



Welcome to Prep I

A helpful guide for the next stage of their journey.

inclusivity

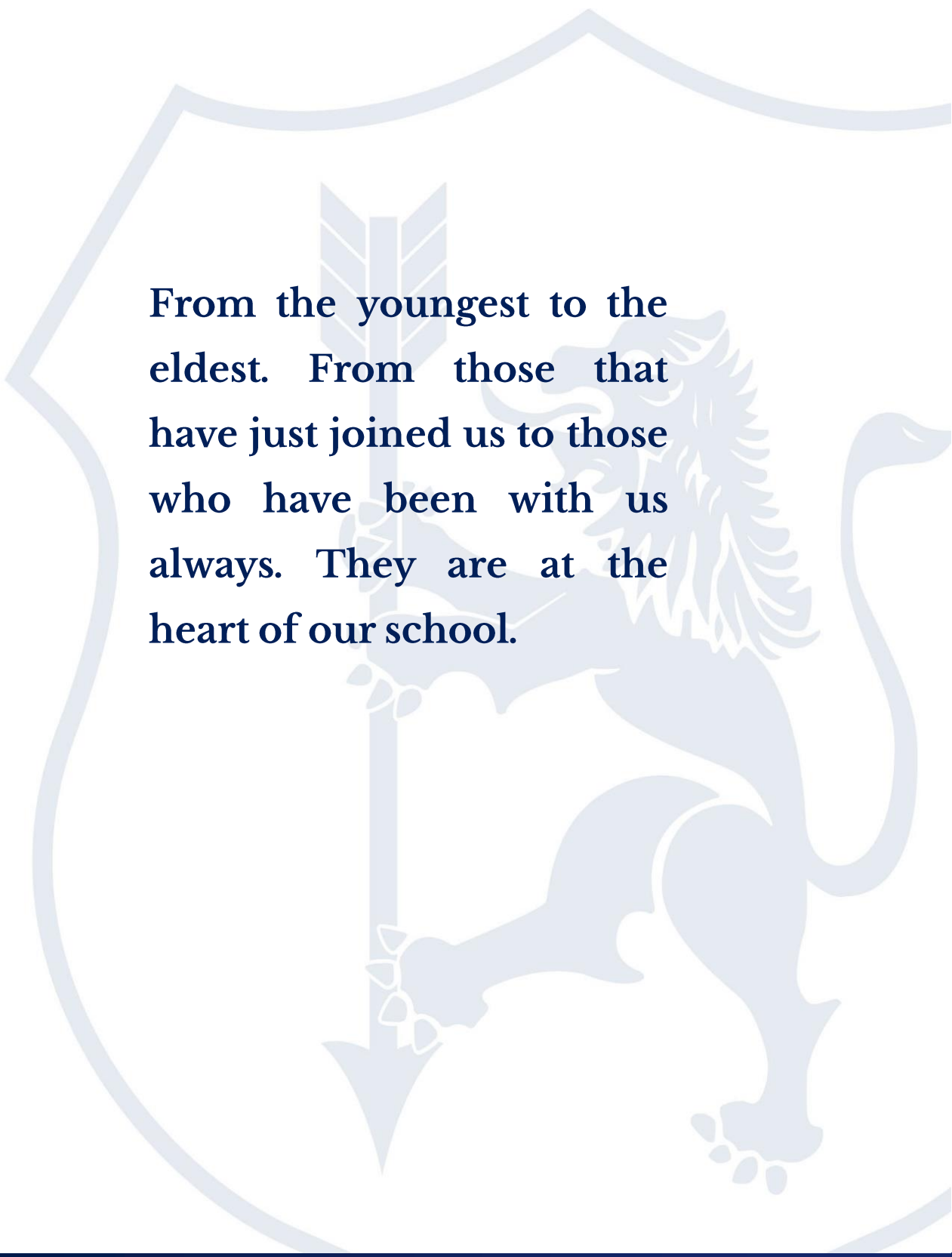
intellect

integrity

inspiration



Bridgewater
School



From the youngest to the
eldest. From those that
have just joined us to those
who have been with us
always. They are at the
heart of our school.

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Introduction

Welcome to Prep I

We are delighted to welcome you and your child to the Bridgewater Prep Department.

Prep I is an exciting transition into Key Stage 1 where the learning becomes more formal and the children are encouraged to become more independent in their learning. We use a range of teaching strategies in an enjoyable, hard-working environment which allows the children to flourish and become confident learners.

