partnership with their schools, helping to prevent exclusion and provide additional support when needed. This change will also create greater flexibility should any of our other children require more bespoke provision later in the year that cannot be accommodated within their usual class group.

It's been quite emotional saying goodbye to our fantastic Year 6 children. They have grown so much during their time with us, and we are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved. We know they will do brilliantly at secondary school. Our former pupils are always welcome to visit, and we especially enjoy seeing many of them return in Key Stage 4 to complete work placements with us.

The children have enjoyed a wide range of exciting trips, celebrations and enrichment opportunities this year. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm, confidence and enjoyment as they learn both in and beyond the classroom.

We're also celebrating a wonderful achievement as a school this year, having been awarded the **Gold Language Friendly School Award**. This recognition reflects our commitment to supporting communication, language development and inclusion for all children and families.

Looking ahead to September, staff will return for training on **1st, 2nd and 3rd September**, with children returning to school on **Thursday 4th September**.

We will be sad to say goodbye to **Class Teacher Edit Dancza**, **Teaching Assistant Saim Ali**, **Administrator Julia Riane**, and our **Designated Safeguarding Lead, Lisa Shaw**, who leaves us after 15 years of dedicated service to Bridgelea. We are incredibly grateful for everything they have contributed to our school community and wish them every success and happiness for the future.

At the same time, we are excited to welcome **Lolita Hall** and **Jasmine Meakin** to our teaching team, **Mary Allen** and **Vicky Johnstone** to our administrative team, and **Sue Watkins** as our new Assistant Headteacher.

If you need any support during the summer holidays, our office will be open periodically. Safeguarding support can be accessed via our Designated Safeguarding Leads through the school safeguarding email inbox:

safeguarding@bridgelea.manchester.sch.uk

As always, thank you for your continued support and for being such an important partner in your child's education. It is a privilege to work with your children every day, and we are incredibly proud of all they have achieved this year.

I hope you have a wonderful, relaxing summer break filled with fun, family time and happy memories. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Best wishes,

Kelly Eyre

Child Protection and Safeguarding

After 15 wonderful years at Bridgelea, it is time for me to say goodbye as I move on to a new career path.
It has been a privilege to watch Bridgelea grow and develop into the amazing school it is today. I have been fortunate to work alongside such a dedicated and caring staff team, and it has been an honour to support our children and families, helping to keep them safe and working together to achieve the very best outcomes for every child.
Throughout my time at Bridgelea, I have worked to build a culture of openness, trust and transparency with our families—a place where you could share your worries and concerns without fear of judgement, knowing that you would be listened to and supported in the right way at the right time. I encourage you to continue speaking with school staff whenever you need support. By working together, even the most challenging times can feel a little easier.
I will miss every family I have had the privilege of supporting over the years. Thank you for allowing me to be part of your journey and for the trust you have placed in me.

I wish you, your children, the staff and the entire Bridgelea community every happiness and success for the future.

Take care, Lisa Shaw (DSL)

Ash Class

This term, our class has settled really well into life at Big Bridgelea and have quickly got used to all the stairs. In the classroom, the children have worked incredibly hard in both English and Maths. Their dedication and positive attitude have led to some fantastic progress. Science has been a particular highlight this term. The class has loved planting and caring for seeds and watching them grow week by week. The children have also enjoyed developing new skills in PE. One of our favourite experiences was our trip to the park. The children had a wonderful time exploring, playing together, and making lots of new friends.







Birch Class

As we reach the end of the year, we would like to share some of our highlights from this past term. We have been working tremendously hard to use communication, creativity and problem-solving skills through our Skills Builder project. On Monday we welcomed parents in to share a picnic lunch and participate in our Going Green project – we presented information to them about recycling and then used materials that we have collected to create some amazing models which the children were keen to take home.

Whilst the weather has been considerably warmer, Birch class have spent lots of time outside. The children have been working collaboratively to find and look after a range of living things and have planted seeds to nurture. They have also undertaken lots of bug hunts and we regularly hear squeals of delight when another worm or caterpillar are found! It has been great to see the children using their communication skills, sharing resources, giving advice and tips and in seeing them caring for these creatures then returning them to their natural habitats.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our English text 'Tidy' and have fully immersed themselves into all of the activities that have gone alongside this from sorting rubbish, making models, used descriptive vocabulary for settings, learnt all about prepositions and have used their phonic skills to write their own sentences about Pete the badger. In maths, the children have been focusing on tens and ones, identified what the digits represent in 2-digit numbers and have really grasped telling to time to the nearest hour.

