

Maidenhill Primary School

Head Teacher's Update



Wednesday December 22 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

Just a final note from me before we all disappear for what I hope will be a very relaxing and stress-free Christmas holiday!

Looking beyond the holiday, a degree of uncertainty hangs over what January will bring within schools and across the wider community- new guidance for schools was issued on Friday afternoon which tightens up restrictions around parents and visitors entering our school building and immediate grounds. It also advises a return to class 'bubbles' whilst indoors. The impact on this will be mainly operational and, at this stage, should only really affect how we organise lunches and possibly the extra-curricular clubs we are able to offer next term. (Speaking of lunches, please note that all children from P1-5 will be entitled to a free school lunch from January 5).

In the nursery class, the children will return to 3 bubbles, using the approach that worked well for us last session. Please see the information below from Miss Shaw:

Each group will be assigned to one of the three bays in the playroom, in which the children will remain with the same group of peers and nursery staff. Our staff will continue to be vigilant with children, discussing and encouraging them to stay in their allocated bay and practice good hand hygiene. All bays will have free flow access to the outdoor space (which, following government advice, does not need to be separated into different sections) and so children will be able to play safely outdoors with friends who are in other groups. At the start of a new learning block, children and their key adults working in one bay will move to another. This ensures all children will be able to engage with a variety of experiences throughout the time they spend in nursery. We will communicate with all parents, carers and children prior to changing bays to support this transition through our Nursery Newsflash.

To clarify, the staff working with each group are as follows:

Squirrels – Ciara, Claire and Helen

Bunnies – Megan, Amera and Catherine

Foxes – Michele, Sehba and Tracy

For more information regarding our Covid19 practices and procedures, please follow the link to view our Infection Prevention and control policy.
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/public/maidenhill/uploads/sites/17578/2021/12/16101038/Infection-Prevention-Policy.pdf>

If there are further updates which lead to significant changes to how we re-open in January, I will be in touch by e-mail probably from January 3.

The current guidance continues to allow for residential trips to take place with appropriate mitigations. I will write to our P7 parents in January with further updates on our Lockerbie Manor trip.

Mr Edge has arranged for the P1-7 nativity film 'Super Star' to be uploaded to each Google Classroom at 2.30 this afternoon. Thank you to everyone involved! Miss Shaw will arrange a link for the nursery class's filming to be e-mailed to all nursery parents and carers.

Other than that, please don't forget to pick up your P1-7 children up at 2.30 today. The shortage of drivers at the moment means that large companies are on the lookout for anyone who has their own wheels (scooters and bikes included) to fulfil the delivery backlog- I have already promised they can have their pick of any of the children left behind after half past 2.

All the very best to you and your family! See you in January.



Take care,

Alasdair McDonald
Head Teacher