



Parental Information and Update

15th December 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Given the emergence of the new Omicron variant of Covid-19 and all of the associated news in local and national media, I thought that an update at this time would be helpful for all of our families.

Life and learning in school has continued in a very positive way in these last few weeks and adhering to largely the same health & safety guidance as we had planned for previously. Our children and staff are enjoying the seasonal build up to the holidays and the events that we have planned are also largely unaffected.

Class parties will go ahead as planned, beginning with our P6 children today. Our Christmas Lunch is planned for today, and our traditional P7 Christmas Lunch will also go ahead as planned tomorrow. Our children have been enjoying the Macastory Scots Language Seasonal Performance (recording) in their classes this week, and our Hopscotch Panto (again via video link) remains planned for each class to enjoy next Tuesday 21st December. Our Nursery Class, Primary 1 and Primary 2 Nativities are also being recorded this week and there has been great excitement around these performances, so we know that you will enjoy seeing them and we will be sharing links for the recordings with the relevant families before the holidays begin. Some of our musicians and their ensembles have also been rehearsing seasonal pieces, so these are being recorded where possible and will also be shared.

Our children and staff will celebrate our final day of the school term together with a whole school assembly (video call), with all our classes sharing best wishes and some fun together on the morning of the 22nd December. School will then finish as planned at 2.30pm on Wednesday 22nd December for P1-7. For those families with nursery children and as has happened previously, should you wish to collect your nursery child earlier that afternoon you are welcome to do so.

One event that is affected is our 'Singing on the Steps' choir performance tomorrow. Given the increased risk of transmissibility of the Omicron variant and the ongoing, fast-changing national advice regarding safe conduct, we have made the difficult decision to not hold this event as planned. It is entirely foreseeable that this event could have created a gathering of adults on Academy Road, which may have been significantly more than would ordinarily be the case at this time. Given the narrowness of the road, we feel that this is not a sensible decision to risk and therefore we have planned to record the performance instead. The link for this recording will be shared with you in due course and we hope that everyone will enjoy it. Whilst we are very sorry to have had to take this decision, we hope that you understand the reasons why and we thank you for this understanding.



Parental Information and Update

15th December 2021

As we near the end of 2021 and this first 'half' of the school year, we all recognise the renewed challenges in wider society that Covid-19 continues to bring. However, this has been a great first half to the year for our children's learning in school and we will continue to do all that we can to push forwards in the most positive ways possible. I will also continue to keep you as fully updated as possible in the weeks and months ahead. Should you need to speak with us, please do not feel that any matter is too small, either in making contact through the school office or even asking 'across the railings' at the start or end of day with one of the Senior Leadership Team, who are always there.

I wish you, your families and your loved ones a wonderful holidays and time together.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Lawson'.

Rob Lawson

Head Teacher