



# Newsletter

## February 2022



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### Message from Head Teacher

Dear families,

It's getting lighter in the mornings, spring is on the way, the Omicron wave is passing, and things are beginning to look more normal. Thank goodness!

The Scottish Government recently published new guidance for schools, and we are delighted to announce that we no longer need the staggered starts and finishes!

**Therefore, from Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February, all classes will be in school from 08:45 – 14:45.**

Todos en la escuela de 08:45 a 14:45

08:45 - 14:45 学校里的每个人

اسکول میں ہر کوئی 08:45 - 14:45 تک

Wszyscy w szkole od 08:45 do 14:45

Toată lumea la școală de la 08:45 la 14:45

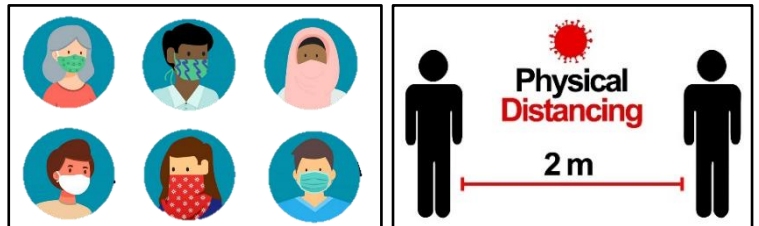
الجميع في المدرسة من الساعة 08:45 - 14:45

08:45 - 14:45 ਤੱਕ ਸਕੂਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਹਰ ਕੋਈ

Tout le monde à l'école de 08h45 à 14h45

This is a huge step forward, but we do need your help... the guidance for schools is still very clear that when on school grounds, adults need to wear a **face covering** and maintain **physical distancing** from others.

**At drop-off and pick-up, please remember...**



The playground will be a bit busier again. Sticking to **one adult per family** will help with this. This new situation may take some getting used to. However, by being patient and treating each other with respect and kindness, it will all work out!

Thank you for your continuing support of our school. As always, if there is anything you would like to discuss, or something that I can help with, please do get in touch.



Yours,

Iain Morrow  
Head Teacher

Our values:

Respect

Safe

Equality

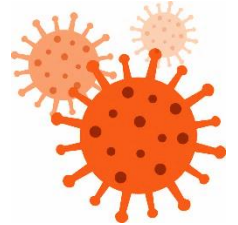
## Staffing update

Miss Gormley has now joined us as our P7/6 teacher, and will be here until June. We have also welcomed a new Support for Learning Worker, Miss Smith.

I know you'll join me in wishing both members of staff a very warm welcome.

## Other COVID-related information

Although we can return to having one school day for every class, the most recent Scottish Government advice does keep certain measures in place, including:



- Adults maintaining physical distance and wearing face coverings at drop-off / pick-up
- Only one adult per family in playground at drop-off / pick-up
- Staying off school grounds if possible, by dropping older pupils at the gate
- Hand cleaning
- Staff wearing face coverings in communal areas / when moving through building
- Physical distancing between members of staff
- Physical distancing between staff and pupils
- Enhanced cleaning regime
- Increased ventilation, with doors and windows open
- CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring
- Not coming to school if anyone in household is displaying COVID-19 symptoms

Unfortunately, the guidance also means it will not be possible to return to face-to-face Parents' Evenings just yet.

Telephone consultations will take place again, in the weeks leading up to Spring Break.

We have consulted with the Parent Council, and listened to the feedback from last time. Appointment times will be provided, and up to three weeks' notice of your allocated time will be given.

The dates, however, will be as follows...

P3 and P4	Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> and Thu 17 <sup>th</sup> March
P5 and P6	Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> and Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> March
P1ab and P1cb	Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> and Thu 24 <sup>th</sup> March
P2 and P7	Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> and Tue 29 <sup>th</sup> March
P7/6	Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> and Thu 31 <sup>st</sup> March



NB: Families who require interpreters may find their dates do not align exactly with this.

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Last week we were visited by two inspectors from Education Scotland. This was a follow-up from our inspection back in November 2019.

The inspectors spoke to staff, members of the Parent Council and two pupil groups. They also had in-depth conversations with Mr Morrow and Miss Kirkland. These were all overwhelmingly positive.

The inspectors were very impressed with all the progress and improvements we have made, across a range of areas. They also praised the way we had managed everything throughout the pandemic.

An official letter summarising their findings will be published in the coming weeks. We look forward to receiving this, and sharing it with you.



We were thrilled with how it went, and look forward to continuing to move our school forward.

### Celebrating success

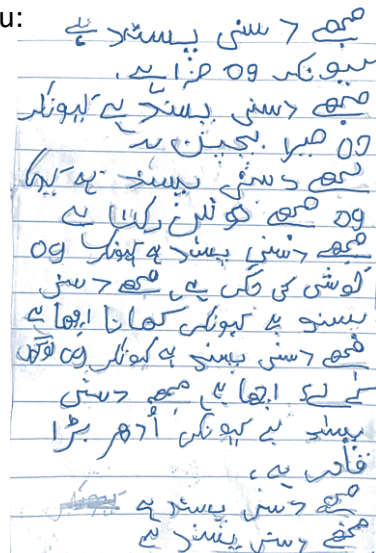
Edhita in P7 was one of 606,049 entrants who took part in the Royal Mail *Heroes Stamp Design* competition, which celebrated the actions of everyday people during the height of the pandemic.



Her wonderful entry reached the top 120, and we couldn't be prouder!

One of our P6 pupils, Malaika, recently entered a Scotland-wide poetry competition. The *Mother Tongue Other Tongue* multilingual poetry competition celebrates linguistic and cultural diversity through creative writing, and showcases the many languages spoken and learned by young people in school and at home.

We are delighted to say Malaika has reached the finals with her entry about Disney. Here it is in the original Urdu:



and English translation:

I love Disney because it's funny  
I love Disney because it's my childhood  
I love Disney because it makes me happy  
I love Disneyland because it is a happy place  
I love Disneyland because the food is great.  
I love Disney because it's good for people.  
I love Disneyland because there is a big castle.  
I love Disney.  
I love Disney!

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## ParentPay



Please ensure you register with ParentPay, using the information sent home at the end of January. You can contact the school office if you need it again.

Even if you don't need to use ParentPay straight away, it's really important that accounts are set up, and ready for use. Thank you to everyone who has already done this.

## Clothing

Please ensure your child has a change of clothes for PE (*no football strips of any kind*), an outdoor jacket, and appropriate footwear for the Scottish weather. It's helpful for everyone if clothes are labelled with pupils' names.



## Purple Friday



On Friday 25th February, we are asking everyone to go non-uniform, and wear purple in celebration of *Purple Friday*, a day to celebrate inclusiveness, equality and diversity.

No money required. We just want to honour, and show support for, everybody in our wonderful local community.

## Dates for your diary

Mid-term break	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February
In-service Day (no pupils)	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
Purple Friday	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> February
World Book Day	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March <i>(more info to follow)</i>
School closes for Spring Break	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April @ <b>14:15</b>
Spring Break	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> – Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> April
School returns	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April @ <b>08:45</b>
May Day holiday	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
In-service Day (no pupils)	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May <i>(to coincide with local elections)</i>
May long weekend	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
Platinum Jubilee long weekend	Thu 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
School closes for summer	Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> June @ <b>12:45</b>

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Schools reopens to pupils

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August @ **12:45**

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