



Crookfur Primary School & Family Centre



Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are well. This week we have welcomed our P1-3 and family centre children back and I am sure I speak for the whole Crookfur community when I say that we are all delighted that, all going well, our whole school will be reunited again very soon.

Phased Return – P1-3 and Family Centre

It has been wonderful to see the younger children return to the school and family centre this week. We were all impressed by how happy the children were to come in and how quickly they have settled. I am sure the lovely weather on Monday helped, but it has been a pleasure to see them learning and playing together throughout the week.

Remote Learning Update

Virtual Lunch Breaks

Our P4-7 virtual lunch breaks have been very popular this week and we have enjoyed a high level of participation across all of the classes. There has been some great chat about the TV shows we have been watching, book and movie recommendations and sharing news. Some groups played collaborative games and others just enjoyed the chance to talk with friends that they haven't seen for a while.

Next week we will have the virtual sessions at the same times. These are noted below and teachers will post a reminder on their Google Classrooms:

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

Remote Learning Feedback – Pupil Voice

I am grateful to all of the children who completed the online questionnaire to share their views on remote learning.

Feedback was very positive and children were very articulate in sharing their 3 wishes for improvement. We hope that the introduction of virtual playtimes and the home learning drive will fulfil some of the

most common wishes. We have also asked Mrs Hutchison to add some more art and music lessons for all classes.

I have attached a summary of the children's feedback at the end of this round up for your information. Class teachers will take time to read the feedback for their own classes to help shape remote learning for the next couple of weeks.

Pastoral Calls – P4-P7

To stay connected and to prepare for the return to school of P4-P7, we have written to P4-7 parents/carers to offer an informal check-in telephone call with your child's class teacher.

The focus of these calls will be pastoral, rather than for reporting progress, and we hope that they will provide an opportunity for teachers to find out how the children have been getting on at home as well as help support their transition back to school.

These calls are optional and can be booked using the School Cloud system. Ten minutes will be allocated to each call and the teacher will be happy to talk with you and/or your child during this time.

Please book your appointment before the system closes on Sunday 28th February at 11pm. If you did not receive the original letter, please contact the school office (0141 570 7120) and the ladies will be happy to help.

Parents Evening P1-3

As P1-P3 have returned to school, I have been able to reschedule Parents' Evenings for these classes to **Wednesday 24th March (4.30pm-8.00pm)** and **Thursday 25th March (4.00pm-7.00pm)**. As in November, these will be telephone appointments, which will be booked online through the School Cloud system.

As the children will have been back in school for face-to-face learning for 5 weeks, class teachers will be well placed to give a clear overview of your child's progress and next steps in learning.

More information about booking appointments will follow in due course.

Virtual Coffee and Chat - P1 and P2

Our Parent Council have arranged some virtual coffee and chat sessions for parents/carers with children in P1 and P2. Please see the dates below:

Primary one - Thurs 4 March 7pm (hosted by Sarah)

Thurs 18 March 7pm (hosted by Amna)

Primary two - Wed 3 March 8pm (hosted by Melanie)

Thurs 11 March 9.30am (hosted by Ailsa)

The coffee and chat sessions will be hosted by Parent Council reps and will be held over Zoom. Joining instructions and further information will follow.

Supporting Children in Challenging Times

The Educational Psychology Service is delivering three online one-hour parents' sessions in March. The aim of these will be to explore how Covid has affected how children and young people think, feel and behave, and to discuss ways in which parents can support their child through the current challenges. The sessions will refer to our Healthier minds website and resources

(<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/healthierminds>) and will involve input from partners across East Renfrewshire who support children and young people's mental wellbeing.

With this newsletter I have attached further information about these sessions. Please sign up using the link to the online form included in the attachment. You will also be able to submit any questions that you may wish to have answered during the session.

World Book Day – Thursday 4th March

In celebration of World Book Day on 4th March, we are delighted to offer online workshops with author, Stuart Reid, for all of our children.

Stuart is an award-winning Scottish children's author, well-known for his popular 'Gorgeous George' series. His 7th book '*Gorgeous George and the Timewarp Trousers Trumpets*' was awarded the Silver Medal at the Wishing Shelf Book Awards in April 2019. A full-time children's author since 2012, Stuart has designed his online events to engage and inspire children, especially boys and reluctant readers, to love reading. His creative writing workshops inspire young writers around plot, setting, character development, genres and starter strategy.

