



**Billingshurst Primary School**  
**Headteacher : Helen Williamson BSc (Hons) MA**  
Station Road, Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9RE  
Tel: 01403 782789 Fax: 01403 783124  
e-mail: [office@billingshurstprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@billingshurstprimary.org.uk)  
website: [www.billingshurstprimary.org.uk](http://www.billingshurstprimary.org.uk)

**Newsletter No.4**  
**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020**

Dear Parents / Carers



Thank you to all of you for wearing your masks when coming on to the school site. A small number of parents are exempt from wearing masks, have explained this to me and are therefore allowed on site without one. I know some parents have questioned why staff on the gate do not always have masks on. Staff at school do not wear masks and those of us on the gate ensure we are socially distanced from parents. Whenever we cannot be, we put on a mask. We are able to position ourselves away from others whereas parents are not able to do this, especially today in this awful weather. It is important for us to be able to greet children as normally as possible to keep school as familiar as we can. On this occasion there is one rule for the parents and one for the staff. Again, though, thank you all for your support.

Some parents have asked if you would be told if we had a positive case of COVID at school. If there is a positive test, I have to call the DfE COVID helpline and follow their advice. I would expect that we would tell parents but we would not, of course, identify individuals. We would then be able to tell you what action was being taken, as directed by the DfE and Public Health officials. We do not have any cases of COVID in school and that is very good news.

Miss Rozental is absent from school at the moment because she had had to undergo minor surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing her back in school soon.

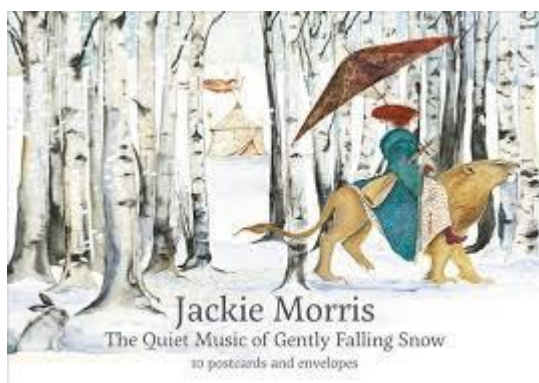
**Parents Consultation meetings**

We have postponed these meetings with you until the second half of November. The meetings will take place across two weeks, the weeks beginning 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Each teacher will have a day to undertake all the meetings with you by telephone and these will take place between 9am and 4.50pm. There will be no evening calls as staff have to leave the site by 5pm to ensure that thorough cleaning can take place and safeguarding guidance means they cannot call you at home from their homes. We will send out details nearer the time but you will be able to book your appointment on line as before and will just need to add your contact number for the call. We feel that a telephone call is the most accessible and inclusive way of having meetings with all parents. It is also the most efficient way for the school to contact you.

**Whole School Book Fortnight**

We are already very excited about this – for two weeks after half term the whole school book fortnight will take place and the book we are all sharing, celebrating and exploring is 'The quiet music of gently falling snow' by Jackie Morris.





Two years ago we shared *Lost Words*, which Jackie so beautifully illustrated, and we are very excited about this book which is wonderfully illustrated with the most beautiful stories. We are very disappointed that we cannot have the open afternoon with you all to celebrate the work the children will have done but instead each year group will create an online presentation so you can see this virtually. More news after half term.

### **The rule of 6**

A reminder that the rule of 6 is law and prohibits social gatherings of more than 6 people, inside or outdoors and the 6 includes children. Please bear this in mind when waiting outside and chatting to other parents. It is advisable to socially distance from each other at all times anyway, especially to support the school and ensure we stay open, but you are technically breaking the law if groups of more than 6 of you congregate together. This does only apply to a very small minority of you as the vast majority are doing their very best to stay distanced.

### **Wellies!**

The weather is wetter and the restriction of COVID mean we need to use the field as much as possible to ensure each year group has enough space to play at lunchtimes so we are asking, where possible, for children to bring their wellies in next week. This allows children to go on the field despite the rain and gives them far more space to run and play. Children without wellies can use those in the collection outside my office but there are not enough for everyone by a long shot, so the more children who bring in wellies the better – thank you

Yours sincerely,

Helen Williamson  
Headteacher

### Letters Home This Week

All – COVID 19 Information Leaflet  
Year R – Class Letters

### Dates for Diary

**Autumn Term -** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020  
**Half Term -** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Spring Term -** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021  
**Half Term -** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**INSET Day -** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Summer Term -** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021  
**Half Term -** Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**INSET Day -** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**29<sup>th</sup> September –** Year 2,4,5,6 Individual Photos