



Headteacher

Mr Richard Catchpole BSc (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Tuesday 16th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Spring Term 2021 – Headteacher Update #11

Oh, the joy of having all the children back in school! Hearing laughter and seeing children haring around the playground is a real tonic. They seem to have returned with a fresh desire to learn as well. Long may it continue!



School Equipment

Some children have not brought back to school the mini whiteboards that we sent home for Home Learning. These are expensive to replace, so please do send your child back in with any that are languishing at home. Some children do not have the expected school equipment with them. The 'Ready To Learn' school equipment list is attached with this update and can also be accessed on the school website:

https://www.busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk/web/homework_and_learning_guidance/241790.

We do not want children to share equipment yet, so please ensure your child has all they need – the School Council shop has many items, all at cost price. Please see the order form also attached with this update.

PE Days/Kit

Just to remind you PE days are as follows (Monday PE sessions start from Monday 15th March):

Year 3: Monday and Wednesday ; Year 4: Monday and Tuesday

Year 5: Monday and Friday ; Year 6: Wednesday and Thursday

The children can come into school on these days wearing PE kit.

Spring Term Parents Evenings

These will be held virtually (via the School Cloud system we used last term) on the following dates:

Wednesday 21st April (6.00pm to 8.30pm)

Thursday 22nd April (4.00pm to 6.30pm)

Sign up for appointments on these dates will go live from Monday 29th March – information to follow.

Clubs at school

You will have received information from the school regarding clubs. 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.

School Breakfast and After-School Club – up and running from Monday 8th March

Our wonderful Breakfast and After-School Club has re-opened. There are spaces available in all sessions so kindly contact our Club manager, Jackie McPhail, at jmcp@mail@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk or by phone 07432 304562 if you would like to book a place for your child.



'Turn on the Subtitles' – help your child's reading with one simple change

According to research turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can increase their ability in reading. Children read more when we 'Turn On The Subtitles'. Here is Stephen Fry explaining the benefits of turning on the subtitles in more detail: www.turnonthesubtitles.org/parents



eSafety Week

This week in school we are spending more time considering issues around safety. The theme this year is very pertinent and a key one for all of us to consider: 'An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world'. This may be a useful topic of conversation to follow up on at home after our esafety assemblies on Tuesday 16th March (led by Miss McPhail, one of our LSAs/HLTAs).

Parent Governor Election Ballot

Thank you to Mr Hanak-Hammerl and Miss Gaut who are standing for the vacant Parent Governor post. The **online ballot closes at noon on Monday 22nd March**. Please refer to the email sent to parents on Thursday 11th March for information. One vote per parent/carer in the school is allowed.

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.

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.

Farewell to Mrs Alder – but not quite yet

Mrs Sonia Alder has been teaching RE to all our classes since September 2017. Sadly she will be leaving us in July 2021 to take on a new teaching role in the RE department of St John Baptist School, Woking. She will be sorely missed as her RE lessons are invariably popular with children and staff alike. We wish her well, but still have plenty of time to say our good-byes.

Take care & kind regards

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Richard Catchpole'.

Richard Catchpole - Headteacher

