



Newsletter: 9th January 2026

Message from the Headteacher

We would like to warmly welcome everyone back to school and wish all our children and families a very happy New Year. It has been lovely to see the pupils return so positively, ready for an exciting term ahead.

This week, the whole school took part in a **fiercely fought Speed Stacking house team competition**. The atmosphere was fantastic, with pupils showing great concentration, teamwork and determination as they represented their houses. Well done to everyone who took part – the results can be found below.

We are also very excited to share an **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) update**. The countdown to our OPAL launch is well and truly underway, and the children are already buzzing with anticipation. To help us make the most of OPAL play, please ensure children have **wellies and waterproof clothing** in school so they are ready to enjoy outdoor play in all weathers. In preparation for our storage shed arriving, we are also beginning to build our **“smaller loose parts” collection**. If you are able to donate small items found on the OPAL bingo card we would be very grateful and when each class reaches a total of 50 items they will receive an extra playtime reward.

A special welcome to our **new Nursery starters**, who have settled in beautifully, and to their families – we are delighted to have you join our school community. We are also pleased to welcome **Mrs Norton**, who joins our office team on **Thursday and Friday mornings**.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to a busy, exciting and successful term ahead.



House points for this week!

Blunsdon: 75



Liddington: 78



Silbury: 110



Uffington: 80



Well done to Silbury for being this week's winners.

Bridlewood Primary School Facebook Page

Please check out our [Facebook page](#) and keep up to date with news and events happening at Bridlewood!

Give us a 'like' and feel free to share with other family members too!



Reminder

Application deadlines for requesting school places are as follows:

January 15th 2026 - Primary School applications

Applications should be made on the following link:

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20071/school_places_and_admissions

**Our Core Value this term is
Honesty**

**Our Assembly Theme this term is
Justice**

SCHOOL WEBSITE / FACEBOOK PAGE

Need to find out what is going on in class? Can't find your copy of the newsletter? Want to view the latest gallery?

You can find all this on: www.bridlewoodprimaryschool.org.uk or [Facebook page](#)

Diary Dates

12/01/26	Y4 Oxenwood TEAMS 4pm
15/01/26	Census Day with special menu
16/01/26	Young Voices
16/01/26	Y5/6 Girls Football for selected pupils
21/01/26	Y2 Roald Dahl Trip
29/01/26	Hockey Competition for selected pupils
30/01/26	Non-Uniform Day for Oxford Animal Sanctuary
05/02/26	Parent Maths Workshop and Lesson visits 9-10am
02/03/26	Y2 Cricket Festival
10/03/26	Y1 Warwick Castle Trip

Anti-bullying Non Uniform Day

On **Friday 30th January**, the anti-bullying team have arranged a non-uniform day for the Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary. We are asking for pet food donations in return for children to come to school in non-uniform. Please hand donations in to your class on the day.

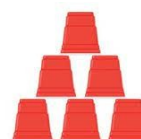
Bridlewood Speed Stacking Festival Results

1st Liddington - 526 points

2nd Uffington - 510 points

3rd Silbury - 494 points

4th Blunsdon - 459 points



Attendance

Reminder that the term dates for the remainder of 2025/2026 are available on our [website](#), along with the dates for 2026/2027.

When you register your child at school, you have a legal duty to ensure your child attends that school regularly. This means that your child must attend every day that the school is open, unless:

- Your child is too ill to attend that day.
- You have asked in advance and been given permission by the school for your child to be absent on that day due to exceptional circumstances.
- Your child cannot attend school on that day because it is a day you are taking part in religious observance and you have informed us in advance.

If you need to request time off during term time, please complete and return a Notification of Absence form. Forms can be collect from the school office and should be returned at least 10 days prior to the absence. Absences will be considered but can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

When are children too ill to attend school?

It can be a difficult decision for parents and carers to decide if their child is well enough to attend school.

There is key information provided by the government available at

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

In addition, the accompanying poster may also be useful.

[Should I keep my child off school checklist poster \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Reporting Illness

Please report absences **before 9am** on each day of illness, giving an explanation of the nature of the illness to 01793 706830 or to admin@bridlewood.org.uk

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, **please keep them at home for 48 hours after the symptoms subside**. Infections of this kind spread very quickly where young children are concerned.

Please also keep your child at home if they have a temperature of 37.8°C or above. They must remain off school until the temperature has subsided naturally (i.e. without the use of medication).

Thank you for your cooperation.