



Crookfur Primary School

&

Family Centre



Friday 10th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

COVID 19 – Update

You will no doubt be aware of the concerns around the new Omicron variant of COVID-19 and updated guidance issued by public health and the Scottish Government, particularly around self isolation. Any close contacts of a positive Omicron case are required to isolate for 10 days. This is regardless of age, vaccine status or the receipt of a negative PCR test.

In our school and family centre, we continue to follow public health guidance using our own education risk assessments. Safety measures include regular handwashing and surface sanitising, one way systems in school, staff wearing face coverings in communal areas and appropriate ventilation in all rooms. As well as our programme of lateral flow testing, adults in school maintain 2m physical distancing from each other. They wear face coverings when working closely with groups of children or individuals. As far as possible, children remain within their class groups indoors. The exception to this would be lunch clubs or after school clubs.

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID in school, we will continue to issue advisory letters to those we believe to be low risk close contacts. However, if a confirmed case is found to be the Omicron variant, we will work closely to support NHS test and protect to accurately carry out contact tracing, enabling the NHS to provide guidance specific to Omicron to close contacts.

Anyone who has any of the 3 main symptoms of COVID-19 should self-isolate and arrange a PCR test at NHS Inform. The cardinal symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of a new continuous cough, a high temperature and a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell.

Anyone contacted by Test and Protect or public health teams should please co-operate and follow their advice.

I understand that this is a worrying time and once again thank you for your continued support and resilience as we again react to a changing landscape regarding COVID.

Christmas Celebrations – Final Details

P1 and P2 Nativity Performances

We are looking forward to the shows next week and I would like to thank all of the P1 and P2 staff for working so hard to help the children learn many songs and lines. Special thanks to Mrs Jamieson (DHT) who has worked tirelessly to pull together all of the finer details and risk assessments, ensuring that we are able to enjoy this Christmas celebration.

Those attending are reminded that face coverings should be worn inside the church and on the grounds. We will provide hand sanitising stations and allocated seating. Please be assured that household pairs will be very well spaced inside the church, which is spacious and well ventilated. In line with public health guidance, we recommend that parents/carers also carry out a lateral flow test prior to attending the Nativity.

P5 Carols

P5 family and friends are invited to gather with us at the cycle track on Wednesday 15th December at 3.30pm.

Due to ongoing concerns about the Omicron variant, we ask that a maximum of two adults per family attend. Depending on the weather, we may relocate to the playground to ensure that all parties are able to stand at a

suitable distance without having to stand on the grass. Please be assured staff will be on hand to direct you on the day.

A reminder that facemasks should be worn and that we do not permit dogs in school grounds.

Please note that in these uncertain times, all of our plans are subject to change. If updated guidance is issued in advance of any of our planned Christmas performances, these may be subject to change or even cancellation. Thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

Present Room

Today we had a wonderful shopping extravaganza as the children enjoyed our Present Room fundraiser. Thank you for all of your donations to the present room.

We will be able to let you know how much money we have managed to raise for charity next week. I hope you enjoy the gifts you will receive on Christmas morning.

Literacy Library

The 'Literacy Library' is a resource for parents to access which will give them advice on supporting children at home. There are leaflets, videos, links to online resources and links to adult learning. I hope that you find this information useful.

<https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1428334497757134850>

Car Parking

Once again I am afraid to report some concerns about the safety of children in Eastwood car park. Where possible, we encourage children to walk, cycle or scoot to school however I do understand that in winter we will have more children coming to school by car.

The Crookfur Primary car park should not be used for drop off and pick up unless accessible parking is required. We ask that parents/carers park in a marked bay in the car park at Eastwood High School. Please do not park in the bus bay, and especially not the zebra crossing. Many thanks.

Winter Weather Contingency Information

After the icy conditions this week, we hope that the winter weather will not be extreme however we always need to be aware of possible disruptions that it may cause. On snowy and icy days, paths and gates will be cleared to allow pupils to enter the building.

During the winter months there may be occasions when emergencies make it necessary for pupils to be sent home early. Although it is rare for a school to close, we have experienced it over the last few years. If a decision was made for the school to close, we would use the following communication to inform parents: Email, Text Messaging, School Website and Twitter update (@CrookfurPS and @EastRenCouncil). The decision to close a school rests with the Director of Education and parents will be notified as early as possible using the communication above if were to happen. Further information about winter weather contingencies can be found on the school website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/information/severe-weather-contingency/>

Pupils should wear suitable clothing to school in case of inclement weather. A warm school jacket with hood and appropriate shoes/boots should be worn when pupils are outside. Our playground staff are finding lots of children are reluctant to put their hoods up, however we try our best to encourage them to do so. If it is very wet, the children remain in their classrooms at intervals and are supervised by prefects and staff.

Parent Council Update – Denny Henderson

The Parent Council held an online meeting on Tuesday 7 December. We have recently funded the purchase of a significant amount of PE equipment for the school as well as ukulele tuners, Christmas items and buses to take the children to their Christmas Nativities.

Mrs McGuigan gave us a progress update on the School Improvement Plan and also discussed the work that the school continues to do around anti-bullying. We had a good discussion about the format of parents' evenings and end of year reporting.

We are looking to recruit some year-group representatives for the Fundraising and Social Committee, particularly in the lower year-groups as some of Fundraisers will be departing soon as their youngest children move up to high school. Your parent council rep will be able to give you more details if you would be interested.

Finally, we have set up a version of the parent calendar, which can be added to your phone, or to your email calendar. The link for this is

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/crookfurparentcouncil%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>

We will try to keep this calendar updated as the school updates the parent calendar on the website.

As always, if you have any questions for the parent council, please get in touch with your PC rep or email us. All the details are on the school website in the Parent Council area

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/parents/parent-council/>

East Renfrewshire Larder - 12 Days of Christmas collection

Finally, a reminder that we are collecting donations for the East Renfrewshire Larder up to 21st December. We have a particular focus on household goods and toiletries as these are in high demand at the Larder. Thank you all very much for the donations we have received so far. If you can give anything at all, it will be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be left in the blue bin at the school gate and, as before, we ask that adults drop off cleaning products etc. Many thanks for your support.

Please stay safe and enjoy the weekend.

Warmest wishes



Sheena McGuigan
Head Teacher

Dates for your diary

Monday 13th December – Friday 17th December – Christmas performances and parties – see below

Thursday 16th December – Festive lunch

Monday 20th December – Fleming House Reward, cinema trip (*more information to follow*)

| Parties | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| P1 | Friday 17 th December |
| P2 | Friday 17 th December |
| P3 | Tuesday 14 th December |
| P4 | Wednesday 15 th December |
| P5 | Tuesday 14 th December |
| P6 | Thursday 16 th December |
| P7 | Monday 13 th December |

| Performances | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| P1A Nativity | Monday 13 th December, 10am, NMBC (tickets to follow) |
| P1B Nativity | Monday 13 th December, 11.30am, NMBC (tickets to follow) |
| P1C Nativity | Monday 13 th December, 2pm, NMBC (tickets to follow) |
| P2A Nativity | Tuesday 14 th December, 10am, NMBC (tickets to follow) |
| P2B Nativity | Tuesday 14 th December, 11.30am, NMBC (tickets to follow) |
| P2C Nativity | Tuesday 14 th December, 2pm, NMBC (tickets to follow) |
| P5 Carols and Festive Songs (All P5) | Wednesday 15 th December, 3.30pm- 4.00pm, Crookfur cycle track (please wrap up warm ☺) |