



Newsletter

August 2020



Message from Head Teacher

Dear families,

I am delighted to be issuing the first newsletter of the new school term, and welcoming our community back to Golfhill. A special *hello* is extended to our new P1 pupils, who have been settling in well. We appreciate Golfhill being chosen for your child's education.

Thank you so much to everyone for helping to make the transition back to school so smooth. There's been a lot to get used to, such as different school times, and amended drop-off and pick-up arrangements, but everyone has quickly adapted.

A rigorous hand-washing schedule is being followed, with hands being washed after entering and before leaving the building. This can, as you might imagine, take some time, but the health and safety of everyone is of paramount importance.

Our staggered start to the day has proven successful in keeping the playground and doorways quieter at key points throughout the day.

At lunchtime, there is a short crossover, where all pupils are in the playground. At this time, pupils are encouraged to stay with their classes, but we can allow interactions between pupils in different classes. This is in accordance with Scottish Government guidance which states that when outdoors, children under the age of 11 do not need to social distance from other children who are also 11 or under.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Mrs Swan and the team at Whitehill Secondary for working closely with us, and changing their timetable to accommodate our staggered breaks and longer lunch period. We are grateful for their support.

I hope you find the information contained within this newsletter useful. If there is anything you would like to discuss, or something that I can help with, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In the meantime, stay safe and well, and thank you as always for your continued support.

Yours,




Iain Morrow
Head Teacher

Our values:

Respect

Equality

Safe

Staffing



We have welcomed some new members of staff to Golfhill this term.

Miss Kelly and Miss Jackman have joined our teaching team, working in P4 and P5J respectively. They have already built up great relationships with their classes.

Miss Quay joins us in the office as an *Education Business Admin* Modern Apprentice. She has experience of supporting schools across the city, but please be kind as she gets to know our families and community.

Just before summer, an opportunity arose for us to appoint an Acting Principal Teacher to help support the running of the school, and develop key areas of the curriculum. A decision was made to split the role equally three ways, and we are delighted that Mr Hay, Miss Jamieson and Miss Cullen are now part of our Senior Leadership Team.

Reminder of times

Just a reminder that our school day currently runs as follows...

P1, P2, P4 and P5J	08:45 – 14:45
P3, P5BD, P6, P7c and P7H	09:00 – 15:00



We hope, at some point, to get back to the same times for everyone, but cannot predict when this might be.

Physical distancing

Could we kindly ask that adults remember to physically distance from each other when in the playground, respecting the health, safety and personal space of others. Please also refrain from standing within the boundary zone.

The wearing of face-coverings is not necessary when outdoors, but we appreciate some people may choose to do this.



There will be no unauthorised access to the school building before 08:45 and after 15:00, and no adults are currently permitted at all without an appointment, unless in an emergency.

Wellbeing

We have pupils at Golfhill with nut allergies.



Please try to ensure that playtime snacks and packed lunches do not contain nuts. Thank you.



Please provide your child with at least one full water bottle each day.

Further to updated guidance, the water fountain cannot be used.

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Xpressions app

We would like to encourage all families to download the free *Groupcall Xpressions* app, which is available on smartphones and tablets.



The app gives families an easy way to get updates and information from the school, and all you need to use it is the email address you have registered with the school office. If you haven't already done this, just let us know your email address (we can only register one per family) and we can update our records.

Sending messages via Xpressions is free for the school, meaning it will save us money.

For your information, sending a regular text message to every family currently costs us around £5 every time, so you will understand why we are keen to promote use of the app!

Outdoor learning

In line with national and local advice, we aim to get learners outdoors as much as possible. This will inevitably mean that pupils (and staff!) will be out in the rain, so please provide your child with a waterproof jacket and appropriate footwear.

The weather in Glasgow is unpredictable, so regardless of the forecast, we recommend coming prepared for all seasons. This message is being supported by the Glasgow City Parents Group.



Attendance

Just a reminder that no-one should come into the school building if they, or anyone else in their household, display any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19:

- new and continuous cough
- fever or high temperature
- loss or change of taste/smell



Medical advice should be sought, and a test for COVID-19 may be recommended.

Other illnesses are still around, and the usual advice about these should still be followed. For example, in the event of sickness or diarrhoea, pupils should not attend for two days after the last bout.

Information about health-related matters can be found at: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/>

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Website

We have been working to improve the use and look of our website. Please check it regularly for updates.

The address is: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/golfhill/>

Alternatively, you can use your phone's camera to scan this QR code to take you there directly.



Don't forget to follow us on Twitter too: @1Golfhill



Dates for your diary

<i>September Weekend</i>	Friday 25 th and Monday 28 th September
<i>In-service Day</i> (no pupils)	Friday 9 th October
<i>October Week</i>	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th October
<i>School closes for Christmas</i>	Tuesday 22 nd December @ 14:15 / 14:30
<i>Christmas and New Year holiday</i>	Wednesday 23 rd December – Tuesday 5 th January
<i>Pupils return to school</i>	Wednesday 6 th January
<i>Mid-term break</i>	Friday 5 th , Monday 8 th and Tuesday 9 th February
<i>In-service Day</i> (no pupils)	Wednesday 10 th February
<i>School closes for Spring Break</i>	Thursday 1 st April @ 14:15 / 14:30
<i>Spring Break</i>	Friday 2 nd – Friday 16 th April
<i>Pupils return to school</i>	Monday 19 th April
<i>May Day holiday</i>	Monday 3 rd May
<i>In-service Day</i> (no pupils)	Thursday 6 th May
<i>May Weekend</i>	Friday 28 th and Monday 31 st May
<i>School closes for Summer</i>	Wednesday 24 th June @ 12:45 / 13:00

Information about Parents' Evenings will be issued once plans for how they are to be conducted are finalised.

Due to the current situation we will be unable to host any Open Afternoons.

Our values:

Respect Equality Safe