

# Hyndland Headlines



**November/December 2020**

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Dear parents/carers,

Welcome to our winter newsletter, which is digitally available via the school website, Twitter and Groupcall. Paper copies can still be made available by contacting the school office. We hope that all families continue to be safe and well during the ongoing pandemic. As we are now living and working within Scottish Government Tier 4 restrictions, we continue to follow and apply local authority guidelines within the school to ensure we provide as safe an environment as possible for the school community and continuity in learning for our young people.

## **Ongoing and Updated Protocol and Procedures**

**Reporting Positive Cases of COVID19:** Please contact us as soon as possible if a member of your family has any COVID-19 symptoms, is waiting for or been for a test or received a result.

**Please contact the Headteacher by email at [headteacher@hyndland-pri.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@hyndland-pri.glasgow.sch.uk)** and please also **call our school office on 339 7207**. You should also **contact the GCC Absence Line 0141 471 3710 or 0141 287 0039** or by **completing the online form** on the GCC website. This helps us inform others in the community if it is deemed necessary by our colleagues in Public Health. Self-isolation instructions are not taken by the school; we communicate the conclusions Public Health have reached to you based on the information they have gathered and analysed.

**If a member of your household has symptoms then everyone in the house should stay at home and self-isolate until the test result is received.**

**Self-Isolation Learning Packs:** Staff have been working extremely hard to ensure continuity in learning for those children whose attendance at school is disrupted by being required to self-isolate by producing activity packs that can be sent home virtually or in paper based form to families who require them. Arrangements will continue to be made through the two Deputy Headteachers; Mr Frame (P1-3) and Mrs Wynn (P4-7) to provide home learning activities for your child (if they are well enough to engage) who will liaise with class teachers. If your child is self-isolating (not personally unwell), even for a short period of time, please contact the office to request a provision of learning activities from one of the Deputy Headteachers.

**Enhanced hygiene procedures:** We continue to follow enhanced hygiene procedures, including regular handwashing and the toilet 'ticket system' is ongoing to ensure controlled and limited numbers of pupils using toilets at any one time. The school also has a designated cleaner on site throughout the duration of the school day to support with our enhanced hygiene procedures.

**Structure of the school day, pick up and drop off:** The school continues to implement staggered start times, breaks, lunch sittings and finish times with children remaining within stage bubbles. Thank you to all parents and carers for your cooperation and support in enabling our amended start and end of school day procedures to run smoothly, using but staying clear of designated entrance/exit gates and remaining within marked boundaries. Parents and carers are kindly asked to continue to wear a face covering for drop off and pick up and to maintain social distancing with others.

We would also like to remind families that dogs are not permitted in the school playgrounds. We have become aware of a number of pupils crossing Fortrose Street to greet dogs accompanying parents and carers at pick up and drop off. Could all parents and carers please remind children they should not cross the street without being accompanied by an adult or leave the school campus if they have been dropped off before the bell.

**Outdoor Learning and P.E:** Glasgow City Council schools had been given the go ahead to resume indoor, physically distanced P.E. lessons beginning on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November. However, having entered Tier 4, P.E. lessons will once again only be permitted outdoors and we kindly ask that children continue to come to school dressed in weather appropriate comfortable clothing and footwear for their P.E. and outdoor learning days.

**Personal Belongings:** As we enter winter and the weather begins to become colder and wetter, pupils are permitted to bring a small school bag to school. Recommended items to be brought in bags are; iPads for P7s, water bottle(s), snack, lunch box/pack/ thermos/insulated container (which should fit inside the one bag). During the pandemic, schools must continue to be well-ventilated (even in very cold outdoor temperatures), therefore pupils can also bring a spare jumper, pair of trousers and socks in case of very cold or wet weather (change of underwear for little ones) and waterproofs if you have them.

Children should continue **not to bring** any toys, trading cards, games, soft toys, books or pencil cases and stationery into school this term-and any additions to bags such as keyrings etc should be avoided. The number of items of lost property has increased recently and reuniting these with their owners is even more difficult with the current COVID-19 restrictions. We would therefore appreciate if parents and carers could clearly mark childrens' names on items so they can be given back as quickly as possible.