Prep I teaching team

Prep I is led by the highly experienced Mrs C Davies, teacher and numeracy co-ordinator.

Mrs Davies is supported in the classroom by Mrs J Seward, a full-time teaching assistant with a teaching degree.

The children are also taught by specialist teachers in such subjects as Science, PE, Music and Forest School, all under the care of Mr Rooney, Head of the Prep Department.

Our 'open-door' policy

Our 'open-door' policy continues through Prep to encourage openness and transparency and ensure a true partnership where parents feel fully informed and involved in their children's learning.

Parents' Evenings are held in October and March and all Prep I parents receive a full school report in July.

Here to support you...

If you have any questions or concerns, please email a member of the Prep team:

daviesc@bwslive.co.uk

sewardj@bwslive.co.uk

rooneym@bwslive.co.uk



Mrs C Davies



Mrs J Seward



Mr M Rooney

The Bridgewater School Ethos

Where Individuals Count

Our school is defined by an ethos that characterises our culture and manifests itself in our attitudes and aspirations.

At the heart of that ethos is the belief that: **"Every individual deserves a range of opportunities which will allow them to flourish to the best of their academic, social, physical, emotional and practical abilities."**

To ensure that every pupil is afforded those opportunities, we use our smaller, unique and nurturing setting to deliver holistic learning which recognises, celebrates and values each individual and their contribution to society.

And because the education we provide affects every individual's experiences and outcomes, our behaviours are guided at all times by the principles of:

Inclusivity

We know that everyone is unique, that we all have our part to play, that our needs are different and that this is what makes us special. We have a warm welcome for all.

Intellect

We use our brainpower to deliver our academic rigour and impart smart, problem-solving skills. Whatever it is, we can work it out.

Integrity

We do the right thing. We are honest and principled. We respect ourselves and others.

Imagination

We are alive with ideas, creativity and curiosity. We are relentlessly optimistic and love the art of the possible.

The Curriculum

Whatever the challenge, we use our curiosity and brainpower to work it out.

Literacy

There is a huge emphasis on phonics and reading in Prep I. The children develop their handwriting skills and use a wide range of texts to help develop their writing, with work often linked to our current topic.

Numeracy

We use a range of practical and challenging methods to develop all areas of maths including number and place value, fractions, telling the time, plus addition, subtraction, and introducing multiplication and division.



Science

Our lessons are strongly linked with our topic work focusing on areas such as animal habitats, forces, materials and healthy eating. Pupils take part in fun and practical science experiments to apply and further develop their knowledge.

Topic

Geography and history work is taught through our topics. These include All About Me, Africa and The Seaside.

Our art and design lessons also link in with the topic areas.

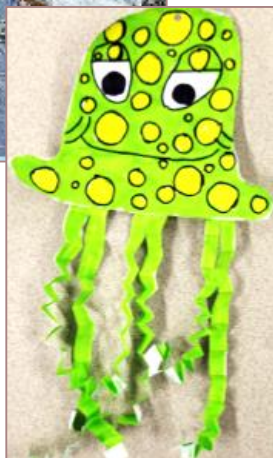
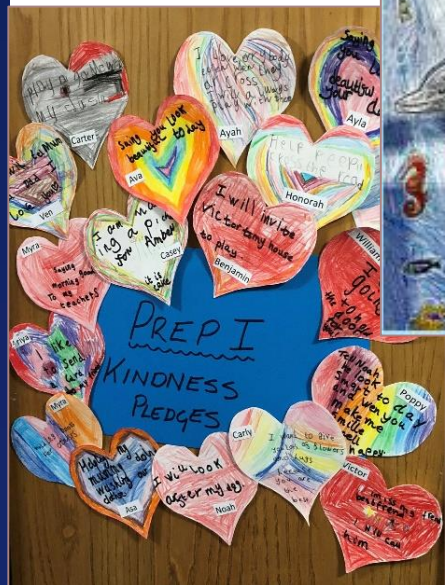
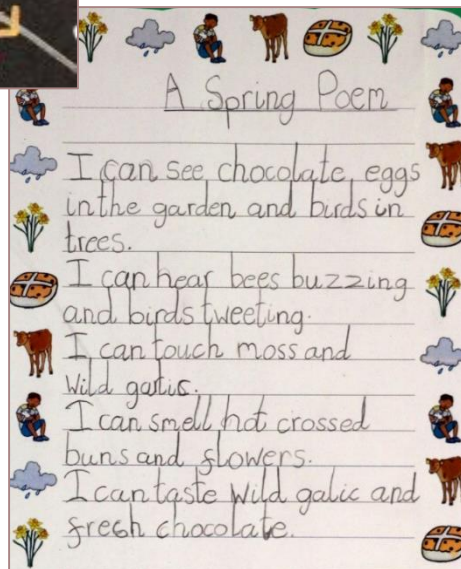
PSHCE / Religious Education

Areas covered:

- relationships
- mental health and wellbeing
- rules and responsibilities
- religious festivals

Other subjects

- Music
- Forest School
- Physical Education.



