



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

Head Teacher: Mr. Andrew Ferguson, B.A. (Hons)

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10th September 2021

Dear Parents,

First Week: It has been a great start back to school and I know all of the staff have really enjoyed the fact that we are getting back to some sort of normality. It has been good to engage with you on the playground and to see the children tentatively realise that they can go ANYWHERE on the school field, without a bubble in sight.

Moving Forward: With the easing of restrictions and a return to school it is perhaps inevitable that the cases of COVID within our community are likely to rise during the next few months. At the moment we don't know by how much and indeed at what point is it too much. I am attaching a letter from the Local Authority with information.

The main things, I want you to be aware of are:

- If your child begins to display COVID symptoms (I am aware we are moving into the cold and flu season) you should keep them off school and get them tested. Once a negative test comes back, they can return to school, if it is positive, then the child follows isolation procedures and we will provide home learning. A positive case no longer means the whole class being sent home.
- If the school believes the situation is rapidly escalating such as 10% of the school population with COVID or 5 members of a class testing positive within 10 days, new measures may have to be introduced. This would be in consultation with the local Authority and Public Health England.
- Risk assessments and Outbreak Management Plans are now on the website for you to see.

We will be looking to reintroduce extra-curricular clubs shortly and information about these will be with you soon. We are also looking at our assemblies. We are going to operate separate assemblies for Key Stage 1/ Rainbows and Key Stage 2. We are keen to get Work of the Week on a Friday going again and to invite parents in for this. So watch this space!

Start of the Day: As we reach the end of the first week I have been reflecting on what is going well and what needs looking at. By saying that classroom doors will be open from 08:40 I think parents have misunderstood that the school start time has been brought forward to 08:40. It hasn't. It remains 08:50.

Unless your child is attending Breakfast Club, nobody should be on the school grounds before 08.40. We have had a number of parents coming on to the property at 08:30.

Between 08:40 and 08:50 please drop your child in the playground and encourage them to wash their hands and go straight into class quickly. We are trying to discourage large gatherings in the playground for obvious reasons. Your support in this is greatly appreciated.



Summer Challenges: Well done to the many children who have kept reading and working on challenges over the summer. Your hard work is really going to pay off this year so well done! **Bailey** has enjoyed hearing about your fantastic reading challenges this summer and he has personally commissioned a number of special certificates to celebrate these. He will be giving them out to those children in due course.



Hoodies: I am aware that Batemans sell Bussage Hoodies **FOR PE**. Please note that these are not appropriate substitutes for our school sweatshirts which represent the official school uniform. I am therefore requesting that children only wear Hoodies for PE and not within the class. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Bussage Bear Hunt (18th and 19th September): I am delighted that the Bussage Bear Hunt is back on and I have seen a number of posters around the area publicising the event. Already the team from the PTA have been working incredibly hard, raising money and now a message from them.

*"We are so nearly there with the annual big fundraiser for our school's PTA - **Bussage Bear Hunt 18th and 19th September 2021**. Thank you to all who have helped so far and please support this event by the following ways...*

- Pick up a book of 5 raffle tickets from the school office and sell to friends and family returning stubs and money to the school office.

*- Bake or buy a cake/cakes for the cake stall and bring into the school office on **Friday 17th**. If you aren't able to drop them off on that day please get in touch (email below)*

*- Support **Bring a Bear to School Day** on **Friday 17th**. Let your child take a bear into school and donate a £1 either in an envelope in their book bag or pay online via our online shop: <https://bussage-primary-school-pta.sumup.link/>*

- Bottles, bottles, bottles. The tombola is always very popular and we would be grateful if you could donate a bottle - wine, spirits, squash, shower gel or even tomato ketchup. There is a collection box in the foyer of the school- please help fill it up!

- Volunteer to help over the weekend for an hour or two

*- Come along on the **18th** or **19th** and enjoy the Hunt. We have some great bears with even better puns; come and spot them, admire some and groan about others!*

Any questions or for more information email bussageschoolbearhunt@hotmail.com"

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A Ferguson', written in a cursive style.

A Ferguson
Head Teacher