



SUNNYSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER **May 2020**

Dear Parents/ Carers,

What strange times we are living in! It is now 6 weeks since the school doors closed and we entered lockdown. We are all missing the children enormously.

Staff are working hard to try to support families and to ensure that learning continues through a variety of means – Working at the Learning Hub based at Alloa Academy; Google Classroom; Contacting families to ‘check in’ and support where necessary.



Should you need to contact us, you can send us a direct message via Twitter @sunnyside_ps, send an email to the school email address:

sunnyside@edu.clacks.gov.uk or telephone Alloa Learning Hub 01259 724061, on a Wednesday when I am on duty.

Google Classroom

Over the last few weeks we have all adapted to a new way of learning and working. Our Class Teachers have been using Google Classroom to deliver learning and communicate with our pupils. Following feedback from pupils, parents and staff, we

have made the following changes to the way Google Classroom will be used:

- The class stream will be used as a check in space, a safe place for pupils and teachers to communicate.
- Each learning activity will have its own assignment.
- Assignments will only be posted/appear in the Class Work section and organised under the date.
- Links for work will now be included in the assignments to make it easier to find what you need.

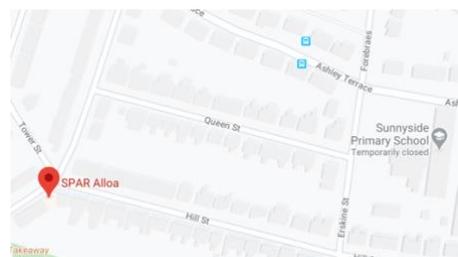
It is hoped that these changes mean that Classroom will be consistent across classes and easier to navigate for all. As always, we welcome your feedback on these changes.

Should you have difficulties accessing Google Classroom please do not hesitate to contact us.



Resources/ Children's Letters

The SPAR in Hill Street have kindly agreed to keep a box of resources e.g. jotters, pencils, pens etc for anyone who needs them. Please only take what you need.



We have also included envelopes in the box and would be delighted if children would write a letter or draw a picture to their teacher letting them know how they are getting on.

Changes to Staffing

As you know, Mr Fergus and Mrs Muir left us at the beginning of the Easter holidays. I am delighted to inform you that we have appointed Ms Poppy Davidson, Mr Jonathan Davidson and Mrs Nicola Mullan as class teachers at Sunnyside Primary School.

Recruitment checks are currently taking place however it is expected that they will be completed in time for the new session.



Many of you may know that Mrs Sinead Jones is expecting her first baby. She will begin her maternity leave at the summer holidays and Mrs Hannah Neill who has just returned from maternity leave will become Acting Depute Head Teacher in August.

Mrs Devine-Watt is also expecting her first baby and she too will begin her maternity leave at the summer holidays.

Miss Ilena Low and Miss Jennifer Smith will leave us at the summer holidays as they will have completed their probationary year. It is expected that we will be allocated another 2 probationer teachers however as yet, I do not know who they are. I will let you know as soon as I can.

Transition to New Classes

Whilst we do not know when we are likely to be able to return to Sunnyside, we are already considering how we can support children in their transition to their new classes in August.

What is clear, is that school will look very different for the foreseeable future. The Scottish Government and local authorities are working to determine how we can remain safe and keep social distancing

wherever possible. What that will look like is not clear at present and we are awaiting guidance.



I am however hoping to inform you of what our class organisation will look like and who your child's class teacher will be for next session in the next few weeks. We are currently in the process of planning what transition should look like considering that whatever we do will have to be done remotely until the schools return.

As always, should you have any comments, queries or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Denise Penman
Head Teacher