



26/6/20

WORKING TOGETHER LEARNING TOGETHER

Dear All

As this very different term comes to an end, I hope this letter continues to find you all safe and well. You and your children are continuing to manage the current situation as best you all can. Over this term you have all done an amazing job with home learning as we know it has not been easy as many of you have worked from home and perhaps cared for others during this time too. We now all look forward to getting back to some normality and routine when schools re opens in August.

This week's updates:

- I am happy to take phone calls from any parent wishing to have a chat about anything. My next shifts in the hub are Monday 29th June until 1pm then Wed 1stth July from 1pm. These are my last shifts in the hub before the holidays.
- Usually at the P7 Leavers Assembly we announce the winner of the house cup. I have counted the points won up until March and I am pleased to announce that the winning house for the house cup this year is **SOLWAY** Well done to you all and a virtual high five to you all.
- Thank you to everyone who has completed the Health and Wellbeing Questionnaire based on returning to school in August. Your feedback has been very helpful and will ensure we support you and your children as best we can when they return in August. Thank you to Mrs Vivek for organising these questionnaires over the term. Your feedback is helping us create FAQ and our plan for returning to school. This will be issued before the end of term and will be based on national and local advice. There will be two sets, one for full reopening for all children in August and one for the 2 day blended approach (which is now our contingency plan if things change).
- At the CPA meeting last night we discussed the Inspection Report and reopening of schools. I shared our thoughts for our reopening plan and this will be shared with you all as explained above. The AGM which is normally held in early September will be held when everyone has capacity to do so after school reopens.
- With one more week to go, home learning for next week will be based on celebrations. The term ends on Thursday 2nd July. A huge thank you again to all for your fab learning and in particular to all the teachers for supporting you all so well during this time. It has been a challenging time for everyone but I thank you all for meeting the needs of everyone. A huge thank you to the children for all their engagement on teams, through videos and emails. You have all done yourselves proud. A true reflection of our teamwork and motto "Working Together Learning Together"
- A huge well done to P3/4 who came third out of 137 classes in the recent Sumdog competition. A great achievement, well done all of you.
- P7 parents should have received an invite to our drive through celebration on Thursday 2nd July at 1pm. Please come to the car park at 1pm and ensure that cars are parked equally across the car park to try to ensure there is 2m distancing in place. There is only space for one car per family in the car park. We look forward to seeing all the P7s on Thursday. Unfortunately due to social distancing there will be no other capacity for anyone else. Thank you for your understanding.

- Returning to School** Following the announcement by the Depute First Minister on Tuesday that schools will hopefully reopen fully in August, we have 2 plans – one for a full return in August and one for the blended 2 day model which is our contingency plan if things change. So in relation to classes for next year, we have been trying to give you this information as late as we can as we are very aware that things keep changing. You should all have received an email telling you which class your child is going into in August. A text will be issued on Monday to you giving you information about which 2 days your child will be in school if our contingency plan has to be in place. Please keep this information somewhere safe. We felt this would be helpful knowing this in case things change over the holidays. With the 2 day model we will also tell you when your child starts and finishes school each day as we will have to have a staggered start and end time. Hopefully this contingency plan is not needed. I am sure you are all pleased that hopefully school will reopen fully in August as I know that many of your children are missing school and in particular their friends and it will be a sign that things are getting back to normality. Any queries relating to this should be directed through the right channels and emailed to the office email address and these will be forwarded to the correct person.
- Someone asked if there was anyway their children could find out who else was in their class as normally they would have had a moving on day and know who else was in their class. The only way round this we can think of is, if we have your permission to share first names with the rest of the children in the same class. **If you do not wish for us to do this, then please let us know.** We will need to have agreement from everyone in the class in order to share this information. **Any objections by end of play on Monday.** Thanks
- Some schools have been able to offer their new P1 children an opportunity to take part in transition activities to their new school over the last week or so. Apologies, that we can't do this as our school is being used as a childcare hub. If we are able to do anything in August before the children go back to school fully we will let you know.
- Some people have been asking if they are able to give the staff presents at the end of term. As we always say please don't feel that you have to, an email to your teacher with your thanks would be enough. However we do know many of you like to give something and it is always really overwhelming how generous you all are. If your child would really like to give their teacher a gift this can be dropped off at the school in a bag or it can be given to their teacher in August. Many Thanks.
- We are aware that some people have still not received a buddy video so if you have not sent in your Buddy video then please can you do so immediately as there are some children desperate to receive them. Videos to be sent to the office email address gw08officecargenbrid@ea.dumgal.sch.uk
- Issue 7 of the newsletter from Education Scotland is now online. We hope you find it useful and informative as it gives other ideas for activities to do at home and how to support your child at home.

Here is the link to where you can find all of these newsletters

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/scotland-learns/a-weekly-newsletter-for-parents-and-carers/>

Here is a link to information about transitions during this time for parents

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/covid19/transitions/>

As this term comes to an end we will continue to communicate with you up until Thursday with any last minute information and to share our FAQ on the two return models. We may have to communicate with you during the holidays if things change so please ensure you still refer to facebook and your emails.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support during this time. Take care everyone and stay safe. Remember you have all done an incredible job. Be kind to yourselves and be proud of all you have done.

We all look forward to seeing you all in August.

Regards

Mrs E Watson
Head Teacher