



Bussage C. of E. (Aided) Primary School
The Ridgeway, Bussage, Stroud, Glos.
GL6 8FW

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23rd April 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a fantastic Easter!

Parent Consultation Evenings:

As we did back in October, we are holding 'virtual' parent evenings on **Wednesday 5th** and **Thursday 6th May** after school. The focus of the meetings will be two way. We will be letting you know how your child has settled back into school after the latest lockdown and discuss any gaps in learning which we have assessed. We will also be wanting to learn from you how the engagement with Remote Learning progressed during this time.

This is being hosted through our **School Cloud** portal. This seemed to run relatively smoothly last time although if there are any connectivity issues and something does go wrong during the video call, rest assured we will rearrange an opportunity for you to speak with the teacher.

Some things that we learned from the last time we used this. Firstly, when the time is up, the call comes to an abrupt end. Hopefully we will be able to see the end point in sight and wrap things up but if the call does come to an end, staff wanted me to assure you that it is a software setting, not them simply ending the call. Also, where possible, it would be great if the conversation could really be with just the adults in the house.

The appointments are open for booking from **Saturday 24th April** and **close Friday 30th April at 8.00pm**. You should receive an email inviting you to make a booking.

I had hoped that the system would have been updated to allow more than one parent to attend remotely as this would allow greater flexibility for you. Sadly this is not possible at the moment. Therefore, I am asking all parents to communicate with one another and work out which **one** of them will be booking the **one** appointment per child. A huge thank you to all of you for your support and understanding as we continue to navigate our way through these challenging times.

Summer Bussage Boost

As we begin to return to a more normal way of working, the staff have been working hard to assess where the children are academically after this latest period of closure. We are currently finalising plans for using a variety of extra staff to provide interventions and opportunities for our children to receive more support than normal by way of giving them a positive boost as we head towards the summer. SATs won't be happening again this year but I do know that the children in Year 2 and Year 6 will be involved in meaningful assessments so that we can be clear on their end points as they make the transition to the next phase of their education.

We will also be providing opportunities for well-being, re-engagement and fun for our children as we head into sunnier months and more about these events will follow.



The Spiritual Garden

Many of you will have noticed the Gypsy Wagon or the 'Snug' in our Spiritual Garden purchased with money raised by Mr West's epic fundraising effort in 2019. His request was that the funds be spent on the mental wellbeing of our children and as our focus is once more upon this very important aspect we are looking to further improve the area.

If there are any parents out there with a bit of gardening expertise who feel they would be able to volunteer a few hours of their time, please get in touch with the school office, we would very much like to hear from you.

It would be lovely to restore this area to somewhere the children can go when they wish to reflect or just enjoy some quiet time.

Reception 2021

As things stand at the moment, we still have some places in our Reception Class for this September. I am mindful that we have been unable to show potential parents around the school during this past year. If you know of anyone considering places in September, I would be grateful if you could relay this information to them.

School Meal fees

We have been advised that the charge for a school meal has increased to £2.34 from £2.32 which is a 2 pence increase.

A Ferguson
Head Teacher