



Shawlands Primary News

Term 4 June 2020

Respect
RESPONSIBILITY
TEAMWORK
Fairness
Resilience
HONESTY

Dear parents, carers and friends of Shawlands Primary,

Welcome to the final newsletter of the session; and what a session it has been! I am sure you would never have imagined back in August that by the end of term 3 you would have taken on the teaching of your children at home! Fortunately it looks as though we are beginning to emerge from the Covid 19 restrictions and, although children will only be back in school part time in August, it is a step in the right direction. Hopefully it will be short lived and we will be back to full time education soon. Thank you for all your support and patience over the last few months; it is very much appreciated. Have a lovely summer all, We will see you again soon!

Theresa Wright

Headteacher

Next Years' Classes

Reports were posted out yesterday and you will have started to receive them by now.

In the envelope there is also a letter detailing your child's class and allocated days for next session. We have tried to make sure that all siblings have been allocated the same days— let us know if this is not the case. Unfortunately this means that we have very little room for manoeuvre given that class sizes are so small, so we will not be able to move children's days at this stage. I realise that this may be disappointing for some of you and I appreciate your understanding.

Teddy Bear's Picnic

At the beginning of this week we welcomed our new P1s in small groups for a socially distanced teddy bear's picnic. It was lovely to meet them and their parents and we are really looking forward to them being part of our school!

Staff changes 1

It is that time of year again when we have to say goodbye to some good friends and welcome new faces to our school. Saying goodbye is particularly difficult this year as we are not able to show our thanks and mark the occasion in the usual way, but we couldn't let our valued team members go without wishing them well:

Mrs Beattie has decided to retire after more than 30 years teaching in Shawlands Primary School. We wish her a long, happy and very well deserved retirement and we hope to be able to celebrate properly with her sometime soon.

Miss Sweeney is leaving us to take up a new challenge in the ASN sector and we wish her all the very best. Their gain is our loss!

Miss Gray is also leaving us and takes our thanks and best wishes with her. We wish her well.



Keyworkers

We have been delighted to look after the children of key workers during lockdown, but from next Thursday Glasgow City Council will be organising this care for the summer and for when we return in August. You need to register online via the link on the GCC website under schools and learning. Those of you who have already applied for care over the summer should begin to hear back on Monday.

Starting back in August

You will be aware that starting back at school will be very different this year as we continue to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic.

From August, children will be allocated two teaching days in school per week. These days will be slightly longer than usual– 5hrs 30 minutes teaching time as opposed to the current 5 hours., meaning that children will have 11 hours face to face teaching. Teachers will have 22 hours direct teaching time across the week, which is 30 minutes less than normal. We are very aware that this reduced teaching time for pupils will have an impact on their learning and while we will make every effort to make the most of the time we have the children with us, we hope that the situation will be a temporary one and that we will all be back to full time education as soon as possible.

For the first week back, across Glasgow teachers will be in school on the 10th and 11th August. For inset training. Monday/ Tuesday pupils will attend on Wednesday for that week only and Thursday/ Friday pupils will be in on Thursday and Friday. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone then

To comply with social distancing and hygiene regulations we will stagger entry and exit times for pupils. We are currently finalising these plans and we will get them out to you before term ends on Wednesday. Again, we will make arrangements so that siblings can come in at roughly similar times.



Staff Changes 2

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Fleming and Miss Borland– now Mrs Darroch– to the school and also to some new faces: Miss Pauley and Miss Walters. We look forward to working with them and to making them feel part of the Shawlands Team!

Lockdown Leavers

We are really looking forward to seeing our P7 “Lockdown Leavers” on Monday as they come in in small, socially distanced groups for us all to say our goodbyes. It will be lovely to see them again and to wish them well as they move on to the next stage in their school lives. I am so proud of them all for their resilience, their hard work and their commitment to their learning which has been particularly evident during the lockdown period. We wish them all every success.

Next year’s P7’s have a lot to live up to!

Thank you to the Parent Council for generously providing the leavers sweatshirts. We can’t wait to see them!

Lockdown Learning

As we end this term I want to say a huge thank you to those of you who have supported your children’s learning whilst schools have been closed to most pupils. I appreciate how hard it has been for you to be teacher as well as mum/dad/ gran... and to try to get on with working from home as well! You have done an amazing job! And you deserve a rest this summer.

Distance learning has been a real learning experience for all of us as we all got to grips with distance learning whether it has been by pack or online and I want to acknowledge all the hard work and effort the teachers have put into providing the best opportunities for our children under the circumstances. Their commitment and professionalism has been astounding: In some cases they went from never having used an ipad to recording and posting all sorts of interesting challenges as well as keeping the day to day literacy and numeracy ticking over. I am very lucky to have such a fantastic team and I wish them all plenty of rest and relaxation over the summer before we come back to take on the new challenges next session will bring.

Please note that whilst teachers will continue to post some activities next week, they will also be in school preparing for August, so online availability will be reduced.

School officially closes at 1pm on Wednesday (we will be open until 3 for key worker’s children, however) and nothing more will be posted on Showbie after that.

Enjoy the break, everyone!

Happy Holidays!

See you all in August!!