This half term, we have also engaged in play therapy sessions where parents could come in to work with their children each week to engage in fun activities with their children. These activities were highly engaging and used many materials that can be found in the home. The children loved taking the resources home to use with their families.

Thank you all for all of your support these last few months. It has been our privilege to work with you and your child. We wish you a lovely summer and all the best for the next academic year.

Claire and the Team











Cedar Class

What a fantastic year it has been in Cedar Class!

We have worked hard to develop our writing through *Talk for Writing*, enjoying stories such as **The Dragon Machine**, **The Bridgelea Dragon** and **The Selfish Giant**. In Maths, we have grown in confidence with problem solving, and some children have even taken their times tables tests. Our daily phonics sessions have also helped us become more confident readers.

We have loved learning beyond the classroom too, especially cooking during Forest School, creating artwork with Emma, and taking part in many other exciting activities.

The Cedar Team is incredibly proud of all the children's achievements this year. Thank you for your continued support, and we wish you all a happy, restful summer. We look forward to seeing everyone in the new school year!

Regards, Lissette xx

Cherry Class

We have had a fantastic Summer Term filled with creativity, learning and fun!
The children loved our Art and Craft sessions, creating wonderful clay sculptures and mugs that they were very proud of.
We became young gardeners by planting chickpeas and learning about how plants grow. Our Recycling Project ended with a fantastic workshop where children and parents made throw-and-catch toys from recycled materials together.
Friday sports sessions were a real highlight, especially playing football.
Of course, no playtime would have been complete without the swing, where many children loved soaring sky high with huge smiles of their faces.
It has been a wonderful term, and we are so proud of everything the children have achieved. We wish everyone a happy, safe and relaxing summer holiday!

Elm Class

As we come to the end of a fantastic summer term in ELM Class, we would like to celebrate all the wonderful achievements of our pupils. We have had great fun during our Forest School sessions, where the children enjoyed cooking on the fire, developing independence, and building valuable teamwork skills. Our PE sessions with Coach Ellie have been equally impressive, with the children showing excellent encouragement towards their peers while improving their problem-solving abilities and confidence. A highlight of the term was our lovely trip to Mayfield Depot, where everyone enjoyed exploring the surroundings and treating themselves to ice creams. We have ended the year on a high, and I could not be prouder of the progress the children have made, both individually and as a class. They have worked incredibly hard, supported one another, and demonstrated fantastic growth throughout the year. We wish all our families a wonderful summer break and look forward to hearing about the children's adventures in the autumn.

Damson Class

It has been another busy and memorable term in Damson Class!

In our lessons, we have enjoyed learning about **Plants** in Science, discovering what plants need to grow and thrive. In History, we explored the fascinating world of the **Ancient Egyptians**, learning about their daily lives, beliefs and incredible achievements. We even had a go at mummifying some tomatoes! In Geography, we investigated **where our food comes from**, exploring how food is grown, produced and transported before it reaches our plates.

We have loved spending time at Forest School, where we cooked delicious treats over the fire, including s'mores, cheese and pepperoni toasties, popcorn and brownies. We also challenged ourselves with archery, team-building activities, weaving planters, creating fire using flint and steel, and making our own dream catchers.

In Art, we continued working with our Bridgelea art teacher, Emma, developing our creativity through sculpture and printing. It has been wonderful to see everyone's confidence and artistic skills grow.

This term has brought some changes for Damson Class, but we are incredibly proud of how well everyone has adapted. They have shown resilience, kindness and maturity, supporting one another throughout.

We also enjoyed taking part in Sports Day, where everyone showed fantastic determination, teamwork and encouragement for one another. To celebrate all of our achievements this year, we finished the term with a special end-of-year treat, sharing a McDonald's meal together.

We are incredibly proud of everything Damson Class has achieved this term and wish all of our pupils and their families a happy, safe and relaxing summer break!








PIC·COLLAGE


Good Listening
Put your hand up
Good Thinking
NEW BALANCE
Snapdragon

Fir Class

During the warm weather in Summer 2 we have been cooling down by practising are friendship skills. We have enjoyed time together dice rolling on the snakes and ladder board, sinking battleships and guessing who. Pupils have worked hard turn taking, counting, checking co-ordinates and increasing their resilience when things don't go their way. Our favourite activity during the summer has been the ice cube challenge, digging for frozen dinosaurs. Wishing everyone a fantastic holiday, Fir class staff.

