

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! This is not the start to 2021 that we had all hoped for. However, I'd like to reassure you that the staff in both of our schools are working exceptionally hard to ensure that the great progress children have made in terms 1 and 2 continues. We understand the challenges that working from home can bring, and we will do all we can to support you and your children with their learning. Currently I am absent from school but I hope to be back very soon. The Principal Teachers will be your first point of contact and their email addresses are listed below. You can also contact them at Borgue School office, where a P.T. will be in the building each day for emergency childcare.

Borgue School office: 01557 870249

[gw08kirkmegan@ea.dumgal.sch.uk](mailto:gw08kirkmegan@ea.dumgal.sch.uk)

[gw08grahamamy@ea.dumgal.sch.uk](mailto:gw08grahamamy@ea.dumgal.sch.uk)

[gw08mccallcatriona@ea.dumgal.sch.uk](mailto:gw08mccallcatriona@ea.dumgal.sch.uk)

[gw08officeborgue@ea.dumgal.sch.uk](mailto:gw08officeborgue@ea.dumgal.sch.uk)

[gw08officeauchencairn@ea.dumgal.sch.uk](mailto:gw08officeauchencairn@ea.dumgal.sch.uk)

**note the no 'n' at the end of Auchencairn**

As we have been in a position similar to this before with regard to online learning, we all feel better equipped with how to deal with it. The setting of online work will take a similar format as it did during the last lockdown in Spring. Work will be set for all children on a timetable which will be on TEAMS. Children should hopefully all still be able to access this and therefore be able to see the work that has been set for them. All Primary 1 pupils have been added to 'Microsoft Teams.' Teams can be accessed through GLOW. Children should be able to access GLOW and usernames and passwords are included in paper packs in sheds at both schools. <https://glow.rmunify.com/> then click on the 'Microsoft Teams' tile.

As well as accessing online on a PC/Laptop/iPad you can also access online through games consoles which are linked to a TV screen/keyboard and also on Smart TVs which you can add a keyboard to (USB point). On the iPad you will need to download the free 'Microsoft Teams App' and follow instructions.

The timetables and associated work will also be available on our School Blog and in Borgue, on our private Facebook Group, if there are any issues accessing Glow. The school blog address is:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/auchencairnandborgueprimaryschools/>

If you are experiencing any difficulties, please don't hesitate to contact one of the PTs or the school offices, where we can hopefully help you reset passwords, etc. and ensure that the work can be accessed.

As well as work set online, it is often more appropriate and convenient to work on paper copies particularly in the younger stages. Work has been left in school Outdoor Classrooms, labelled, for each child in both schools so please feel free to pick this up from Friday 9am-3pm.

As was the case last year, school set work is only a small part of remote learning, so please don't try to achieve the same type of learning as school as it will not be sustainable and everyone will get fed up with it. Mixing different styles of learning with other life skills at home such as cooking, baking, gardening or outdoor learning in your own space are just as important.

We understand how difficult this time is for families, and we aim to check in with pupils regularly to assist in any way we can and ensure that children are continuing to learn throughout the lockdown. During remote learning, a P.T. will phone each family to 'check in' and offer any support we can.

### **Accelerated Reader (AR)**

All children in P3-7 will be able to access AR from home using the following link. Please then **SAVE THE LINK TO YOUR FAVOURITES**.

<https://ukhosted3.renlearn.co.uk/2236885/>

Children should all have logins for this in their diaries, but again, please let us know if you encounter any problems with this.

Although AR has over 35,000 book titles with quizzes, not all books are on their website. Please log in to AR and check the title of the book is registered first, before reading begins, especially if your child is expecting to do a quiz and earn points. We can celebrate all learning certificates when we return to school.

Thank you, as always, for supporting our schools. We are keen to not lose the momentum we've built up over the last few months so we look forward to working with you and your children to ensure good progress continues to until we can return to classroom learning.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs McDevitt.