### Car Free Zone Timings

A reminder to families that GCC have introduced a new vehicle restriction measure on Fortrose Street. Police officers continue to be onsite on a regular basis to support implementation. Please do not move any cars, vans or motorbikes in or out of the street between 8.30 until 9.15am then again from 2.45 until 3.30pm unless you hold a relevant permit. We appreciate that this may cause some inconvenience to families, but the level of dangerous driving around Glasgow schools at busy periods has made this a necessary intervention in many areas.

Please be aware and respectful of a number of people who are exempt from the restrictions for valid reasons. The introduction of the Car Free Zone restrictions **does not** mean that Fortrose Street has been pedestrianised.

### Home/School Communication

We continue to miss our regular informal interactions with parents and carers as we continue our efforts with social distancing and the implications of this. Please remember that there is a member of the Senior Leadership Team in each of the playgrounds at the beginning and end of the school day should you need to speak to someone urgently, or you are welcome to call the school office and arrange to speak to a member of the team who will endeavour to get back to you as quickly as possible.

**Interim Reports:** We communicated in the last newsletter that our initial Parent/Carer Consultation evenings were unable to take place before the October break as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions and decisions reached by Glasgow LNCT. Teaching staff are therefore in the process of completing Interim Pupil Reports based on the authority's reduced curriculum. These are due to be shared with families week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

**Curriculum Overviews:** The P1 – P7 Curriculum Overviews are now available to view on the Hyndland Primary website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hyndlandps/category/school-news/yearly-overviews/>

These provide a general breakdown of key teaching and learning topics that are planned within the reduced recovery curriculum.

### **School News**

**Outdoor Learning Grants:** Huge congratulations to the staff and pupils of P6B and P7B who have been successful in their proposals to access funding for additional outdoor learning cover and resources. Both classes put together compelling projects and convinced The Dickie Foundation (£150) and Partick Housing Association (via their Big Ideas Fund-£997) to back their bids! Many thanks to all of you who voted for the PHA tender-catch our pupil thank you on our website and Twitter feed! Mrs Batista and Ms Leslie are looking forward to nurturing these ideas into reality

**Halloween 2020:** Our annual Hallowe'en Parade is a real highlight of the school year and whilst we were not able to hold it in the main hall this year, on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October we held a virtual parade via Microsoft Teams, giving each class the opportunity to showcase their creative costumes for the rest of the school before having COVID-friendly Hallowe'en class activities in the afternoon.

**Digital Inclusion:** Many thanks to those of you who completed our digital inclusion survey. As a result of this data gathering, some of our families will receive either a mini wifi Hub or device from the Authority from Scottish Government funding to begin to bridge the digital inclusion gap that has been highlighted by families working and learning from home. Miss Moir will be in touch with identified families later this month to arrange deployment

**Music Tuition:** In line with local authority COVID-19 guidance, a small number of music tuition lessons have been able to resume at Hyndland. String lessons only (i.e. cello and violin) are now able to take place on a fortnightly basis in small stage bubble groups. We welcome Ms Berry to Hyndland, who has taken over from Ms Smart in tutoring our violinists, as welcoming back Ms Strain who continues to work with the cellists. The school will continue to liaise with parents in due course as and when further extra-curricular activities are able to resume. Thank you to parents and carers for your ongoing patience and understanding with current limitations to what the school can provide at present.

**The Jeely Piece Club:** This term we are so grateful to welcome back the Jeely Piece Club to Hyndland Primary School who had been working with staff to provide outdoor learning and play workshops with the P3 cohort last session prior to the school closures in March this year. The Jeely Piece Club Team have returned to the school to finish the block of sessions with the same classes who are now in P4.