Hazel Class

Hazel class have had an amazing year! As they were a newly formed class, they have grown together and shown how well they work as a team. We have done so much over the year, embraced every opportunity and have had a great time doing it. They have enjoyed enrichment activities such as forest school, music, BMX biking and even local walks to the park. On top of this, they have fostered a love of learning and have improved lots of their skills. What a great and successful year Hazel!







Lime Class

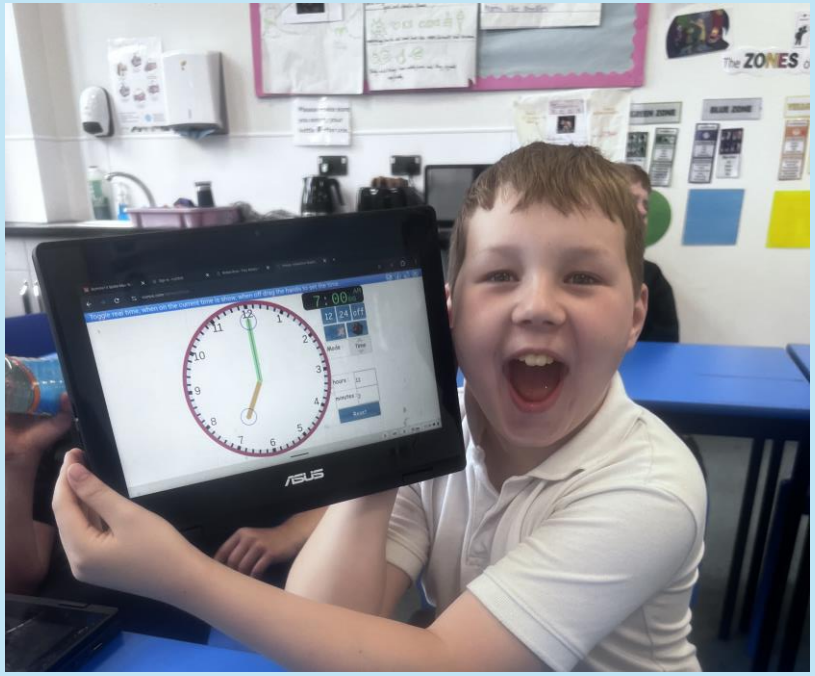
Lime Class has had a busy and enjoyable summer term, filled with lots of exciting learning opportunities. The children have particularly enjoyed taking part in PE and Music sessions with external professionals, developing new skills and confidence along the way.

We have also made the most of the lovely weather, taking our learning outdoors and enjoying activities in the fresh air.

As a reward for all the hard work, positive attitudes, and achievements this term, we finished with a fun trip to the park. We are incredibly proud of all the progress the children have made.






The ZONES
ASUS





Maple Class

As we move through the Summer Term, we would like to share some of the wonderful learning experiences Maple Class has enjoyed so far. The children continue to work hard, show enthusiasm in their learning and make us incredibly proud every day.

🌱 Science In Science, we have been learning all about plants. The children carefully took plants apart and examined their different parts to understand how they help plants grow and survive. We also carried out an exciting experiment to investigate how water travels through plants, making predictions and observing the results.

📚 English Using the Talk for Writing approach, we have been writing a non-fiction piece based on the much-loved book *Where the Wild Things Are*. The children have enjoyed exploring the text, developing their vocabulary and using their ideas to create informative and engaging writing.

We are also delighted to share that all of the children have completed a reading assessment and have made fantastic progress. Their hard work and determination are really paying off, and we are incredibly proud of every single one of them.

➕ Mathematics In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of: fractions, column addition, column subtraction, exchanging and regrouping.

The children have worked hard to apply these skills to a range of problem-solving activities and have shown increasing confidence in their calculations.

🏉 Physical Education We have been very fortunate to welcome Owain, our sports coach, who has been working with us on team games and developing our rugby skills. The children have enjoyed learning new techniques, improving their teamwork and building their confidence through physical activity. Maple Class has worked closely with Lime Class during PE. The children have demonstrated excellent teamwork, cooperation and communication skills while learning together.

