



Hillview Primary School December Newsletter



Dear Parents/ Carers,

I can't quite believe we are already in December and only a few weeks until the end of term. Thank you again for following guidance on reducing the risk of the virus within Tier 4 and I would like to reiterate we continue to follow all guidance with key safety and hygiene procedures still being followed. Thank you to all parents for your continued support particularly during pick up and drop off times adhering to the wearing of face coverings in and around the school grounds.

Responding to Covid:

Previously Positive Cases – Self Isolation

We have received updated guidance from the NHS for those individuals who have previously tested positive and have now returned to school.

Anyone, both pupils and staff, who has previously had a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 (through a test), would not have to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of another positive case within 6 weeks of the onset of their own symptoms (or the date of test if they were asymptomatic). For example, if a pupil has been off with COVID and, having returned to school, is identified as a close contact, if this case is within 6 weeks, then there would be no requirement for them to self-isolate and they could continue to attend as normal. Where the original diagnosis was over 6 weeks, then they would have to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

Where there are pupils who may fall in to this category, we would look to confirm this with the parents through a dated text message or email of their test result.

Ventilation

It is crucially important that we maintain good ventilation as one of the most important mitigations against COVID but also need to ensure we keep our classrooms at a suitable temperature.

Given the increased requirement for ventilation in classrooms and the need for PE to continue outdoors, we are very conscious that there will be a need for pupils to bring additional clothing to school and consider extra layers when in class. We are more than happy for pupils to wear a cardigan or hoodie to wear over their school uniform however we ask that you stick as closely to the school colours as possible.

In seeking to tackle this, it has been agreed that this year the Council will be making an additional one-off payment of £25 to all recipients of the School Clothing Grant to help meet the costs of any additional winter clothing. East Renfrewshire Council are currently finalising arrangements and will be in touch with families directly in the next 7-10 days.

Singing

We are currently preparing for an online Christmas performance by each class. As you'll know, the Scottish Government's guidance indicates that schools should not be having organised singing in schools due to concerns about possible transmission. This unfortunately would also extend to the usual singing as part of Christmas celebrations. However, each class have created their own special theme.

The existing guidance for early years around children singing naturally as part of their play remains in place.

P7-S1 TRANSFERS: SESSION 2021-2022

By now parent/carers of each P7 pupil will have received a P7 –S1 transfer form, just a reminder to ask that you return the completed form to the school as soon as possible.

Friends of Hillview: - Just a note to say thank you to our parent council for supporting with the organisation of our Winter Wonderland Day on the 10th December with Santa and real reindeer. The next meeting will take place on the **3rd December on Zoom at 7pm.**

Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper day is Friday 11th December. Pupils are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper or a Christmas accessory with their school uniform. Jumpers can be home created and do not have to be shop bought. We ask that each pupil makes a donation of £1.00 for Save the Children.

Outdoor Learning

The pupils continue to learn both in and outdoors, please can I ask for your continued support in ensuring they have appropriate jackets and foot wear, again thank you to Friends of Hillview for their generous contribution to enable us to purchase spare outdoor clothing and boots.

Winter is coming...

Last year there were several days when there were significant snow showers.

If there are snow days this session, please presume that the school will be **open** unless other information is conveyed through Twitter (Hillview and ERC), local radio, or the Friends of Hillview FB page.

If it snows, the janitor will clear paths to the infant door and the reception door. If the snow is very heavy, families are asked to use the top entrance when entering and exiting the school

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 9th December **P7 Party**

Thursday 10th December **Winter Wonderland 9am – 12pm**

Thursday 10th December **P1/2 party**

Friday 11th December **Christmas Jumper Day – donations for Save the Children and Online Christmas Pantomime**

Home-made / decorated Christmas jumpers welcome!

Monday 14th December **P5 party**

Tuesday 15th December **P4 party**

Wednesday 16th December **P6 party**

Thursday 17th December **P3 party**

Friday 18th December 2.30pm finish **Last day of school**

Kind regards,

Melanie McGurren

Head Teacher (Acting)