



Billingshurst Primary School
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Newsletter No.17
Friday 22nd January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers



I hope you are all well and keeping safe in these challenging times. You should all now have had a telephone call from your child's teacher and the team report that these have been well received and helpful for them too. If you have not had a call, apart from Argentina class, then we have been trying to contact you. Please email us with up to date phone numbers if this has changed, and check your emails. If we cannot make contact you will receive a letter in the post asking you to call us. We need to make contact in one form or another as part of our safeguarding procedures whilst most children are not in school.

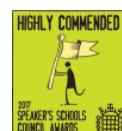
Attached is our guidance for keeping children safe on line during the time when they are learning at home – do have a look through this and, if you have any particular worries, let us know and we will do what we can to support you.

A few parents have asked us if we can do class zoom meetings. I have given this some thought, and liaised with our team of teachers to ensure I have their views. This is something we are not going to provide at the moment and this is for two reasons. The first is inclusion – if we cannot be sure that ALL children would be included then we would not want to proceed with something that may exclude certain children. The second reason is privacy and safeguarding. Such a meeting would reveal who was in school and who was not – with the categorisations of children allowed to be in school to include vulnerable children, this would be a breach of confidentiality and their privacy. There was such an issue in another local authority which was deemed to have breached the child's privacy when other parents questioned the child's validity to be in school. You are, of course, free to set up zoom meetings with other families and friends but it is something we will not be providing. Thank you for your understanding.

Thank you again for all the lovely messages sent to the teachers and teams about the home learning and support being offered. Remember, we are here to help so do get in touch. We may not always be able to solve the problem but we may know who can!

Car Park

Sorry to be a bore but the car park is not for drop off or pick up but for staff only. Please do not access the car park. Please access the school by the footpath to keep everyone safe.



Autism training for parents by the West Sussex Autism and Social Communication Team

For 2021 this course will be delivered online. A recording of the "taught" session will be made available to participants each week. There will also be a follow up group session each week where there will be the opportunity to ask questions and join discussions about the topic of the week.

Please see the attached leaflet for the session content and group session dates. Applications need to be received by 28th January 2021.

Please note there are a limited number of places on this course, which will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Currently there is no charge for this course.
For an application form and further details please contact:
Email: Jessica.bubb@westsussex.gov.uk
Tel: 033022 28525

Take care and keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Williamson
Headteacher

Letters Home This Week

All – Stay Safe Online Letter
All – ASCSURE Brochure
All – New Employability Programme

Dates for Diary

Spring Term -	Monday 4 th January 2021 – Thursday 1 st April 2021
Half Term -	Monday 15 th February 2021 – Friday 19 th February 2021
INSET Day -	Monday 4 th January 2021 and Friday 12 th February 2021
Summer Term -	Monday 19 th April 2021 – Friday 23 rd July 2021
Half Term -	Monday 31 st May 2021 – Friday 4 th June 2021
INSET Day -	Monday 19 th April 2021