



Crookfur Primary School & Family Centre



Friday 19th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Phased Return – P1-3 and Family Centre

We look forward to welcoming all of our children back to Crookfur Family Centre and our P1, P2 and P3 children to the primary school from Monday 22nd February. Detailed information has been e-mailed out to parents/carers but is also available on our school website by following the link below:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/coronavirus/returning-to-school-february-21/>

This web page also has a short social story for P1-3 to help support children to think about coming back to school. I hope you find this useful.

Next week our school kitchen will be offering our full lunch menu. We will be on Week 2 of the rotation.

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/primary-menu>

Please note there will be no tuck shop at break time until further notice so please ensure your child brings a healthy snack for break and a bottle of plain water.

Please note there will be no homework for P1-3 in week beginning 22/2/21.

With this newsletter, I have attached a letter from Professor Jason Leitch, which helps explain the reasons for the Scottish Government's decision to enable younger children to return to school and nursery.

Digital Devices

During the school closure we are pleased to have been able to lend a large number of chromebooks to families to support with home learning. If you have borrowed a device for your child in P1-3, please return this and its charger to school. If you still require the device for an older sibling, then of course please keep this at home.

Remote Learning Update

Virtual Lunch Breaks

This week we have trialled "virtual playtimes" with children in Primary 6. The aim of these sessions is to provide a more informal opportunity for children at home to catch-up with their friends, play games, eat lunch and share news. A member of staff will supervise the sessions, just as we would supervise in the lunchroom or playground. Each P6 class had the opportunity to attend our pilot playtime on Google Meet on Wednesday. According to children in Primary 6, it was a huge hit! They enjoyed the chance to chat to friends and Mrs Slorach led a game to keep the conversation going.

Next week we plan to run these playtimes with P4-P7 to give all children the opportunity to “play” with their friends. Mrs Slorach will post a video to each stage on their Google Classroom explaining how they will enter the Google Meet.

Children will be able to enter different playgrounds to chat to different people across their year group for a half hour period. Each playground will be supervised by an adult who will help with conversation starters and offer suggestions for activities if needed. One set time has been allocated to each stage. Please see the information below:

Year Group	Day	Time
P4	Thursday	1:00pm-1:30pm
P5	Wednesday	1:30pm-2:00pm
P6	Thursday	12:15pm-12:45pm
P7	Wednesday	12:45pm-1:15pm

We hope that the children enjoy this opportunity next week and look forward to hearing how they get on with their playtimes.

Home Learning Site

In collaboration with colleagues in Neilston Primary School, we have developed a Google site to offer further enrichment for home learning. Whilst children continue to learn remotely at home, we have created a site with links to support and enhance the learning, tasks and activities provided through Google Classrooms.

The Home Learning site can be accessed through our school website and is a collection of useful websites and Apps which can be used to build on your child’s experiences, providing opportunities to apply taught skills. Use of this site is optional. We hope you will find it helpful.

<https://sites.google.com/er.glow.scot/crookfur-home-learning/home>

Remote Learning Feedback – Pupil Voice

This week I have posted a questionnaire for the children in P4-7 to complete. The link should be available in each Google Classroom. We would like to know the children’s views on what is working well for them and the challenges they are experiencing with remote learning. I have also asked for their suggestions on what might make their learning better.

Next week I plan to meet with groups of children to talk about their remote learning experiences. I will post more information about this direct to the children, but I do ask that you encourage your child(ren) to complete the questionnaire before it closes on Wednesday 24th. Many thanks.

Parents Evening

You may note from our year calendar that we had planned our second parents' evening consultation meetings for 3rd and 4th March. Given the current circumstances, I have decided to postpone these appointments.

We will reschedule our parents' evenings to take place once children have returned to school and teachers have had time to work with them face to face to assess progress in learning and identify next steps.

World Book Day – Thursday 4th March

World Book Day 2021 is fast approaching and, despite being a little different this year, we have adapted plans to make sure that we can all still celebrate it, whether learning in school or at home.

At Crookfur we strive to foster a strong reading culture and a love of reading and texts and each year we celebrate World Book Day to strengthen that message.

We have organised a range of activities to embrace the day. . . from a World Book Day themed assembly to games and of course a fun extreme reading challenge!

Our Google Classrooms will provide a range World Book Day activities, either through homework tasks for P1-3 or home learning tasks for P4-7. Class teachers will also plan experiences in relation to World Book Day.

For our fun reading challenge, we would like children to be creative and post a picture of themselves participating in a little extreme reading. This may be reading somewhere unusual, reading by torchlight in an unusual place or even taking their love of reading outdoors. . . the possibilities are endless! All classes will have a post on their stream for children to upload and share their pics. We will capture the fun in a photo montage at the end of the week!

Look out for World Book Day digital book tokens, which will be sent to every child. These £1 vouchers can be used to purchase a range of specially curated £1 books or used towards payment of another book. We can't wait! 😊

Global Festival

Thank you for all of your contributions to our Global Festival. We are really excited to have had so many expressions of interest from children and families who are keen to participate in festival.

Mrs McMillan will be in touch with you soon to arrange for you to upload your video.

Digital Learning Day – 24th February

I don't think that there is any doubt that our children (and staff) have excelled in advancing their digital skills this term. We are mindful though that whilst the internet and online world offer wonderful opportunities for learning and creativity, we do want to ensure that our children are staying safe online.

Our friends in Police Scotland have shared a detailed Online Safety Advice document to support parents/carers to help their children learn about cyber safety. I have posted this on our school website and you can find it using the link <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/parents/helpful-guides/>

Our campus cop, PC Waters has also recommended the site below for your information.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets>

Family Centre Update

This week we have been using our learning blog and twitter feed to support the children's transition back to nursery, including posting another video from the staff to their group. Please keep an eye on these, our blog can be found by clicking on the link below:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/crookfurnursery/latest-news/>

All children should now return and attend for their allocated model and session times. If you are unsure of your child's attendance pattern, please contact the family centre office and a member of staff will be happy to help (0141 570 7700)

We cannot wait to welcome you all back to nursery next week 😊

ELC Applications

Just a reminder that the online application form for 3 and 4 year olds due to start nursery between August 2021 and March 2022 closes on Sunday 28th February. It can be accessed by clicking the link below.

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/nursery-places>

Finally...

This has been a long and challenging closure period and I am grateful for the incredible dedication of our staff team and for your continued support. We will warmly welcome the children back to school and nursery next week and hope that, by continuing to follow all of the rules and guidance carefully, that it will enable all children to return to school soon. In the meantime, we are committed to ensuring that we continue to develop and enhance children's experiences as they learn remotely.

If you have any questions or any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school (0141 570 7120; SchoolMail@crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Warmest wishes



Sheena McGuigan
Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary

Monday 22nd February – Re-opening of school (P1-3) and family centre

Wednesday 24th February – Digital Learning Day

Tuesday 9th March – Parent Council meeting, 8pm

Tuesday 16th March – Diversity Focus Group meeting, 8pm