Beyond the Classroom

Extra-curricular

Our children flourish socially, physically and emotionally through a variety of inclusive experiences and opportunities designed to feed the imagination and grow young minds.

Extra-curricular clubs provide a perfect opportunity for children to challenge themselves and try something new. Activities on offer for Prep I pupils include Art Club, Drama, Judo and Sports.

Enrichment

In addition to regular visits to Worsley Woods, class trips include those to local places of interest such as the theatre, Manchester Airport and the seaside.

Seasonally, the children also participate in events including:

- Harvest Festival
- Carol Service
- Christmas Production
- Charitable fundraising events such as Comic Relief's Red Nose Day.





Bridgewater LIONS Code

We expect the principles of integrity, honesty and respect in everything that we do.

Always do the right thing!

Bridgewater LIONS code:

- WE DO AS WE ARE ASKED FIRST
TIME AND DO NOT KEEP THE
CLASS WAITING
- WE RAISE OUR HANDS TO SPEAK
TO THE TEACHER AND LISTEN
WHEN SOMEBODY IS TALKING
- WE WALK AROUND SCHOOL
- WE KEEP OUR HANDS, FEET AND
UNKIND THOUGHTS TO OURSELVES
- WE HAVE RESPECT FOR EVERYONE
AND EVERYTHING IN SCHOOL



Essential Information – The School Day

The school day

Drop-off & collection

Children should be dropped off at the front of the Prep building (accessed via the pedestrian gate) between 8:30am and 8:45am, where a member of the teaching staff will be awaiting their arrival.

Our Prep I class finish their day at 3.20pm at which time the children will be brought to the front of the Prep Building ready for parents to collect.

Lunchtime

All children are offered a delicious, nutritious school lunch, freshly prepared and cooked on the premises by our catering team. We offer menu options on a 3-week rotation and aim to cater for all diets, cultures and religions.

A healthy snack

Please send in a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit, to be eaten at morning break (no nuts).

Children should also have a refillable water bottle.

'Extended Day' facility

Early Club begins at 7.30am and is available for children from Kindergarten through to Prep VI. Later in the day, Prep children who are not collected by 3.45pm are taken to Wraparound Club in the Prep Library where they are looked after by trained staff until 6pm.

For your convenience, you can take advantage of our 'Extended Day' facility without prior notice. No advance booking is required.

There is a small additional charge for these facilities. Please see our 'Extended Day' leaflet for further details.

Homework

Homework is a very important aspect of the pupils' development. Homework is set to cement an effective partnership between school and parents in pursuing the aims of Bridgewater School. It is designed to reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy.

Reading is the most important homework in Prep I, we expect the children to read for at least 10 minutes each night with an adult, to promote a life-long love of reading and to further reinforce their literacy skills.

Online learning programmes have significantly benefitted our homework provision. The use of Reading Eggs and other online games have enabled our pupils to develop their skills in a fun and accessible way.

This homework is supplemented by more traditional activities such as spelling, literacy and maths.

Essential Information – School Uniform

The school dress code

A full uniform list is included within the Prep Parent Handbook and is also available from the school office.

Here are some important points in brief:



- Children wear their PE kit on timetabled PE and Forest School days (please see class timetable)
- Girls should wear regulation pinafores. Summer dresses are compulsory for all girls after the Easter holiday
- White ankle or long socks with summer dresses and grey or black opaque tights or long socks with winter uniform
- Shoes should be a black, full shoe with adequate foot support. In summer, sandals must have closed toes and heels. Boots of any kind are not permitted
- Top coats must be regulation and bought from the school outfitters
- No jewellery may be worn. Girls with pierced ears may wear one stud in each ear – no hoops
- Long hair must be tied back with either navy or black hair bands
- Trainers are essential for playing outside. Please send a pair into school that can remain in class. (Black PE pumps are not required)
- All pupils must use the standard school bag. The larger, junior bag for Prep I to VI will be needed from September
- All uniform must be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Notes

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