

# Maidenhill Primary School

## Head Teacher's Update



Friday August 14 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

1 week down!

I cannot thank you enough for your support in helping us get back up and running. There were times when I thought it was never going to happen so this week has been a sheer pleasure from start to finish. The kids have been an absolute joy.

I have spent some time in both the nursery and Primary 1 classrooms and have been amazed at how settled, happy and relaxed all our new starts are. Considering how much is new and strange to them at the moment, they have taken to their new environment with ease. They are obviously a very confident, well-adjusted bunch- and I certainly cannot fault their appetite in the lunch hall or at the snack tables!

As predicted, and even with some changes to the normal routines, our returners have settled back into Maidenhill life as though they have never been away. Polite, enthusiastic, curious, informed, caring, compassionate, resilient, well-dressed.....need I go on (they are your children so, even when things may have been tough, I know I don't need to remind you how amazing they are)?

Although things are certainly not back to the way they were pre-lockdown, the positive start this week bodes well for a fantastic Year 2 at Maidenhill.

Yet even at this time when we are all looking to the future, it is important to reflect on difficult times many of us will have faced since we were last all together in March.

In particular, I was greatly saddened to hear about the devastating loss one of our young families experienced just in the last week. I am sure you will join with me in sending the love and support of the entire Maidenhill community.

### ParentPay

Mrs Fraser is busy setting up ParentPay accounts for all families who are new to Maidenhill. This is particularly useful for paying older children's lunches. Once she has permissions to send the account details home in your child's school bag, you will be able to activate your account. In the meantime older children should have no problem ordering their lunch in class with the balance ultimately showing as an initial debit when your account is activated.

### Drop Off and Pick Up

My love of structure, order, clean lines and regimented systems (typical Head Teacher!) means I am always looking to see how we can improve on the systems and routines within the school. The space at Maidenhill hopefully means we are faring better than most, but if you have any suggestions on how we can improve our current drop off and pick up procedures, please do get in touch.

The kids are absolutely fine, but ultimately I want things to be as comfortable and safe for all of you as possible. Our current corporate risk assessment highlights the need for parents to remain outwith the school grounds, but I am keen to continue using the MUGA at the end of the day if parents and families are generally happy with that arrangement. Please do let me know what you think.

In the meantime, I would be grateful if you could stick strictly to only one parent/ family member arriving for drop off/ pick up at any one time.

## Diary

Tuesday 25 August - launch of 'Meet the Teacher' films- tbc. (technology permitting!)

Tuesday 8 September; 3.30- 8.30pm approx.- first (virtual) Parent Consultation Meeting- tbc.

Wednesday 23 September; 3.00pm- school closes for September Weekend

Tuesday 29 September, 8.55am- school re-opens

Friday 9 October, 3.00pm- school closes for October Week

Monday 19 October- INSET Day

Tuesday 20 October- school re-opens

Friday 18 December- school closes for Christmas holiday

Take care,

Alasdair McDonald

Head Teacher