



Bussage C. of E. (Aided) Primary School
The Ridgeway, Bussage, Stroud, Glos.
GL6 8FW
Headteacher: Mrs Zoe White
Tel: 01453 883205
email: admin@bussage.gloucs.sch.uk



Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to welcome you back to school after what we hope was an enjoyable and restful summer. It is lovely to see the children back, sharing news with their friends and fresh and ready to learn. A curriculum map has been sent with this email so that you are informed about the different knowledge and skills we are going to be learning this term. The children will become familiar with the 'Big Questions' linked to our foundation subjects, which we will be exploring through our curriculum.

We will be updating our class blog regularly with photographs of the children's recent learning too, so please do have a look! The remainder of this letter is for your information and includes some reminders which may be of help to you.

Staffing

Mrs Howe – Monday and Tuesday

Mrs West – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

The children will be supported by Mrs Wescott, who will be in Monday to Thursday, with Mrs Gillard on a Friday. Mrs Tipping will also be in the class over the course of the week.

Home Learning

Reading

We encourage the children to read as often as possible; however, they must be doing so a **minimum of three** times a week (daily would be of most benefit). Of course, don't forget to read to your child too, so they can experience a wide range of stories.

Books will continue as they were last year. One book will be a decodable book, carefully matched to the teaching taking place in school, giving the children the opportunity to practise the sounds and tricky words they have learnt. The second book will be a 'Richer Read' book (not fully decodable), which is intended for you to share and enjoy with your child.

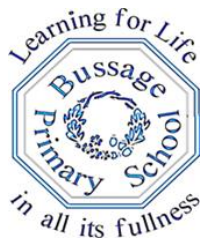
Your child is welcome to change their reading book any day of the week. However, could you please ensure that their reading diaries come into school **EVERY Wednesday** to be checked by Mrs Wescott. Please complete the diary with a brief summary of what they have read.

Your child will be bringing home a bookmark in the coming days with specific questions you can discuss with them. This is a further way to support your child with their reading skills and understanding.

Maths

The children will receive fortnightly maths home learning, which will be sent home on a **Monday** and should be returned any day the following week, but by the following **Monday** at the latest, please. We will then look at the home learning together as a class.





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Spellings

Spellings will be generated from the Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS) programme we follow in school. These should be practised as part of their weekly home learning. New spellings will come home every **Thursday** to be tested the following **Thursday**.

Please help your child to practise them using the Look, Cover, Write, Check method. Their spellings are to be written in their spelling and handwriting books, using their best handwriting, with a focus on correct letter formation. Please use pencil only.

General

P.E. Kit – Class 2 will be having two sessions of PE every week, and we always aim to go outside whenever possible. Therefore, please can you ensure your child has a kit in their PE bag for both indoor and outdoor use in school **at all times** as their PE days can change with short notice.

If they have been outdoors in adverse weather, we will send the kit home at the end of that day to be washed. Please remember to pack warmer items for when wetter, colder conditions begin.

If your child has pierced ears, please provide them with micropore tape in their PE bags to cover their earrings during active sessions for their own safety. Please also ensure your child has socks in their bag if they are wearing tights to school.

Their PE days are currently planned for a Tuesday and Thursday however this can vary.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Children will continue to be dropped off and picked up through the courtyard gate as they did last year. If someone other than yourself will be picking up your child from school, please ensure you send in a written note with the arrangements so that we have your permission and are aware of the change.

Finally, as the children transition into year 2, we just wanted to advise you that the children's book bags are not checked by a member of staff. So, we would suggest a simple bag with only one opening is the most suitable, allowing items to be taken out of their bags with ease on a morning. This will also prevent things been left in them and forgotten!

We hope that this letter has proved informative and will help to provide a smooth start for your child. It will hopefully be a very busy yet exciting year – we like to work as a team to work and learn together.

Please don't hesitate to contact either of us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs West and Mrs Howe

