



Crookfur Primary School & Family Centre



Friday 18th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Covid -19 Update

It has been lovely to welcome most children and staff back to school following the recent outbreak of Covid-19 cases. We have had a challenging couple of weeks and unfortunately, this serves as a reminder that Covid is still present in our community and impacts significantly upon our lives.

Despite our best efforts, the workload created by Covid, has led to delays in other areas, notably issuing of end of year reports and classes for next session.

As we progress to the final week of term, it is vital that we continue to follow current guidance. If a child or any adult in your home becomes symptomatic (temperature, new persistent cough, loss/change in taste or smell) they should book a PCR test straight away and should not attend school/nursery. The whole household must isolate until the outcome of the PCR test is known therefore siblings should not attend school/nursery where a child or parent is symptomatic.

If a case of Covid-19 is confirmed over the weekend or out of school hours, please contact the school by e-mail as soon as possible following receipt of a positive test result (SchoolMail@crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk). This will allow us to begin contact tracing.

Euro 2020 Celebration Fundraiser

There was a party atmosphere in school on Monday and all of the children (and staff) enjoyed the build up to Scotland's opening Euro 2020 match. Even though the final score wasn't quite what we had hoped, we were all delighted to raise £215 for the charity Children 1st.

A huge thank you to all of our families for contributing to the fundraiser and a special mention of the children working towards their Junior Duke of Edinburgh award for their excellent organisation and team work. Well done and thank you for all of your hard work.

Summer Reading Challenge

This week children were issued with their Wild World Heroes bookmarks to begin the Summer Reading Challenge. The bookmarks have all of the information needed to register and begin the challenge. If your child has not brought home their bookmark invitation, please contact the school office (SchoolMail@crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

The challenge begins on Monday 21st June and runs until Monday 30th August. Children can access any of the ERC Libraries to take part in this challenge.

House points are awarded to children who manage to complete this challenge when we return to school in August.

Review of Additional Support for Learning

A reminder that, in light of the recent National Review of Additional Support for Learning '*All our children and all their potential*', East Renfrewshire Council Education Department is gathering information about Additional Support for Learning in schools.

As a parent/carer your views are important in helping the authority identify what's working well and any areas for improvement. Please take some time to complete the questionnaire using the link below. Many thanks.

<https://tinyurl.com/ERC-ASN>

Parent Council update – Denny Henderson (Chair of the Parent Council)

We had our final parent council meeting of the year on Tuesday night and the last meeting for our fabulous P7 reps Wendy Durie and Karen Mcgrady Parker as well as Alistair Gibb, all of whom have been long-standing members of the parent council and will be missed. We thanked them for their service.

- Class teacher allocations and reports (via email) should be communicated in the next few days now that teacher recruitment has been completed.
- The class allocations for the current P1, P2, P5 and P6 will stay the same for 2021/22. There will be some reorganisation to the current P3 and P4 classes, including a composite class.
- We discussed continuing to send children to school in PE kit on PE days from August. The Parent Council was in favour of continuing this and Mrs McGuigan will communicate her final decision on that to parents before the end of term.
- Assuming the 2m social distancing rules are relaxed, Mrs McGuigan anticipates that school hours will return to 9am - 3.15pm from August (with doors open at 8.50am).
- Mrs McGuigan discussed the key focus of the school improvement plan for 2021/22 which was influenced by the results of the recent parent survey.
- Family centre matters such as online learning journals were discussed at length. There was lots of positive discussion. The family centre will form its own parent group from August 2021.
- There have been some changes to the responsibilities of the leadership team from August as communicated in the weekly round up of 11/6.
- As some members of staff will still be on maternity leave in August, parents/carers should be aware that there will be some temporary class teachers until the permanent staff member returns.
- Restrictions permitting, it is hoped that the Fundraising and Social Group would be able to run discos for the P1 and P2 children at the start of the next session.

On behalf of the parents and carers, we said a huge thank you to the school staff - management, class teachers and all the support staff - for the fabulous job they have done this year in very difficult circumstances. We truly appreciate all that they have done and the extra efforts they have gone to to nurture our children through such unusual times.

Reports

End of year reports will be issued by e-mail at the beginning of next week. Teachers' comments will focus on the key areas of our recovery curriculum (Health & Wellbeing, Numeracy and Mathematics and Literacy and English). Teachers' judgements of your child's progress through the levels of Curriculum for Excellence are also included as well as standardised test scores for P3, P5 and P7. Unfortunately P7 reading scores are not available yet but these will be sent on as soon as we have them.