**P1 Enrolment Week:** Glasgow City Council P1 Enrolment week took place between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> November. Although school tours could not take place this year, the school launched a new virtual offering to support prospective families through the enrolment process. The new online consisted of a range of resources ranging from a new virtual tour led by some of our new P1 pupils; presentations about Hyndland Primary School for parents/carers and children; guides to support families with the online enrolment process; and testimonials shared by some current P1 parent volunteers. Mr Frame would like to thank those parents who took part in creating the new resources this session and for their permission to allow their children to play such an active role!

**Hyndland Primary House Elections 2020/2021:** OUR pupils in P3, P6 and P7 had the opportunity to put themselves forward to be considered for Junior Captain, Vice Captain, and Senior Captain. Normally, pupils prepare an election speech to be given in front of other the members of their house before the election being held and voting taking place. However, in light of the current pandemic this session, all learners in P3, P6 and P7 had the opportunity to create a campaign poster to be shared virtually with other members of their

house across the school. The high number of children who ran for captaincy this year was incredible and everyone who put themselves forward was an asset to the school. Voting began on Friday last week and is also being done virtually this session. Due to a number of children across the senior stages having to self-isolate as a result of a positive COVID19 result at Afty we will be announcing the successful candidates at the end of this week when they have had a chance to cast their votes on return to school. Best of luck to everyone!

**Hyndland Secondary School S1 Virtual Panel and Transition information:** We always love to welcome back some of our previous P7s back to Hyndland Primary to share their experience of S1 at Hyndland Secondary. This session, in place of our usual face to face visit from the S1 pupils, our P7s took part in a virtual question and answer panel on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November, allowing our current P7 learners the opportunity to ask questions of what to expect and to hear what our former P7 pupils have been enjoying most about their move to the Secondary. Our transition programme would normally be well underway, unfortunately, due to current restrictions we have had to put on hold any visits to and from Hyndland Secondary. However, we are all working hard on alternative options and we hope to be in touch with more transition information as soon as possible.

**Reading Planets – Rising Stars Digital Reading Resource:** We are very excited to announce the introduction of our new digital reading resource Reading Planets – Reading Stars. We are introducing the resource across P1 – P3 initially to enhance at home reading provision in school; particularly during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and our efforts to reduce the number of items being sent to and from school. The resource was trialled with a small number of infant classes during the school closures and we are now rolling the programme out across P1 – 3. The new resource will provide children and families with access to a vast library of digital reading books at home, allocated by their class teachers, at the appropriate level for children. The books are accessed via the Reading Planets – Rising Stars website. There is scope for children to read independently, with an adult or sibling at home, or even to read along with audio recordings of the book. Short, fun comprehension quizzes also accompany each of the digital books for children to complete during and after reading. A guide will be shared with P1 – 3 parents on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December before launching the resource on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The new resource will not replace reading in classes with physical books, which will continue as normal.

**Bikeability:** Once again we are very fortunate to be able to offer this great experience to our upper school pupils thanks to the commitment and enthusiasm of our staff. Mr Gibson and Scott from Bikeability put a group of our P7s through their paces last week with a compressed programme running every day and they were absolutely fabulous! Mr Gibson would like to congratulate the children on their positivity, determination and resilience in achieving so well (even in very challenging weather)

## **Christmas Countdown 2020**

**Christmas Lunch 2020:** The annual pupil Christmas Lunch is on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December**. Menus will be shared with families today (Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November) and orders will be taken by class teachers this Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. We would appreciate if you could go over the menu choices with your child for Thursday morning so they can tell their class teacher their order. For P1-3 we recommend giving your child a packed lunch on this day (just in case the festive feast is not to their taste). Please remember that only those children who return an order will have a meal available that day, and there are no menu alternatives so please arrange for your child to bring lunch from home next Thursday if they are not participating. Children may wear casual or festive clothes (if you have celebrated a festival already this year, wear your finery from that celebration on the 10<sup>th</sup>!).

**Christmas Show 2020:** The infant Christmas Show led by the P3 classes is another one of the main highlights of the school calendar each year. Unfortunately this session, we are unable to produce and host our usual production for families in December due to current COVID-19 guidelines. However, we are currently investigating an alternative offering and are hoping to be able to find another way to commemorate the festive season and spread some cheer. Details of this will be shared hopefully by the end of the week!

