



# Parental Information and Update May 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

We continue to hope that all of your family are coping as well as possible with these challenging times. Our first consideration remains the health & wellbeing of all of our school community, so if there is anything at all that we can do to help, please do not hesitate to get in contact through our school email: [schoolmail@giffnock.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@giffnock.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

We hope that an update on a number of matters below will be useful at this time.

## **Giffnock School premises closure and next steps:**

There continues to be a lot of speculation in the media and, with the changing circumstances in different parts of the U.K., it is important to clarify for us at this time. There is no change to the Scottish position and therefore to Giffnock Primary at this stage; Giffnock Primary School remains closed and there is no further detail available to share at this time. Dialogue at both a national and authority level is ongoing regarding planning for next steps, however until further national clarification is given, no next steps can be implemented. We will of course continue to keep you fully updated as/ when this changes.

## **Remote Learning:**

Engagement from our children across the school remains very positive at this time. Please continue to have your child check-in to their class Google Classroom each day, where key focuses and learning activities are explained. As previously mentioned, we are increasingly using audio and video to support new learning activities which we hope will further support our children.

We have been sharing a range of resources to support our families. A number of you collected jotters, paper and pencils from the OLM hub school last week and we have also been loaning laptops/ chromebooks to a range of our families who have not been able to access remote learning properly without them. This is ongoing, so please do get in touch with any issues regarding resources.

Through communication with our Parent Council, we are now further considering what other resources might support our families in the weeks ahead.

During this week, we will also be collating the second of our parental surveys regarding progress with remote learning, from our nursery class families, and will share the collation of this in due course.

Please be aware that the upcoming week-end remains a holiday week-end and that our Google Classrooms will therefore not be overseen by our teachers on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> (Inservice) May. They will then return on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May.

## **Primary 1 and Primary 7 Transition:**

For both of these key transition periods, preparations have been ongoing for some time. We have been in detailed communication with our 'feeder' nursery establishments and classes, as well as with Woodfarm High School, and the sharing of relevant information for our children continues as appropriate.



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For our nursery children who will be moving on to a Primary 1 class in August, we have today shared more detailed information including a transition project. For our Primary 7 children who will be moving on to High School, we are continuing to plan those transition activities that remain possible, in the understanding that the rest of this school year is likely to be heavily affected by the lockdown. Our Primary 7 children have already had a range of experiences at the High School before the lockdown was enforced and, thankfully, are therefore already very familiar with many aspects of life at High School. Further information will follow in the coming weeks.

As you will know, placing requests for both Primary 1 and S1 have not yet been confirmed by the authority; these decisions are not made at school level but rather by the Admissions Department for E.R.C. We understand that families are likely to have this information before the end of May.

## **Annual end of session parental reports:**

I am pleased to share that we will still be completing these reports, which provide very valuable information about progress and next steps for all of our children. Obviously given the circumstances, teacher evaluations will largely be based upon learning up to the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 when the lockdown came into force. These will need to be shared electronically, through email as a PDF document. We intend to share these around the same time as in previous years; given the challenges of emailing these out individually however, we will need to send them out over a period of several days. Therefore, we are aiming to send all reports home from the 15<sup>th</sup> June and to complete this process by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June.

## **Teachers and classes for Session 2020-21:**

Our 'Meet the Class' date had been scheduled for Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June. As it now looks highly unlikely that we would in any way be able to manage this process as normal, we have planned to share this information with parents by email at that time instead. Of course, there may still be some uncertainty nationally about the exact processes for getting all of our children back into school, however we will continue to share arrangements with you as fully as we can.

I hope that this information is helpful however if there are any other matters that you wish to discuss, please do just get in touch with us.

Kind regards,

Rob Lawson

Head Teacher