



Shawlands Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, it has been so lovely having the P1-3 pupils back in school this week. They have all been so excited and happy to get straight to work- it has been a joy to see. Mind you, there are a few wee tired faces this Friday afternoon, so I hope that you all have a relaxing weekend. Let's just keep our fingers crossed that the P4-7 pupils can join us all back in school soon too.

I have a few updates for you:

- As you know, our teachers have been working really hard to drive the learning forward by posting teaching videos and being available for live feedback every day, but I know that some of the children who are not back at school yet would enjoy seeing their teachers and classmates virtually since they cannot do so in person. We now have the facility to have live meetings on Showbie, so from next week all P4-7 pupils will have the opportunity to have a live virtual check in. Please encourage your children to check their class Showbie for dates and times. It would be lovely if as many of the children as possible could join in, but please don't worry if your child is unable to participate. Core teaching and learning will still be delivered by recorded video or link which can be accessed to suit your family's schedule.
- It is lovely to see so many of you again in the mornings and afternoons, but please remember that it is still vitally important that we follow the rules on social distancing for adults at pick up/ drop off if we want to keep the virus under control and get all of our children back to school. Please only come into the playground if you are picking up P1 or P2 children, come in and leave by the designated gate and leave as soon as you have your child. The following is an extract from the letter sent last week by Jason Leitch reminding us of these guidelines:
 1. Wear a face covering, both at drop off and pick up time, but also if there are congested areas nearby.
 2. Reduce congestion at pick up/drop off time. Please limit it to one adult at drop off/pick up time.
 3. Keep 2 metres away from other adults, whether you are waiting for your child or walking to or from school or nursery and avoid gathering in groups with other parents. (Even if you can maintain 2 metres distance you may create congestion that makes it difficult for others to keep a safe distance when they pass.)
 4. Avoid car shares and limit use of public transport.
 5. Be vigilant for any symptoms in your household, and follow the Test and Protect guidance if anyone displays symptoms.

There has also been additional guidance to say that as of last week all close contacts of a positive Covid 19 case should get a test too.

- World Book Day takes place next Thursday, 4th March. Children who are coming into the hub may come dressed as their favourite book character or come prepared for a story in their pyjamas. It would be great if children at home would join in too and share their photographs on the class Showbie. There will be more exciting activities online and in class so that everyone can engage in what is usually one of the best days in school! Keep an eye on Showbie for further information!
- We are due to have our parents evenings in the next few weeks. Obviously we are unable to meet you face to face in school, so teachers will be making telephone calls to the parents of the children in their class. As we only have two telephone lines in school this will be a logistical challenge, so the appointments will be spread out from week beginning 8th March and will be completed before the spring break. We will be in touch beforehand to let you know when to expect a call and we would be very grateful if you could prioritise this time slot if possible, but if it is really unsuitable please let us know and we will rearrange.
- Tonight sees the very first Parent Council virtual school disco. Joining details were sent out yesterday, and we are really looking forward to seeing as many of the children there as possible, so get practising those moves and we hope to see you online later.

Apologies for the length of this letter and thank you for your patience in sticking with it to the end. I have just returned to school having been unwell and I wanted to make sure you had all the important information.

Let's hope the sun keeps shining and that we all have an enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes,

Theresa

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