**St Blane’s Primary**

**October Newsletter 2020**

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that you all managed to have some valuable family time over the October break. As we are now in Term 2, it is a good time to update you on some issues.

**School priorities**

Our 2020/2021 school priorities are:

1. Health, wellbeing and inclusion

Focusing on learning across literacy, numeracy and health and well-being will be the initial priority. *“Recognition that good health and well-being is fundamental to ensuring that children and young people can engage effectively in their learning.” Scot Gov June 2020*

Learning outdoors, being active, positive, growth mind-set

2: Raising Attainment - Continue to raise attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

3: Learning, Teaching and Assessment – Building staff and pupil’s knowledge and skills through digital technology.

If you have any questions relating to our school priorities please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**New School Values**

After our Values consultation with parents, pupils and staff (what seems like a very long time ago) at January’s Parents’ night, we have our final 5. The children have been working hard creating characters for each new Value which will be decided upon soon. Our new values are:

***RESPECT LOVE RESPONSIBILITY HONESTY KINDNESS***

Classes are beginning to work on each value share this with others.

**Reporting to parents**

As part of our normal procedures on reporting, you would normally have had an opportunity for a face to face meeting with your child’s teacher this term. Due to on-going restrictions, we are not able to facilitate this. I am currently working with staff to agree an interim report that will be emailed to you this term, which will provide you with an update of your child’s progress. If you wish to speak to the class teacher directly this can be arranged. This is a temporary measure and we pray that we can open our doors again and welcome everyone in the near future. We now have 92% of children engaging with Seesaw for homework. Staff have uploaded their meet the teacher videos and the range of activities completed by the children is really impressive. Thank you for your continued support with this. If you still have issues getting on, please contact the school office. Thank you to those that responded to our request about your devices and wifi at home. Our collated information has been sent to head office and we await the outcome of our bid for family support.

**School Flu Immunisation programme 2020**

As you may have seen in the media, all children are being offered the flu vaccine. School Nursing teams will be in school on Thursday 29th October 2020 to immunise all pupils. Most consent forms have been returned but if you still have this at home, please get in touch with the school office.

**Bags and lunches**

Except for P7 (who need their bags to transport their Ipads daily), children do not need to bring a bag to school. They are still provided with everything they need in class at this time. You can however now bring a lunch bag/box to school if you wish from Monday 26th October. This is now a risk for your assessment and consideration. If you still want to use disposable bags that is absolutely fine.

**IPad deployment**

Our P7 pupils have now all received their Ipads and are able to log on successfully. We were not due to receive these until March so are delighted they came early. P6 Ipads will be next and I will keep you posted on arrival dates (due possibly January 2021) From there on the roll out will be class groups of Ipads to be used in class.

**PE and Outdoor Learning**

Following guidelines all PE will remain outdoors until the next review. Children have been really enjoying their outdoor learning experiences also. Please keep an eye on our Twitter page. P1-P3 have waterproof clothing to support their outdoor learning and thank you to everyone who sent in wellies. I am currently sourcing funding to ensure P4 to P7 also have this clothing. As the weather is very changeable at the moment please ensure you child comes to school suitably dressed to keep warm and dry. I have spoken to all classes today and ensured that they will all be wearing their jackets outdoors at all times. If you wish to provide wellies for your child, you can send them into school where they can remain and be used as required.

Please follow us on @StBlanesGCC and @GCParentsGroup on Twitter to keep up to date with school, national and local guidelines.

**Covid -19 Risk assessments**

Our school risk assessment is continually being updated, supported by GCC Health & Safety staff. We have noticed an increased number of latecomers who pass through the school office as they arrive after 9am. We still need to insist that all children join their class at their specified door to reduce contact inside the building. I appreciate running late can happen and children can come to the office entrance on these occasions but persistent late coming is detrimental to your child’s learning and is jeopardising our Risk Assessment for the safety of staff and children. Thank you for your continued support with this.

**New P1 children Enrolment week**

This year Enrolment week for new P1 children is: 2nd-6th November 2020

Your child must have attained the age of 5 years between 1st March 2021 and the 28th February 2021. To register you should now complete an Online application and submit no later than 6th November 2020. For online applications visit:

*Glasgow city council website – schools and learning - Enrolment*

**Halloween**

We are looking forward to our Halloween fun day next Friday and our Parent council have very kindly organised a goody bag for each child on this day. Thank you Parent Council for your continued support. Our Parent council have been successful in a bid for funding to ASDA of £400. This went towards the infant classes outdoor clothing along with the most recent Non-uniform day money and our school fund. For those that do not wish their child to participate in any Halloween activities, please contact the school office and this will be reflected in your child’s day.

Finally, huge congratulations to our P5 children who celebrated their First Holy Communion in the Immaculate Conception this month. They were all so reverent and prepared. Well done children! We look forward to those P4 children who are making their First Reconciliation this Saturday. Please keep all the children in your prayers.

I will update you on Christmas activities in the next newsletter.

Kind regards,



Lara McVey,

Head Teacher

St Blane’s Primary