

Maidenhill Primary School

Head Teacher's Bulletin



Thursday February 11th 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

Slightly earlier bulletin this week- eager as always to get as much information to you as soon as I can (and always conscious that things can change very quickly so probably best to just get it down on paper before it becomes old news!)

First of all, huge apologies to anyone who was not able to access last week's virtual assembly. You were spared 15 minutes of me waffling on, looking like a rabbit caught in the headlights! However, I do appreciate how disappointing it may have been to some children who had been expecting to join us. We have always tried to maintain our whole-school assemblies and thought we had calculated we would be OK given our family numbers and the number of children in our hub who would be watching from the one device. Obviously we misjudged and I think we will have to run 2 separate (one in school; one virtual) assemblies moving forward from February 22. Thank you for your patience.

Congratulations, however, to our fantastic Maidenhill All-Stars, Sandy, Sophie, Olivia, Gurleen, Ruairidh, Anna, Ryan and Daiwick, and to the winners of our Scots Recital Competition, Hayley, Samantha and Oscar, for all their achievements.

Nursery Class and P1-3 Return on February 22

I have attached a further letter outlining the logistics of the nursery class and P1-3 return on February 22. Please remember that this return is dependent on levels of community transmission and will not actually be confirmed until next week (most likely Tuesday 16).

Apologies in advance for the slightly more authoritarian tone of the attached letter. I am desperate to get our P4-7s back as soon as possible and have to stress the personal responsibility we must all take in order to make this happen. I am determined that no laxity or omissions within our protocols impact upon a speedy and safe return for these children. Thank you so far for your cooperation and for allowing me to focus on my job as Head Teacher rather than Chief Covid Rule Enforcer- long may it continue, although you know I am always on hand to boss everyone about old-school style if required!

As I had mentioned last week, we have a constantly growing number of children who have enrolled at the school since the start of January. For several children in P1-3, February 22 will be their very first day attending in person. Parents/ carers have the option to drop off any new children at the MUGA as per the school's usual routine or to wait until the nursery queue at the main entrance has cleared (usually by about 9.20) and buzz in to our office, whereby a member of staff can escort your child to their new class.

Easyfundraising

Our Parent Council have asked me to remind you of the fantastic school fundraising opportunity they have organised. Please see their message below:

Did you know that we're registered with easyfundraising and you could help us to raise funds for the school at no extra cost to yourself?

Since our fundraising events are on hold, this is a great opportunity to keep raising much needed funds for the school. When you shop online, with over 4,100 of your favourite retailers, including John Lewis & Partners, Amazon, eBay, notonthehighstreet, you will raise FREE donations for Maidenhill Primary School and Nursery Class Parent Council.

If you're not already signed up, it only takes a few minutes, then you can begin using the easyfundraising website or app straightaway - simply shop online as normal. This will be an enormous help to the school, at no extra cost to yourself.

Visit our [easyfundraising page](#) to get started:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/maidenhillpsncpc/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-e2

Mearns After School Care (MACS)

From 22 February MACS are hoping to provide after school care for children in P1-3 and any older children who have already been allocated hub provision because of their parents' keyworker status.

I believe they have already been in touch with existing customers but have also asked me to circulate the following link:

https://mearnsafterschoolcare.formstack.com/forms/p1_p3_keyworker_care_covid2021

Alternatively you can contact them with any general enquiries at general@macs.uk.com

Parent/ Carers' Consultation on Remote Learning

Thank you again to all parents/ carers who completed our remote learning survey. I have taken the results as they stood up to and including last week and added them to a PowerPoint that I shared with staff at last week's INSET day. I have attached the PowerPoint with this letter for your information.

We have been blown away by the positivity shown by our parents/ carers, particularly as we are in no doubt about how hard a time this is for you all. Where you have made suggestions for improvement, these have been incredibly constructive and we have already been able to implement some changes based on your feedback. I have broadly summarised the key themes from your suggestions for improvement in the final slide.

Diary

Thursday 25 March- Parent Consultation Meetings ii- tbc.

Thursday 1 April - school and nursery class close for Spring holiday

Monday 19 April- school and nursery class re-open for Summer term

Take care,

Alasdair McDonald
Head Teacher