



Parental Information and Update

26th February 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

At this time of ongoing change and re-entry back into school, I wanted to write again to you with further information.

Nursery to Primary 3 return to school from 22nd February:

It has been wonderful to get our youngest children back into school and they have coped wonderfully well with this transition. I hope that you have been able to have a look at our school Twitter feeds, which give a real flavour of our children's activities.

P4-7 return to school:

As you may be aware, the First Minister made an announcement earlier this week, within which she explained a possible date of March 15th for our P4-7 children returning into school full-time across Scotland. This remains a provisional date and we will have to await confirmation of it. Nonetheless, we are beginning to make the necessary arrangements and we are very hopeful that we will see all of our children reunited in school very soon.

Academy Road and start/ end of day:

Thank-you for your ongoing support and consideration for all of our school community at these times. Please continue to maintain 2m social distancing, wear face-coverings and only remain in the school area for the short time needed for safe dropping off and collection of your children. We will continue to stagger the exiting times of our classes at the end of the day in order to support everyone's safety as fully as we can; thank-you for your support and understanding.

Remote Learning, engagement and motivation:

Throughout lockdown and self-isolation periods for our children since March 2020, we have communicated with our families as to what has worked best in Remote Learning. This has included detailed consultation with our Parent Council and also surveys/ letters we have shared with you all. This communication has led to a variety of changes to the way learning from home has been organised. We have of course spoken regularly with our children, across the school ages, to ask them what works best for them too and during the last few days and weeks, in particular for some of our P4-7 children who now see their friends and siblings beginning to get back into school, we have noticed some fatigue and extra challenge for our children. This is understandable and so very hard for them at this time.

With this in mind, and even if it proves the case to be just for a few weeks before they return into school, our teachers in P4-7 have been looking at some ways to add to/ change some of the activities each day and you may see this in the Google Classrooms next week. For example, on certain days we may provide increased chances for children to choose their



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activities from a selection of options, encourage less screen-time and more physical activity, and also to increase the number of Google Meets for some classes/ children so that we can have more health & wellbeing based conversations. This will still be based upon the agreed Remote Learning Guidelines which we continue to work from, and will still therefore have a Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing component each day, however we hope that changes like this will continue to 'freshen up' this way of learning for our children.

We know that your support at home, even for our older children, always helps their learning, including checking on the quality and fullness of what is submitted in their Google Classrooms. From time to time, some of our children may not always complete their activities as fully as they know that they can and, despite personal reminders in the Google Classrooms, it is harder for our teachers to encourage every child through a remote format. Therefore, the support, encouragement and motivation that you can give to these efforts is of great significance and we thank you for all that you can continue to do in this regard.

Similarly, every child is now invited to multiple Google Meets each week. These are a great opportunity for learning and we would encourage every child to take part in all of their Google Meets.

As always, if you have any specific issues that you would like to discuss please do not hesitate to contact us through the school office.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Lawson', written in a cursive style.

Rob Lawson

Head Teacher