**Creative Christmas:** Normally at this time of the year our classes would be well underway with their artistic ideas to producing items to sell at the annual Christmas Fayre. As an alternative option, to any possible fundraising, but most importantly to provide our pupils with the opportunity to share those creations with family and friends, all our pupils have created artwork to be reproduced on cards, mugs and gift tags. The order forms have been returned and collated (after suitable procedures were followed) and we hope you enjoy seeing and sharing with family the wonderful creativity from your children. Thank you for your generosity and support. Each of our pupils has also been creating self-portraits over the past weeks. These self-portraits will become part of the design of our Hyndland Primary Tea Towels. There are two designs to look forward to, one for P1-P3 and the other for P4-P7. The final design will be shared with all our families, with the option of purchase, over the coming weeks. In addition to our Cards and Tea Towels our pupils have also been creating art work for the Hyndland Primary 2021 Calendar. Each class was allocated a page to design, with pupils enthusiastically producing their individual effort to be put forward for the final product. We had some outstanding entries which the Aftty Staff had the extremely difficult job of choosing a winner from each class. The winning pictures now adorn each of the 15 pages of the Calendar, which we are very excited to be sharing with our families. Thank you all so much for supporting the school fund by investing in our Creative Christmas initiative.

**Festive Fun:** it might be a little bit different how we do things this year but we will do our best to make sure nobody misses out on all the little lovely experiences that make this month so enjoyable for the children (and the adults!).

**Virtual Panto Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.** Our school will all watch an online Pantomime together but separately in our classrooms and social bubbles – Oh Yes We Will!!

**Festive Films** - Every class will enjoy a little movie by the twinkling Christmas Tree light in their classrooms (from 7<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup> December)

**Cards and Post** - Children can still bring cards for classmates and staff, in class the cards will be quarantined and then shared. The Festive Post Box will be open for cards for friends in other classes but will only be emptied and delivered once a week on Mondays so that there is a quarantine period over the weekend. **Box opens tomorrow Dec 1<sup>st</sup> (at the glass doors).**

### **Our Christmas Tree arrives on December 1<sup>st</sup>**

**BIG THANKS (AS ALWAYS) TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE FLOWER SHOP UNDER THE BRIDGE IN PARTICK WHO PICK AND DELIVER TO US A TERRIFIC TREE EVERY YEAR AT A VERY FRIENDLY COMMUNITY PRICE!**

**Christmas Jumper Day is 11<sup>th</sup> December:** Everyone who wishes to do so, may wear a cheery jumper (some years very creative pupils have customised their jumpers for this event rather than buying a new one and this is a fab idea) on this day-or again, even better, if you have already enjoyed a big celebration like Eid or Diwali or just about to celebrate Hannukah, then come dressed as you would for those big days in the calendar this year.

**P1 and P7 Tree Decorations:** It is a lovely tradition we have at Hyndland, that every year our newest pupils and our oldest children hang a decoration on our foyer tree to mark their first and last festive season with us. **This year children will make their own decoration in school to adorn our tree on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

**Class Parties** - will begin next week (beginning 7<sup>th</sup> December). Your child's party day will be confirmed this Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December via Groupcall. Due to on-going restrictions regarding indoors physical activity and shared resources, the games may be a little different but still lots of fun will be had! Families may wish to add wellies to that party outfit. Our school will provide individual snacks for each child and a HUGE THANK YOU to our Parent Council for again agreeing to fund a gift of a book for every pupil-we will source and quarantine these so they come home to you as safely as possible.

**I have been assured that 'The Special Visitor' will still be dropping (socially distanced) by our Infant Parties . . . HO...HO... HO!**

**Finally, some parents have asked about COVID19 restrictions and the impact these have on buying presents for staff. Being able to work with your children is the best gift we could ask for. We also appreciate that for many, this year has been very challenging in many ways. However, if you would like to send a gift then staff will set up a little box in each class to quarantine items or if you would like to make a donation to charity instead,**

**then this could be another way to still spread good cheer across our community safely.**

**Thank you for your continuing support!**