



## Headteacher

Mr Richard Catchpole BSc (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Spring Term 2021 – Headteacher Update #10

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> is getting ever closer. Not many sleeps to go ...

We have reviewed our Covid Risk Assessment and we are good to go. All our staff (including Club leaders and Music teachers) are taking Covid Lateral Flow Tests twice a week, which is a game changer in terms of assurance that we can stop transmission within school by staff. The principle of 'year group bubbles' for staff and children will remain in place along with regular hand cleaning. If you or your child have any anxieties or concerns about returning to school please feel free to email me, Mrs Barker or your child's class teacher.



Here is some key information for returning to school:

#### Attendance at school w/c Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

School attendance from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 is once again mandatory. Clearly if your child is unwell they should not attend. Please discuss with us if you have any concerns regarding this.

#### Start of school times / Drop-off arrangements w/c Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

- Year 6: 8.50am – enter via the Brighton Road gate, from 8.40am; wait at front of the Year 6 block.
- Year 4: 8.50am – enter via the main gate, from 8.40am; Year 4 wait on the playground.
- Year 5: 9.00am – enter via the Brighton Road gate, from 8.50am; Year 5 wait on the playground.
- Year 3: 9.00am – enter via the main gate, from 8.50am; Year 3 wait on the playground.
- No parents on site for drop off - thank you.

#### End of school times / Pick-up arrangements w/c Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

- Year 4 & Year 6 – 3.15pm / Year 3 & Year 5 – 3.30pm
- Parents on site for pick-up – parents of children in Year 5 and Year 6 not to come onto the school site at pick up. Parents of children in Year 3 and Year 4 can wait on the playground, wearing a face covering unless exempt.
- Year 5 & Year 6 leave the school site unaccompanied (unless their parent is picking up a Y3 or Y4 child)

#### School Uniform / PE Kit

School uniform for all on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March please. We understand that if your child has had a growth spurt since December they may need to wear items that are unschool-branded or as close as possible to school uniform. PE days are as follows (Monday PE sessions are not starting until Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March):

Year 3: Monday and Wednesday

Year 4: Monday and Tuesday

Year 5: Monday and Friday

Year 6: Wednesday and Thursday



### **Catch-Up & School Curriculum upon your child's return**

We will spend some time welcoming children back in to school but we will also be cracking on with the learning from day one. As they always do, the teachers will be assessing your child's learning and understanding (especially in English and maths) from the get-go. This will inform the level of challenge we provide along with the level of catch-up support needed.

Our Catch-Up plans start from week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> March and will focus on key skills in English and maths. We will not necessarily inform you if your child has participated in a catch-up group as these sessions are very fluid and fairly short: very much in response to the learning of that week. The Parents Evenings in April (see below) will be an opportunity for teachers to discuss your child's progress with you.

We will also be cracking on with all other subjects in the National Curriculum too. It is important that we balance our focus on core literacy and numeracy skills with access to the wider curriculum too.

### **Spring Term Parents Evenings**

These will be held virtually (via 'School Cloud' as in the Autumn term) on the following dates:

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April (6.00pm to 8.30pm) and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April (4.00pm to 6.30pm)

Although these are the Spring Term parents evening dates we feel it is best to hold them straight after the Easter break. This will give us time to work with the children, assess them and consider any areas of support needed. We will be issuing an end of year report in July as per norm.

### **Clubs at school**

You will have received information at the beginning of this week via email from the school regarding clubs. Information is also on the school website <https://www.busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk/web/clubs/150320>. We are so pleased that these can start up so quickly. Please do not let family finances hold your child back from joining a club now or in the Summer Term. Please speak to either myself or Mrs Barker – we can help.

### **Music Lessons**

Surrey Arts, Music Works and Keith Ryder have all been in contact with the school and we have planned the start of all music lessons for the week of the 8<sup>th</sup> March. Music teachers will be in contact with parents directly to confirm arrangements.

### **World Book Day - send in your child's own story on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Part of the work that the children are undertaking this week result in them writing a short story and publishing it in a book. We would like the children to bring these books with them on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, when they return to school. The children will spend some time in class reading each other's stories.

### **Extreme Reading Challenge – bring in photos on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

In celebration of World Book Day, we are running an 'Extreme Reading Challenge' for all children to get involved in. To take part, children need to take a photo of themselves reading a book in an extreme place (without endangering themselves!). The photos should be printed, named on the back and handed to their class teacher on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March when they return to school. We are looking forward to seeing some creative entries!



### **School Breakfast and After-School Club – up and running from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Our wonderful Breakfast and After-School Club will re-open to all pupils from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. There are spaces available in all sessions so kindly contact our Club manager, Jackie McPhail, at [jmcpfail@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:jmcpfail@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk) or by phone 07432 304562 if you would like to book a place for your child.



## School Dinners

Your child can have a school dinner or a packed lunch when they return. They can let their class teacher know their choice on Monday morning when they return to school. If your child is having school lunches, please do make sure that there is credit in your Parent Mail account and that this is topped up regularly so that Mrs Vaz does not have to spend valuable time chasing late payments. Please note the amount for this half term is £45.60.

## Medications

If your child needs to have medications held in school to administer (eg. inhaler, epipen), please ensure that if these have been taken home over the lockdown period they are brought into school when we return on Monday. The medication must be named with the dosage required and given straight to the class teacher by an adult. An administration of medication form needs to also be completed/mailed (see attached) to be held with the medication. If the medication has been kept in school over lockdown, please check with the class teacher that it is in date and the appropriate form has been completed and kept with it.

Any medications which need to be administered on a temporary basis by the school for your child (eg. antibiotics, calpol) must also be named with the dosage required and given to straight to the class teacher – this includes any creams or cough sweets. A temporary administration of medication form also needs to be completed/mailed (as attached) to be kept with the medication.

Whilst we are asking parents/carers not to come onto the school site, for this exceptional medication reason please make contact/visit your child's class teacher with the medication as the child should not bring it in or keep it with themselves.

## Support from the Godalming Community Store

The Community Store is here to support any local residents who have been financially affected by the Covid Crisis. If you would benefit from their support please either call the Town Council on 01483 523575 (Monday-Friday excluding Bank Holidays) or email [office@godalming-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@godalming-tc.gov.uk).

## Safeguarding

With increasing regularity we are made aware of parents letting their children access and even post on social media sites that are deemed unsuitable for their age group. These include Tic-Toc, Snapchat, etc. There are age restrictions on these sites for very good reasons. My strong recommendation is that you adhere to them with your child.

Please remember that if you have a Safeguarding concern around any child please contact us or Surrey Children's Services: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/childrens-social-care/contact-childrens-services> or phone 0300 470 9100.

Surrey CAMHS (Children & Adolescent Mental Health Service) have sent us a resource pack to support parents whose children are anxious about returning to school. The pack is a 60 page document so is not included with this HT Update/email. However, should you wish to be sent a copy then again, please email either myself or Mrs Barker and we can send it on to you.

Take care & kind regards



Richard Catchpole - Headteacher

