



Crookfur Primary School & Family Centre



Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Remote Learning Feedback

Thanks to all of our families who took the time to provide feedback on their remote learning experience through the questionnaires issued last week. We are delighted to see how confident children and parents have been in accessing assignments through Google Classroom. The vast majority of children are able to complete core learning tasks and are using the teachers' pre recorded lessons with increasing independence as they move up the school.

You have identified that the following aspects of home learning are working well:

- ✓ Pre-recorded teacher led sessions
- ✓ Daily morning check ins
- ✓ Google Meet sessions
- ✓ Weekly overview timetable
- ✓ Access to a device

Naturally our younger children require more adult support and in the younger years paper based home learning packs have also been very valuable.

We are grateful to parents/carers who have made suggestions that they feel would help them. This was also discussed in detail at our Parent Council meeting on Tuesday evening. As a result, we will begin to introduce the following changes:

- Uploading assignments earlier than 9am. All assignments will now be uploaded between 7.45am and 8am each day.
- Signposting for parents/carers to helpful websites and apps which can offer further consolidation or additional activities for their children.
- Opportunities for children to collaborate e.g. collaborative projects, shared story times with senior and younger children, House System activities
- Organisation of Google Classroom assignments by group or day rather than subject headings so that daily tasks are easier to find. *Please note if children click on View My Work at the top left of the classwork page, it will organise all items in date order and highlight work outstanding.*
- Making it easier for children to find and access teacher feedback. In addition to returning completed work, teachers will use daily check-ins to remind children to check feedback, ensuring that they are able to read comments. They will also begin to utilise software which enables them to leave verbal comments for children too.

Responsible User Agreement

A reminder that all children must sign up to the revised Responsible User Agreement if they are participating in Google Meet sessions. Class teachers have a list of children who have not completed this yet and have sent messages to remind them.

Communication with School

I must remind all parents/carers that if they would like to speak with school staff that you should please continue to contact the school office by telephone or e-mail (0141 570 7120 SchoolMail@crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk) A member of school staff will contact you to respond.

I ask that you do not send messages through Google Classroom or use Google Meet sessions for this. Many thanks in advance for your support and understanding.

Family Centre Update

It has been another busy week of learning whether that be at the hub or at home and it is great to see some many wonderful learning experiences taking place. We hope you all have enjoyed our latest Scottish theme and experiences on offer.

We are keen to capture all this learning in the children's profiles even while they are not physically with us. We will take photographs from our twitter feed and include these within profiles. We are aware that not everyone accesses our twitter so please feel free to email us a comment about any 'magic moments' taking place at home. This could linked to the ideas in the learning blog or about your child's general development e.g. maybe they have mastered a new skill, maybe they have become more independent etc. We will copy your statement into your child's profile as well as any photos you may send in. The email address is SchoolMail@crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk

One of your child's new key workers will making a pastoral call over the next couple of weeks. Please don't worry of your child's key worker missed you, they will phone back!

East Renfrewshire Larder (ERL) @ Whitecraigs Rugby Club

Please see the message below from two of our Crookfur parents have established a non-means tested food bank, operating from Whitecraigs Rugby Club.

We are both mums to children in Crookfur PS, Eastwood HS and Mearns Castle High School and we are truly devastated at the many, many families suffering at the moment as a result of the pandemic and we wanted to do something to help.

We have established a non-means tested food bank, operating from Whitecraigs Rugby Club and we are now approaching all local schools to see if they can spread the word.

Not all families qualify for benefits or support and many people who have suffered hardship during the pandemic have slipped through the net. To date we have helped families who are not entitled to free school meals or any kind of government support and they genuinely have nowhere to turn. Families who have children in our local schools are turning to us for help and we can't imagine the stress they are under.

Dignity has been a consistent concern for those who need help and we hope that the service we have set up will go some way to preserving that.

This is a free and fully confidential service which can be accessed in a variety of ways including drive through collection and home delivery.

