**21 February, 2022**

**TO : PARENTS/ CARERS**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to give you a few updates from the school, most of these are in relation to the most updated Covid guidance that has been issued to schools.

**School start and finish times**

Staggered start and end times can now stop. We will return to every child starting school at 9am and finishing at 3pm. Pupils in P1 and P2/1 have a “soft” start to their day and can arrive anytime between 9am and 9:15am, this will continue. At the end of the day collection time for P1 and P2/1 remains to be between 2:45pm and 3pm. These variations in times will help in particular with families with siblings at the school.

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P1 and P2/1 continue to be dropped off and collected at the same gate/entrance door.

P3 - P7 continue to line up at 9am in the MUGA and will be taken to the MUGA area at home time (3pm).

Parents and carers continue to be responsible for their children until 9am unless their child attends breakfast service. We have support staff in the MUGA area from 8:45am. These adults are timetabled at this time to support the supervision and safety of pupils. We also endeavour to have a member of the management team there also at this time however, due to the busy nature of the start of a school day this is not always possible.

**NEW START AND FINISH TIMES START ON: MONDAY 28th FEBRUARY.**

**School Uniform**

We take pride in the children attending Cadder Primary and this starts with wearing our school uniform. Pupils look very smart and visitors often comment on how the children are presented.

Children continue to be invited to have an additional jumper to put on an extra layer in class if they feel cold however this is in addition to school uniform and not to replace it.

Can I please remind you that the school uniform is white polo shirt, blue jumper or cardigan and grey skirt or trousers. Leggings and sport jogging trousers are not part of school uniform.

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A change of clothes can now be brought in for PE days. Please ensure these do not have any football colours/badges and that any children that wear jewellery, including earrings, do not do so on a PE day.

We have a growing number of children in the senior school wearing nail polish and some have acrylic or false nails. This is a safety issue and hinders completing tasks such as writing and the use of digital technology. Can we please remind parents that these should not be worn to school.

**Outdoor clothing**

At Cadder we often take our learning outdoors. Please ensure your child has outdoor clothes suitable for the weather. Indoor shoes are requested to change in to as this keeps children warm as well as protects school carpets. Please ensure your child’s indoor shoes still fit them. Many shoes bought in August are now torn or too tight for feet. As always, all clothing should not have any football badges etc. This includes jackets, hats, scarves etc.

**Healthy snacks**

Many of our children are very good at bringing in healthy snacks to school for playtime. There are a variety of options including fruit, baked crisps, baby bell cheeses, etc. As always, please ensure your child does not bring in sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks as these will be kept for going home.

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We are pleased to offer free fruit snacks twice a week in school. We also have fruit for any child that forgets to bring a snack. We are very keen that no one misses out or has a grumbling tummy that may distract them from their learning!

Water fountains have now been switched back on. Please continue to fill bottles at home and ask for them to be brought home for a good clean however it is good that we have access to fresh drinking water again for every pupil to fill their own water bottle. The school does not have access to spare water bottles for pupils.

**Personal items**

We urge children to only bring items to school that support their school day. This will include reading material, pencil case, water bottle, etc. No child should bring a phone to school or toys.

Children should not bring expensive jewellery or watches to school as they may become broken or lost and this can often be upsetting. No footballs or other sports equipment should be brought to school. The school has an abundance of equipment and we would prefer children enjoyed using their own equipment in their own time.

The school has no insurance to cover lost or stolen items such as phones, watches or jewellery.

**Parents evening**

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We wait to hear if we can return to face to face discussions with parents and carers for parents evenings again however we continue to be commited to reporting to you about your childs progress. We will contact you with what will be in place for parents evenings as soon as we have been advised. In the meantime, we are having a number of reviews and discussions with some adults from home if and when required.

If you are in the school building, current guidelines ask that, unless exempt, face coverings should be worn in corridors and can be removed if social distancing is in place.

**Literacy Week and World Book Day**

On the week beginning 28th January, the whole school will have take part in Literacy Week. The theme for the school this year is “Fairytales.”

On Thursday 3rd March we will be celebrating World Book Day. This year children are invited to make a crown, tiara or wand as this links with the Fairytale theme for the week. Pupils are welcome to make these at home however this will be a task on the day to ensure every child has the chance to design and create what they want.

We have invited a number of visitors into school for Literacy week and World Book Day to help inspire and promote children in all areas of literacy. Every child will be issued with a free book of their choice on this day.

Please speak to your child about the work taking part on this week and, if you wish, follow us on Twitter and Facebook to see some of the completed tasks. I am sure they will be fantastic!

Finally, can I please take the chance to thank every adult at home that supports children attending Cadder Primary School. The sense of identity as a school community has been challenging through these pandemic times but the support, kindness and empathy shown to both our staff and pupils has been much appreciated. We all have experiences to reflect on from the last two years but hopefully we can look forward with hope and positivity.

As always, thank you for your continued partnership.

*Mairi Baker*

Head Teacher