💡 Skills for Life As part of our ongoing Skills for Life curriculum, we have begun developing our Design a Company skills. The children have shown fantastic creativity, problem-solving abilities and entrepreneurial thinking as they work on their exciting projects.

We can't wait to share their ideas and creations with you at our Parent Afternoon later this term!

⭐ A Message from Maple Class

The children have shown resilience, enthusiasm and determination in all areas of their learning. Their progress, particularly in reading, has been wonderful to see, and we are so proud of everything they have achieved this term.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to welcoming you to our Parent Afternoon and sharing more of the fantastic work taking place in Maple Class.

Best wishes,

The Maple Class Team 🍁⚙️

Oak Class

It has been a busy and exciting Year in Oak Class, with lots of opportunities for learning, creativity and outdoor adventures. The children have worked hard throughout the year and have enjoyed taking part in a range of activities both in and out of the classroom.

Gulliver's World Trip

One of the highlights of the term was our visit to Gulliver's World. The children had a fantastic day exploring the park, enjoying the rides and spending time with their friends. They showed excellent behaviour throughout the trip and represented Oak Class brilliantly. Many children demonstrated confidence by trying new rides and activities, making it a memorable experience for everyone.

This term, the children have continued to develop their football skills through matches, training sessions and team games. They have worked hard on their passing, dribbling and teamwork skills. It has been wonderful to see the children encouraging one another and showing great sportsmanship. The football sessions have helped to build confidence, resilience and cooperation amongst the class.

Oak Class has produced some fantastic artwork this term. The children have explored different artists, techniques and materials, developing their creativity and imagination. They have enjoyed drawing, painting and creating mixed-media pieces, taking great pride in their finished work. Their artwork has brightened our classroom and showcased their growing artistic talents.

Our Forest School sessions have provided valuable opportunities for outdoor learning. The children have enjoyed exploring the natural environment, building shelters, learning about wildlife and working together on practical challenges. These sessions have encouraged independence, problem-solving and teamwork while helping the children develop a greater appreciation for nature and the outdoors.









Pine Class

This year Pine Class has enjoyed lots of exciting learning opportunities and trips.
The children had a fantastic time visiting the skate park. They enjoyed practising their balance, coordination and confidence while trying different activities. It was great to see everyone encouraging each other and developing their skills.
In Art, the children have explored a range of creative techniques and materials. They have produced some wonderful pieces of artwork and have shown imagination, focus and pride in their work.

Our trip to Gulliver's World was a highlight of the term. The children enjoyed the rides and attractions, worked well together, and created many happy memories. They represented Pine Class brilliantly throughout the day.

Forest School sessions have provided valuable opportunities for outdoor learning. The children have enjoyed exploring nature, developing teamwork skills, building confidence and learning how to work safely in the outdoor environment.








METRO
CROWN THE HATCH



Rowan Class

What a truly amazing year we've had in Rowan Class, filled with endless smiles, laughter, and so many proud moments! Our absolute highlight was definitely our trip to Gulliver's World, where the children had the best time being brave by facing the fast rides and exploring the haunted house. Beyond that massive adventure, we've made the most of every moment together. We had great fun watching a film at the cinema, showing off our moves at the skate park on scooters, running wild across multiple playgrounds, or diving into amazing enrichment activities like swimming and Forest School.

The children have brought so much energy and joy to the classroom every single day, and the entire Rowan Class team is incredibly proud of the fantastic progress every single child has made this year. Watching them grow and learn has been an absolute privilege, and we are going to miss them all so much as they take their next steps!

Good luck to the Year 6 leavers - you will be missed so much!

