



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

Co-head Teachers: Mr. Andrew Ferguson,  
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Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents,

### After School Club

Since the pandemic, we have noticed that parent's working patterns here at Bussage Primary School have changed. We have had to review the After-School Club provision. Due to less demand over the past year, the club will now run from the **1<sup>st</sup> March 2023** as follows:

**3:15pm to 5:15pm on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**  
**3:15pm to 4:15pm on a Friday.**

Those parents directly affected by this change have already been notified and now is the time to inform the rest of the school.

The booking and payment process will remain the same. Bussage Primary School is firmly committed to running the club, and we will review session timings based upon parents and carers needs - but we couldn't continue running the last hour of each day due to lack of demand. This would lead to further losses which we could no longer fund.

We are extremely proud of our Breakfast and After School Clubs and we know how vital these are for parents. We will continue to review and take a flexible approach. Should demand for these clubs significantly increase, we will revisit our arrangements.

### Children's Mental Health Week 2023:

The children worked brilliantly during the week to learn a set of new skills and to understand the importance of wellbeing. We talked a lot about how they need to try to build a 'toolkit' of techniques that they could use to support themselves when they feel they need to boost or take care of their wellbeing and mental health.

All of the children enjoyed a yoga session and we are now looking at being able to bring more yoga sessions into school. KS1 children trialled positive touch and loved it! All of KS2 learned to do peer massage and were brilliant at it – it will now feature regularly in all KS2 classes.

There were many other reflective sessions and mindfulness activities experienced throughout the week. We hope the children continue to use the tools they have learnt not only now but as they grow and become adults too. For KS2 children, the slides from peer massage have been put onto a separate document which will be sent out with this newsletter so that they can continue with their skills at home.

### Strike action:

The next scheduled Teacher's strike date is due on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. As far as we are aware, the indications are that NONE of our year groups will be affected on this occasion. However, all parents should be aware that members of the NEU are entitled to make their decision to strike on the actual day. Therefore, there is still a potential possibility of class closures with very little notice



We would urge all parents to have contingency plans in place in the unlikely event of this occurring. Any last-minute closure of classes will be notified via text message through teachers2parents.

We are sorry that you may have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and/or that they may experience disruption to their education should any staff member choose to exercise their right to strike at the last minute.

We understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Bussage C of E Primary School remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are working closely with our staff to keep up to date with the situation, and we will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

#### PTA:

The PTA AGM was held on Wednesday, many thanks to everyone who attended. The AGM gave us a fantastic opportunity to reflect on what the PTA Team had achieved over the course of the year. Some of the highlights were:

- Over the several events held such as the Summer and Christmas Fayres, Bear Hunt, Quiz Nights, Halloween Trail and many more, a profit of £14,770.16 was made
- Over £5000 was raised through initiatives such as our very popular second-hand uniform sale, Christmas cards and event sponsorship

What the PTA achieved with the support of the community has been fantastic and has enabled vital funds to support the school and our children, especially under the economic conditions putting more pressure on budgets. Some of the initiatives the PTA have supported the school in funding are illustrated below:



During the AGM Jenny Reeves and Miranda Gager have stepped down as Chairperson and Treasurer respectively and we would like to take a moment to thank them for their dedication and support.

Daisy Carpenter has become the new Treasurer and David Turner has taken on the role of Chairperson, thank you to both for stepping up and allowing the PTA to continue.

We are creating a new committee role of Events Coordinator. This position will be responsible for finding people to organise upcoming events and overseeing the events calendar. This is a key role to fill in the PTA to enable us to continue to support the school and our children over the next year.

If you are interested or want to find out more please get in touch [bussageprimarypta@hotmail.com](mailto:bussageprimarypta@hotmail.com)

### **World Book Day:**

You should have received information about World Book Day from Mrs Seymour earlier this week. It is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We look forward to celebrating our school's love of reading with the children on that day.

We hope you all have a lovely half term and that the sun will be shining! School returns on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Kind Regards,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature on the left is 'A Ferguson' and the second signature on the right is 'Z White'.

Mr A Ferguson & Mrs Z White

### **Dates for your diary:**

- World Book Day Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- Y3 Iron Age visit Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March
- Y4 Iron Age visit Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March (Please note: This visit will happen even though this is a potential strike day)
- Red Nose Day 17<sup>th</sup> March
- Y3 & 4 Recorder and Clarinet Performance Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2:30pm
- Parent Consultation Evenings Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March
- Circus Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May
- Sports Day Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July (Reserve Wed 5<sup>th</sup> July)