There is a helpful guide to assessment on our school website which provides further information.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/public/Crookfur/uploads/sites/80/2019/03/AssessmentParentCarerInfo.pdf>

Transition Arrangements

Our induction sessions for new P1 children have been really successful and the P1 teachers have enjoyed the chance to meet and spend time with children who will be in their classes from August.

I am currently finalising teaching staff across P2-P7 for next year. We will be joined by some temporary staff, including two newly qualified teachers and replacement teachers who will cover ongoing maternity leave. When their names are confirmed, I will be able to let you know who your child's class teacher(s) will be. I expect this to be early next week.

Due to current guidance and our efforts to minimise covid transmission, we are unable to have our usual transition Meet the Teacher sessions for children. However, we are planning opportunities for your child's new teacher to visit their class next week and have a "getting to know you" session.

In addition, class teachers will create a new Google Classroom for next session and will post a welcome video and some classroom photographs. We will provide transition passports for younger children.

Mrs Slorach is coordinating extended transition support for identified children and she will contact parents/carers directly to discuss individual needs.

Uniform 2021/22

Although there are many temporary aspects of our recovery curriculum that we will be happy move on from, we are also keen to keep changes that have proved beneficial. In particular, we have had very positive feedback about children wearing PE kit on their gym days rather than changing in school.

For next session we will continue this policy and children will be able to come to school wearing their PE kit on the appropriate days. This helps maximise children's PE time.

Children will have PE two days a week and a regular woodland session (timetables to follow). On these days children should come to school wearing their PE Kit – red t-shirt/polo shirt, red sweatshirt/hooded top, black shorts/joggers/leggings, black trainers/plimsolls.

PE kits should be unbranded as this is school uniform. Please keep favourite sportswear for the weekend.

I know that many parents/carers will be buying uniform for next session at the start of the holidays and so I hope that this information is helpful in planning.

More information about our uniform policy is on the school website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/information/school-uniform/>

Jotters Home

Today, children are bringing home a selection of their completed classwork. I hope that you enjoy looking over it and talking with your child about their learning.

For children in P1 to P6, please return writing jotters and any maths workbooks on Monday to school. These will be passed on to the next class teacher as part of transition. P7 are able to keep their folders at home. Many thanks.

Session 2021/22

It is my intention that in session 2021/22, we will revert to our usual school hours 9am-3.15pm. This is dependent upon restrictions in place in August, particularly around the need for 2m social distancing between adults.

If there are any changes to this then I will communicate these before school returns in August.

End of Term Arrangements

Next Friday (25th June), school will be closing early for the summer holiday.

Our P7 children will be leaving Crookfur for the last time at 12.50pm, accompanied by a piper and huge applause.

P2 and P5 will leave at 1.00pm and P1, P3, P4 and P6 will be dismissed at 1.10pm.

On Friday 25th we can offer lunch to children. This is a reduced menu of quorn burger or our usual selection of sandwiches/baguettes. Children may also bring a packed lunch.

I understand that many children may wish to wait until they get home for lunch but the option is there for anyone who would like. I will send out a pre-order form at the beginning of next week so that the catering team have accurate numbers.

Staffing update

I am delighted to let you know that following class teacher interviews on Monday 14th, Miss Katie McKee has been appointed as class teacher in Crookfur on a permanent basis. We were also able to appoint Mr Tom Flood on a temporary basis as part of the same recruitment. Mr Flood will join us in August.

Mrs Lamont and Mrs Grieve will still be on maternity leave at the beginning of next session and temporary supply teacher will be appointed to take their classes until they return.

I am able to confirm that our Pupil Support Assistants, Miss Kennedy, Mrs Gillespie, Mrs Axelsson and Mrs Liddle will return to Crookfur in August.

Finally...

Thank you for your continued support through this academic year. Despite the challenges faced, our Crookfur community has continued to flourish. I know at this time of year, parents/carers often wish to give a gift to the class teacher but please do not feel any pressure or obligation to do so. We have greatly appreciated all of your kind e-mails, positive feedback and words of encouragement. Our dedicated team think the world of your children and, after a well-earned holiday, we are all excited to look ahead to next session!

I wish you all a lovely weekend.

Warmest wishes



Sheena McGuigan
Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary

Friday 18th June – Jotters home to parents/carers; P1 New Entrant induction visit 2 (information issued separately)

Week beginning Monday 21st June – End of year reports and class information issued to parents/carers

Monday 21st June-EWH transition Sports day for P7

Tuesday 22nd June EWH transition visit day for P7

Wednesday 23rd June – P7 Cinema trip; virtual Celebration of Achievement assembly (rescheduled from 18/6)

Friday 25th June – School closes for summer holidays (P7 12.50pm; P2 & P5, 1.00pm; P1, P3, P4 & P6, 1.10pm)