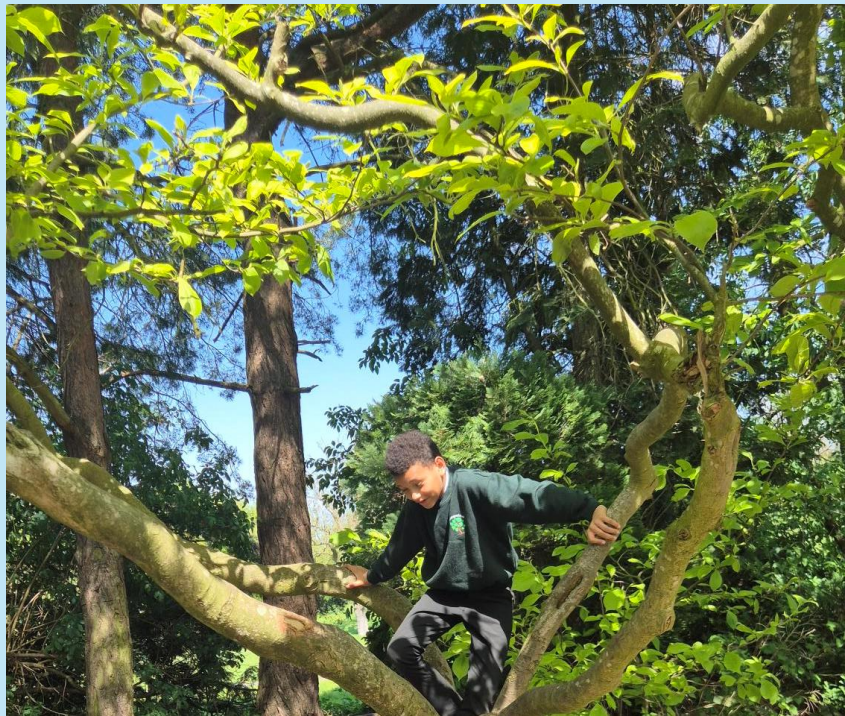
Year 5 children - I am sure we will see you around school. You know where we are if you need us!











Willow Class

Willow class have enjoyed diverse enrichment activities this year. They have had several art sessions with Emma (Artist), this has included sculpting, collage and Lowry inspired painting (inspired by the Blitz). We have music sessions with Jenny learning how to drum, play ukulele and learn percussion instruments. We have also gone swimming at Hough End for the school year, the class has showed us their great swimming skills with many being able to swim 25m unaided. We had a skatepark trip, some of the class being brave going from the top ramp and showing off their scooting skills. We ended the year with Forrest school sessions which have been very popular, cooking around the fire being a highlight. The class winning prizes for being top 3 in the challenge events. The highlight of year was the Gulliver's World trip, the class enjoying the rides, I keep telling them I wasn't scared I just didn't want to take anyone's go.

Yew Class

Yew class have had a sizzling Summer term. We started the term in the Forest School making fires, bows and arrows. Bullseye!!

Our cooking skills are second to none as we made pancakes and other culinary delights.

We celebrated the children's achievements by visiting Gulliver's World and had the best day in sunshine! All the staff are so proud of every single one of the children. Well Done!


Nouns
Adjectives


GULLIVER'S WORLD
Cartoon Studios
Gully's Grand Prix
Gilliterdrop's Merry-go Round
Soft-Play
Gilly's Princess Ride
Big Cheese Adventure
The Galleons
The Wriggler
Puppet Theatre
Smugglers Wharf
The Antelope
Pirate's Cove
The Pirate Ship
Pirate Climbing Wall
Boating School
Wildcat Island
Dodgems
Horse Carousel
Log Flume
Tractor Ride
The Haunted House
Castle Play Area
Castle Stage
Aqua Blasters
GEARS
Gulliver's Gears
Overdrive
Grand Prix Racers
Traffic Jam
Pit Stop Play
SAFARI
Adventure Canyon
Temple Raider
Jeep Safari
Safari Swings
Cape Canyon Crazy
Masai Maze
Safari Ball Pit
Jurassic Jeeps
Sky Tours
The Hatchery
Flight of the Pteranodon
Lost World Play Area
Fossil Dig
Dino Play Area
Upper World
Western World
Apache Falls
Desperado Drop
Western Adventure Play
Junior Cowboy Town
Hard Luck Bear Theatre
Adventure Fort Play Area
Resort Dining
Grill
Diner
Wallis Ice Cream
Donuts
Costa Coffee
Walkers Ice Cream
BBQ
Land of Oz
Winged Monkeys
Munchkin Motors
Upside-Down Wagon
BAT Bumbleweed
Main Square
Main Stage
Floating Lake Stage
Starlight Theatre
Maze of Cards
Lighthouse Play Area
Mad Hatter's Tea Party
Gully Town
Nipper Posse Ship
Ladybird Ride
Soft Play
Indoor Seating
Ride Safety
Carseting Guide
Toilets
Ambulance Toilets
Baby Changer
First Aid
Information
Gift Shop
Lockers
Smoking Area


St Catherines