I have attached an information leaflet with this newsletter which details the ERL service and contact information for the team.

Stationery Packs

This week we were also contacted by parents who are keen to support families who are learning at home by arranging free stationery packs which can be collected from the school office.

They were inspired by an article published in the local press about McMillan Office Supplies, whose business operates next door their own, and donated some money to McMillan so that they were able to produce more packs for local schools.

We are delighted to receive these packs which are filled with useful school supplies. On behalf of all of our families I would like to say a massive thank you to McMillan Office Supplies and The Turbo Guy, run by the Mitchell family.

I have included the link to the original article below for your information. If you would like to pick up a pack for your child(ren) then please contact the school office and we can arrange that for you.

<https://www.glasgowtimes.co.uk/news/19032378.marcus-rashford-inspired-us-glasgow-company-hands-1-500-free-home-schooling-packs/>

Languages Week Scotland

Languages Week Scotland 2021 will take place during the week 1 – 5 February. The theme is ‘Celebrating Scotland’s languages landscape’ and the aim is to amplify the voices of people, organisations and events that celebrate multilingualism and the many ways it manifests in Scottish communities. Now in its third year, Languages Week Scotland is a week of activity across the country.

Events will be taking place across Scotland for families, adults and schools. Follow the hashtag #scotlandloveslanguages or the dedicated Twitter account @LangsWeekScot to find out what is happening in our local area.

Across the school we will look to promote languages throughout the week.

Place 2 Be Children’s Mental Health Week

Next week is Children’s Mental Health Week. The theme for this year is Express Yourself.

We would like to encourage children to think about how they can creatively express their feelings, thoughts, or ideas. This could be through doing activities that they enjoy such as art, music, writing, dance, photography and film.

As we have discussed in previous assemblies it is important to focus on all aspects of our health but taking time to talk to children about how they express their feelings has a positive impact on their emotional wellbeing.

More information can be found at the Place2Be website:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

Miss Adair has also put together a presentation video with calming support strategies. I hope that you will find it helpful.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dxYgOoNae81MCSqrSd-TNbUo1fFUn8KT/view>

Global Festival

We will be hosting the Global Festival in March. This will be a celebration of the wonderful cultures that we have within our Crookfur Community and we would love for you, our families, to get involved. We are looking for volunteers to send in a video which shares an aspect of your culture. You could share a video on; how to cook a recipe, creating a piece of art, teaching a song or dance, reading a story etc.

During this period of closure, it is really important that we continue to focus on our community and maintaining our relationships. Our planned Global Festival provides an ideal platform for this and Mr McMillan has posted an information video on all of the Google Classrooms to introduce this to the children.

If you are interested in getting involved please watch the video and complete the form (link below).

[Global Festival Video](#)

[Global Festival Note of Interest Form](#)

February Holiday Arrangements

A reminder that there will be no provision for holiday cover over the February weekend for the children who are currently attending school. This includes the in-service day on Friday 5th.

During the mid-term holiday, no tasks or activities will be posted on Google Classrooms Fri 5th – Tues 9th February.

Remote learning and in-school provision will resume from Wednesday 10th February, pending any further announcements by the First Minister about the re-opening schools and nurseries.

Arrangements for the Family Centre differ slightly. The Family centre will be closed to all children on Fri 5th February. It will be open for essential childcare on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th for the children of keyworkers who attend on a 52 week model only.

Thank you for your continued support, I hope that you have a lovely weekend.

Warmest wishes

Sheena McGuigan

Sheena McGuigan

Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary

Monday 1st – Fri 5th February – Languages Week Scotland

Friday 5th February – In Service Day, School and Family Centre closed

Monday 8th February – School closed to all pupils; Family Centre open for essential keyworker childcare (52 week models only)

Tuesday 9th February – School closed to all pupils; Family Centre open for essential keyworker childcare (52 week models only)

Wednesday 10th February – School and Family Centre re-open for essential childcare; remote learning resumes for all other children.

Friday 12th February – Sun 14th February – Chinese New Year