

Hello everyone

We are really keen to improve our communications with you all and we thought that a weekly round-up may be a good way of doing this. Some weeks there may be more to say than on other weeks but we hope that you will find this helpful.

**COMMUNICATION:**

Please remember we are always here to help - no question or concern is too small. Please don't worry that you are taking up our time or bothering us and then worrying about something. We can often sort, fix or resolve things very quickly for your child so please do get in touch either by telephone or email at [schoolmail@uplawmoor.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@uplawmoor.e-renfrew.sch.uk) and either myself or your child's class teacher will contact you as quickly as they can.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM:**

Our children have returned to school looking very smart in their school uniform and we greatly value and appreciate your support with this. ERC Education Department is currently reviewing its Dressing for Excellence Policy and I will of course share this with you when it is available. I'm delighted by the response to our Uniform Recycling Rails - many parents have made use of this already and we will continue to run this each week, on a Friday. If we are experiencing wet weather, we will set this up at the main entrance under the canopy. Please just pop by and help yourself to anything that you can make use of. Thank you to the many parents who have also donated items for this. We will put a Donations Box at the front entrance and we continue to be very grateful for your ongoing uniform donations.

**FULL PE HAS RETURNED TO THE CURRICULUM:**

We are delighted that we have now been able to reintroduce indoor PE. Can I take this time to apologise for the confusion at the beginning of the year in relation to PE days and wearing PE kit to school? We would like to continue to have the children wear their PE kit to school as it saves time in changing into kit and for the older children on having a place to change to ensure privacy. I don't really want the children changing in the toilets which is the only additional space that we have, which I am sure you will agree, is not the most suitable space. PE kit consists of black shorts / leggings / joggers (if possible), a red T-shirt or school/plain white polo shirt (again, if possible) red school / plain sweatshirt. If this arrangement does not suit, we ask that on PE days, your child wears a white school / plain polo shirt meaning they only have to change the bottom part of their uniform. If children prefer, they can continue to wear a shirt and tie on PE days, and simply remove their tie for the lesson. Please get in touch if you require any help with this. As the weather becomes more wintery, we ask that your child brings additional pair of PE shoes that can be left in school as wearing wet shoes in the gym hall can be a slip hazard. The shoes can be stored in a named bag on their peg, or can be brought home each day, whichever is most convenient for you.

**HOMEWORK:**

We are always very interested to listen to the views of our parent community and, in line with our new School Improvement Plan 2021-2022, we are keen to get your views on Homework. (I have attached an abbreviated version of this and our Standards and Quality Report with this round up. The full plan and report can be found on our website [here](#).)

We will very soon be carrying out a review of our Homework Policy and your views, as well as the views of teachers and pupils, will be sought as part of this review. The Parent Council are in the process of seeking out volunteers to be part of a Parent Consultation Group who will work together to gather your views on homework. We will be in touch soon about this however, in the meantime, we will continue to use Google Classrooms for posting homework. If your child has any problems at all accessing their homework via Google Classrooms, please get in touch as soon as possible as we will be able to help with this.

#### **MEET THE TEACHER:**

We had very much hoped that we would be able to welcome you back into the school for our annual "Meet the Teacher" session. However, as per Scottish Government guidance, we are not able to do this quite yet however, next week, I will share information with you about our online version of this coming up very soon.

#### **ISOLATION GUIDANCE / HOME LEARNING INFORMATION:**

We are aware with the newly changed guidance on COVID it has been a challenge for everyone to get our head around these new procedures. We have therefore provided some bullet points below to try and help with this. Where a member of a household develops any of the main symptoms (persistent cough, loss of taste or smell and a fever) or has a positive lateral flow test it is essential that **ALL** members of the household isolate as close contacts and take the following steps.

- The individual who is symptomatic or has a positive lateral flow test should isolate and get a PCR test as soon as possible.
- In the result of a negative PCR test, all members of the household can end their isolation.
- In the result of a positive PCR test, the other members of the household, being considered close contacts, should follow the guidance as below:
  - Each close contact should book a PCR test and, if positive result is given, follow self-isolation guidance as given by NHS Track and Trace. If a negative PCR test is given, individuals can end isolation when either under 18 or when doubly vaccinated. If you are over 18 and not fully vaccinated please follow self-isolation guidance.
  - If your child is required to self-isolate due to a positive PCR result or has been advised by NHS track and trace to do so, you are required to send a copy of the NHS email / text to [schoolmail@uplawmoor.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@uplawmoor.e-renfrew.sch.uk). Please include your child's return to school date too.
  - Once this has been received, teachers are notified that your child will be isolating and they will prepare remote, home learning tasks for them to access via Google Classroom unless you have advised them not to due to your child feeling unwell in your email to the school.

#### **WAYS TO BE INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING:**

We appreciate that not being able to visit our classroom may feel you are less involved in your child's learning than in previous years and we really do hope that this changes soon. However, in the meantime, we are using Twitter, Google Sites and See Saw to keep you up to date with what is going on in school.

**TWITTER** – please follow us [@UplawmoorPS](#) if you visit us and enjoy what you see, please like our tweets.

**See Saw** – this app is used in Primary 1/2 to profile and share the children’s learning. Please feel free to comment on your child’s progress / learning

**Google Sites** – Primary 3-7 have created a site to profile their learning. Please ask your child regularly to open their site for you to see and to discuss their learning

**Head Lice:**

Unfortunately, head lice can be common in children of nursery and school age. Schools no longer inform all parents of an outbreak. However, where head lice are identified, individual parents will be informed. Head lice cannot be prevented but regular checking ensures early detection and treatment if necessary. Local pharmacists can provide you with the latest guidance on treatment. We ask you to consider tying your child’s hair back as a preventative measure in school. Can we ask that you consider not using large hair accessories as they can often get caught in equipment during PE and playtime?

**HOLIDAYS:**

Just a quick reminder that this weekend is the September Weekend and we are closed on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> and Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

The October Break is almost upon us too. We close on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October and Re-open Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October with a staff In Service Day on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Have a lovely September Weekend.

Fiona McKay

**Head Teacher**