P1-3 pupils will be able to access his *Reading Rocks!* workshop an unlimited number of times throughout the week and P4-7 will have access to his *Creative Writing* workshop. Again, access is unlimited.

We would like to thank our wonderful Fundraising Committee for making these events possible as they have generously agreed to fund the cost of all workshops.

Please don't forget to support your child(ren) to capture some extreme reading at home next week to share on their Google Classroom! This could be reading under (or on) a table, up a tree or even on a bike! We can't wait to see how inventive you can be 😊

Primary 7 – Update on transition

We are excited to welcome P7 back this term, but realise that we are also nearing the final term for our fantastic Primary 7 children. As always, a big part of the final term will be planning a range of events and end of term activities, school shows and transition visits in preparation for their move to high school.

Unfortunately, our annual residential visit to Lockerbie Manor will not go ahead this year but please rest assured that all staff working with Primary 7 have lots of ideas about how to creatively make their last term memorable and unique to the class of 2021. We will do everything possible to ensure that there are opportunities to properly recognise and celebrate their achievements and contributions to our school community. When the children return we will be able to take time to ensure they have ownership over planning these events, while also building in a few little surprises along the way.

The leaver's hoodie order form has been sent to all Primary 7 families and we would ask that the order and permission letter be returned no later than **Friday 19th March**. This letter must be returned even if you do not wish to purchase a hoodie.

We will have a focus on transition to relevant high schools and more details will follow with regards to transition visits in the final term. In order to support with transition, and to answer any questions you may have, Mrs Slorach will provide two virtual “*coffee and chat*” sessions on **Tuesday 30th March** and **Thursday 1st April**. More details to follow with regards to timings and the format of these drop in meetings.

Family Centre Update

From this week, we have decided to issue two separate weekly round ups for the school and family centre. This was to try to reduce the length of the round up (though it hasn't had the desired effect this week). Both newsletters will be available on the school and family centre website.

Staffing Update

This is the staffing update that I have dreaded to give, but after more than 18 years in Crookfur Primary School I am sorry to say that our Senior Business Support Assistant, Mrs Karen Stewart will be leaving us at the end of term.

It is difficult to express in a few lines just how much Karen will be missed. She works tirelessly for the school and has led our office team through transformational change. From the successful roll out of a raft of new online systems to the careful administration of the school and nursery, Karen coordinates the highest level of business support for our school and family centre.

More than this, Karen is often the first point of contact for parents and carers in the school who, over the years, have built trusting relationships with her and rely on her to administer medication, pass on messages or simply to comfort their child if they are upset or unwell, especially during countless P7 residential trips.

Karen leaves us to concentrate on her family and to help care for her three beautiful grandsons. The most recent addition, baby Brodie, was born earlier this month and arrived a little early and quite unexpectedly, delivered by gran at home. Another string to add to Karen's bow!

Finally...

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who have been dropping off and collecting at school this week. We appreciate how careful you have been to follow all of the covid guidance – wearing face coverings, observing physical distancing and using the one way system. This has ensured that all of our school users are as safe as possible.

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

Sunday 28th February – Bookings close for P4-7 pastoral calls (11pm)

Wednesday 3rd March – P2 Parent/Carer virtual coffee and chat, 8.00pm

Thursday 4th March – World Book Day; P1 Parents/Carer virtual coffee and chat, 7.30pm

Tuesday 9th March – Parent Council meeting, 8pm

Thursday 11th March – P2 Parent/Carer virtual coffee and chat, 9.30am

Monday 15th March – Planed return to school for P4-P7 ☺

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

Thursday 18th March - P1 Parents/Carer virtual coffee and chat, 7.30pm

Friday 19th March – Last day for P7 Leavers Hoodie orders

Wednesday 24th March – P1-3 Parents Evening, 4.30pm-8.00pm *(more details to follow)*

Thursday 25th March – P1-3 Parents Evening, 4.00pm-7.00pm *(more details to follow)*

Tuesday 30th March – P7 Transitions Coffee and Chat *(more details to follow)*

Thursday 1st April – P7 Transitions Coffee and Chat *(more details to follow)*

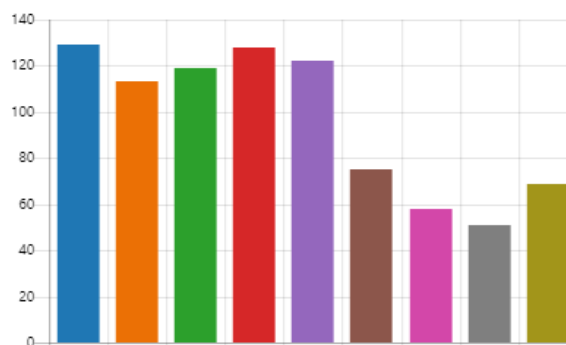
Tell Us What You Think About Remote Learning!

