Dear Parents/Carers,

As this term draws to a close I would have hoped we were in a better position to share all the activities going on in schools. Unfortunately, this pandemic is not loosening its grip yet.

On Friday the Scottish Government published updated guidance for schools and advising us to stick stringently to the mitigations we still have in place. We have been asked to return to some of the earlier mitigations too e.g. keeping the children in groups. This may limit our ability to do some of our activities e.g Buddies, unless it’s outdoors. We will consider this for our return in January.

You can find the document here:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-reducing-the-risks-in-schools/pages/overview/>

Any further changes to restrictions will be communicated to you as soon as we know.

**Drop-off/Pick-up**

In recent weeks we have noted an increased number of adults in the playground so I would respectfully request the guidance below, from the government is followed.

Parents should not enter school buildings unless it has been agreed in advance with the school, in line with the updated guidance on school visitors (see “Changes to Previous Guidance”). Some approaches that local authorities and schools should consider include the following:

* staggered drop off/pick up times or locations, so that not all children and young people arrive onsite at one time as long as this does not reduce the overall amount of learning time in school for children and young people *(We don’t require to do this as we have individual class access doors)*
* if the school has additional access points, consideration may be given to whether it would be beneficial to open these to reduce congestion *(We have 4 access gates plus nursery entrance)*
* consideration may be given to where children and young people go as they arrive at the facility. This could include heading straight to their group’s designated learning space/classroom, which could be indoors or outdoors (We may require to go back to designated playground spaces)
* if parents/carers are dropping off children, they should be discouraged from gathering outside the school and should maintain distancing as far as practicable, when dropping off their children. Appropriate markings may be introduced at the school gates***(Please drop your child at one of the gates and do not enter the playground unless agreed with school staff)***
* **if parents/carers are dropping off children, they should wear face coverings** **(unless exempt)**
* for those arriving by car, parents/carers may be encouraged to park further away from the school and then walk with their children to avoid congestion, or alternatively use active travel routes where feasible. Car-sharing with children and young people of other households should be discouraged – see [advice on car-sharing](https://www.transport.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/advice-on-how-to-travel-safely/#section-63888)

**Remote Learning**

Following Carrie Lindsey’s letter last week, all teachers have reminded the children of their Glow logins and how to access Teams. Our new P1 children have also been set up with access to this learning platform. Should we need to use Glow/Teams for any reason we can resend support videos etc to help at home.

**Glow**

Glow is Scotland’s national digital environment for schools and can support learning across the whole curriculum. Glow is not just one place or platform, instead the children’s username and password will give access to a number of different web services such as Teams.

P1, P1/2, P2 are bringing home a bookmark today with their Glow user name and password. **Please keep this safe.** We are not asking the children to do anything on Glow at home just now but you will need these details at some point in the future so that the children can share their learning at home. All older children should already have a note of their user name and password.

**Season’s Greetings**

All class parties and movie/panto afternoons have gone well and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

The children and staff wanted to share some Christmas cheer with you. If you click on the link below you will find:

* A song, dance or sharing of learning from each class
* A short message from Reverend Shuttleworth, the minister.
* The Headteacher awards

Tulliallan - <https://flipgrid.com/+z3kdzfjt>

**Staff Changes**

We are delighted to say that Miss Evans will join the nursery team in January on a temporary basis until the summer. We are looking forward to welcoming her to the team at Tulliallan.

**Return in January**

We are currently awaiting an update from the Scottish Government and Fife Council about changes to Covid guidance for schools and will update you as soon as we can once we return to school in January.

Just a wee reminder that school finishes at 3.15pm and nursery finishes at 3.00pm on Wednesday 22nd December. School opens again at 9am on Thursday 6th January 2022.

We hope that you and your family manage to have a restful, enjoyable and healthy holiday period and look forward to seeing all of the children on our return in January.

Senior Leadership Team