



Bussage C. of E. (Aided) Primary School
The Ridgeway, Bussage, Stroud, Glos.
GL6 8FW
Headteacher: Mrs Zoe White
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September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new year and the start of your child's journey through Key Stage 2. Although it is a new year, we are looking forward to enjoying the postponed class trip to the Cotswold Wildlife Park next Thursday.

This year we have moved away from teaching through a central theme each term and instead, the curriculum in each foundation subject is being taught through a Big Question and accompanying target memories. This term your child will be learning about light and shadow and electricity in Science. They will learn about sources of light and how shadows are formed. In the electrical unit, they will learn about simple electrical circuits and how to make them. They will also learn the difference between conductors and insulators and their uses.

In History, we will be looking at how the lives of children have changed over the centuries. We cover a number of areas, from the jobs young children were expected to do to learning about the people who improved children's lives and education.

In Geography, we will learn about the UK. We will learn which countries make up the UK, and they are split into different regions. We will use maps to locate these areas. We will learn about the reasons for migration and why people move within the country and how we have links across the globe.

Your child will be learning a broad range of subjects helping them to understand the world around them. A curriculum map accompanies this letter and will give more detail about the areas that will be covered up to Christmas.

We will update the school website 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.

Staffing: There will be a number of adults working with Year 3 throughout the term. I will be teaching the class with the exception of Monday afternoons when Miss Corbett will teach the class. Mrs Weaver will be supporting the class in the mornings and Mrs Weaver and Mrs Brunsdon will be supporting the class three afternoons per week.

Homework: The children will receive weekly tasks, alternating between maths and English. The children will also be expected to complete their weekly spellings and reading (more information below). Homework will be set and handed in each **Monday**.

Reading: Your child's reading books should have come home this afternoon. We really value reading for enjoyment at Bussage! We encourage the children to read as often as possible, however they must be doing so at 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. Your child is welcome to change their reading book any day of the week, however, can you ensure that their reading diaries come into school on





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a **Thursday** please so they can be checked. Each child has been given a bookmark today with different question types on them. These are the sorts of questions your child will be asked in school. These bookmarks could be used to help check your child's understanding of the book they are reading.

In Year 3 we would like to encourage children to write their own reading comments in the diary with a brief summary of what they have read, we will talk to them in class about the types of comments to write. There is an extra section in the middle of the reading record that should hopefully prove to be useful to parents. Amongst other handy tips for reading and writing, and helpful phonics guidance, the books contain high frequency/common word lists.

Class Book

This term we will be reading *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. We have already started reading and the children loved the description in the opening chapter. We will be using the story in the first writing unit of the year. After half term, we will be enjoying *The Boy Who Grew Dragons* by Andy Shepherd.

Spellings taken from the national curriculum spelling list and spelling patterns for Y3 will be coming home regularly to be learnt, and should be practised as part of their weekly home learning. New spellings will come home every **Monday** when they will also be tested on the previous week's spellings. Please help your child to practise them, using the Look, Cover, Write, Check method.

General:

P.E. Kit - Class 3 will be having PE twice a week. Up until Christmas we will aim to go outside for as long as possible, therefore can you ensure your child has kit in their PE bag for both indoor and outdoor use in school **at all times please**. 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 micro pore tape in their PE bags to cover their earrings with during active sessions for their own safety.

School uniform – Just a general reminder: If your child has pierced ears only one pair of stud earrings is permitted, **no** other jewellery should be worn at school apart from a watch if desired. School jumpers should not be replaced with hoodies, and football trainers (especially the luminous type) are not permitted in class. Long hair should be tied back, and use of appropriate hair ties only please – no flower garlands or huge bows etc!

I hope that this letter has proved informative and will help to provide a smooth start for your child. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your support, I look forward to meeting you all as the term progresses.

Kind regards,
Mr Mills