Summary of P4-7 pupil feedback

3. Think about learning at home - what is working well for you? (Tick all that apply)

[More Details](#)

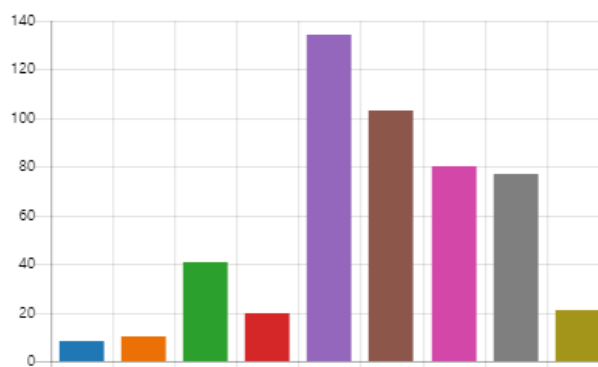
● access to a device	129
● weekly timetables	113
● finding your way about googl...	119
● daily check ins and morning vi...	128
● google meet sessions	122
● pre-recorded lessons	75
● online follow up tasks	58
● paper packs	51
● optional activities for other cu...	69



4. Think about learning at home - what do you find challenging? (Tick all that apply)

[More Details](#)

● access to a device	8
● finding your way around goog...	10
● finding a quiet place to work	41
● google meets	20
● missing friends	134
● missing teachers	103
● missing routines of the school...	80
● missing a range of lessons/su...	77
● Other	21



5. Tell us about the amount of work that you have to do?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

● Too much	29
● Too little	16
● Just right	124



6. Tell us how challenging you find the work you have to do?


[More Details](#)

● Too difficult	19
● Too easy	16
● Just right	134



7. How often do you complete all of your core tasks?

[More Details](#)

 Insights

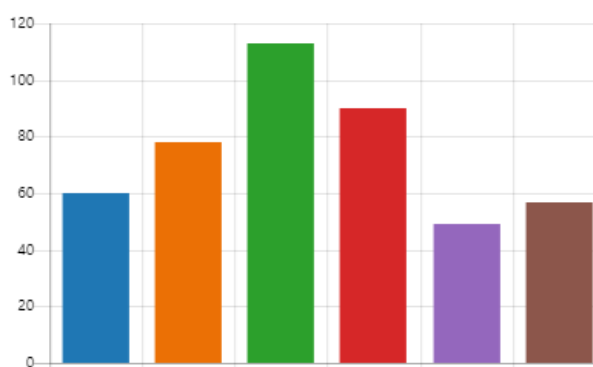
● Every day	104
● Most days	53
● Some days	9
● Never	3



8. How do you know that you have been successful in your learning?

[More Details](#)

● Check against success criteria	60
● Home learning helper tells me	78
● Feedback from my teacher	113
● Self marking	90
● Discussion during a google m...	49
● Tests and quizzes	57



We are really keen to hear your ideas about what would help make your learning better while you are at home. Please use the space below to make three wishes about home learning. (We can't promise that we will be able to do everything that you might ask but we will try our best.)

Having more google meets to help with school work or to do some nice things e.g show and tell.

My only wish is to have a google meet on Friday before the weekend

i cant really think of any other than i wish i was actually in school. Sorry

Chat sessions with groups of people in the class

Going back to school, sad I am missing my friends 😞, and hope to go back to school

To see friends more. I don't have any other wishes.

1. less work 2. more art 3. only 2 google meets

1. talk with my friends 2. group work 3. the work is fine at the moment but i would love to go back to school again.

I would love to do some things with other classes in the school like art google meets or videos.

I don't think anything really needs improving! Thank you very much for the effort!