

Billingshurst Primary School Interim Headteacher: Brian Ball MA

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to be able to update you on changes to lunchtime arrangements at school.

From today, all children across the school will be eating together in the dinner halls, rather than in individual classrooms in Key Stage 2. This means we are able to better staff both the inside and outside of the school during lunchtime and ensure even higher standards of behaviour, play and eating together. This also means there is provision to start providing more structured play opportunities outside with our wonderful play equipment provided by the BPSCA.

In addition, this has freed up our classrooms during lunchtime, meaning we will soon be able to offer some lunchtime groups or clubs to support children who find lunchtime challenging, whether that is centred around play or eating in a large group. More information on this will be shared very soon after half term but we are very excited about the possible benefits this could provide.

Finally, we have brought the old school bell out of retirement! From today, all children will be listening for the bell at the end of break or lunch, lining up in their classes and waiting to be collected by the class teacher. This will give break and lunch a clear and predictable end point and help children regulate before going inside. We have already seen an impact on the children as they are returning to their classrooms calmly and ready to learn. This was following feedback from some of our children on ways to improve lunchtimes.

We are very proud of your children – they have been fantastic at managing this change today and we are already seeing a positive change. I would also like to thank the teaching staff, support staff and in particular our midday meals team for their support.

If you have any feedback regarding any of the above, we would be delighted to speak to you. Please get in touch if you have questions too.

Kind regards,

David Timmins

Deputy Headteacher







