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Wednesday 5th August 2020

**Welcome Back Newsletter**

Dear Parents, Carers and Seafield Pupils,

We’re delighted to be back in school all of this week getting ready for you coming back on Wednesday 12th August. Our school buildings and grounds are looking fantastic, thanks to everyone’s hard work in June and also Mr McBride and our Cleaning Team over the Summer holidays. I hope you’ve all enjoyed a break from the online Learning and managed some relaxation over the holiday period, to have fun and enjoy yourselves.

I’ve cut and paste the key information issued in the End of Term Newsletter as a reminder of how we’ll be moving forward into the new session. Please see details below, issued at the end of term to you.

**Seafield Recovery Plan – 100% of Pupils Back to School, August 2020**

We plan **at this stage** for all children to return to school 5 days a week as of Wednesday 12th August.

We welcome our New P1 pupils who are going to be coming to school for half days on the first 2 weeks of term and then full days from the 3rd week. P1 pupils will be accompanied by their parents and carers at drop off (9.15am) and pick up (12.15pm). P1 parents and carers are asked to socially distance and use the ‘spots’ at the P1 lines.

All other year groups will be coming into the school grounds by themselves**. Please note that parents, carers and members of the public will not be permitted in the school grounds.** Please see below the practical information you need to know for starting back. Some of this has already been issued in the individual letters with details of your child/children’s classes.

* Walk to School – Please can all families encourage their children to walk or cycle to school. We need to avoid congestion around the entrances to schools and also minimise traffic. This builds on the Active Travel work we have done for so many years and WOW Programme. Walking to school independently also encourages resilience and good decision making. Parents and carers of infants may wish to walk children to a point which is near the school grounds. Look out in our surrounding area for our new Active Travel Programme and signs
* School Uniform – Please wear school uniform as normal on return to school in August, to include indoor shoes which can be left in the shoe houses in cloakrooms (no laces, unless children are able to tie them themselves). Coats will be hung on the backs of children’s chairs, as this is more in line with risk assessment
* PE Kits – Please come to school on PE days (announced Week 1) wearing dark joggers and house tee-shirts. Sweatshirts can be worn on top and left on pupils’ desks
* Visiting Staff – We are unsure about time-tabling of visiting staff as yet, this will be confirmed in August
* Late Collection – Any pupils not collected at the end of the school day should return to reception. The Wee Rainbow Room will be used as an Isolation Area for pupils feeling unwell, as we will not be permitted to have the soft seating in Reception
* Taxi Stop – Our taxi pupils will be dropped off at the old ‘Nursery’ car park, where support staff will collect them and escort to class
* Bags, Mobile Phones and Water Bottles – Children will not be able to take their bags or phones to school, so water bottles will need to be kept in school and on the floor underneath desks and taken home every day. Please phone the school office, or email if you need to make arrangements with regard to collection or appointments which are different to the norm as we will be unable to guarantee the safety of a mobile phone in school. Thank you.
* Playground – Playtimes will be as ‘normal’ as pupils don’t need to socially distance in school
* Lunches – We don’t have any information as yet, but would expect pupils may have to bring packed lunch, with free school meals being provided either by voucher or packed lunch from canteen. A separate packed lunch box may be brought and only items which children are able to unwrap or open independently
* Staff Appointments – Please can we ask parents and carers respectfully, not to approach staff at the start or end of the school day, or come to school reception; as members of the public will not be permitted in the school grounds, with the exception of P1 parents/carers or parents/carers of children with needs who will drop and collect them at our learning Lounge door. All communication needs to be maintained online or by telephone. Thank you for your co-operation in doing this
* Lining Up – This will be as normal for pupils, cones will be set out on the first day of term and staff will be in the playground to help pupils. New pupils, Mrs Cull will be in touch to go over arrangements with parents and carers. We will email the class lines plan during the week of 4th August
* Homework – Homework will all be set online via GLOW. Please continue to support your child/children in learning this way. We may also need to return to Blended Learning if there is a resurgence or another lockdown, so it is important to be up to speed with glow. We can help with technical difficulties if need be

**NEW INFORMATION**

We were able to give you most of the information required, but also promised to be back in touch this week with anything new – so here it is ~

* Lunch Arrangements – We are encouraging pupils to bring a packed lunch to school, if possible and it is suggested that hand wipes or a small sanitiser is carried in the children’s boxes. School canteens **will be open** and will provide a **cold lunch option** for all pupils who wish to order, payment must be made through IPayImpact as we are unable to handle cash

Pupils in P4-7 who are entitled to free school meals will be supplied with a lunch provided by our canteen.

All P1-3 pupils in Scotland were previously entitled to a free school meal, however this programme has now stopped. All P1- 3 pupils should either bring a packed lunch or order lunch from the canteen.

Please make contact with Mrs Cull in our school office; if you wish to enquire about a free school lunch for your child

* Lining Up – Mr Collins takes great pride in organising our ‘cones’ system for lining up on day 1 of the school session. He will be working on this in the coming days and we’ll be posting a photo on the Parent Partnership page, school website and Twitter. Look out for your child/children’s new lining up spot which will be used for the remainder of the school year
* Cloakrooms – These will only be used for outdoor/indoor shoes changing, coats will be kept in class at this stage and also packed lunch boxes
* Playtimes – morning and lunch breaks will be staggered for pupils and staff to minimise congestion. We aim to keep numbers of pupils and staff in any one area below 50, so have a clear plan to stagger morning interval and lunch breaks
* Washing Uniform – please wash uniform regularly to minimise risk of cross-infection
* Bags/pencil cases – We are sorry that we are unable to permit pencil cases and school bags at this stage. This is so that we are minimising cross-infection between home and school
* Covid 19 Symptoms **– It is now more imperative than ever that children are not sent to school if ill. Please strictly adhere to these rules, as we cannot take the risk of an outbreak at Seafield and a potential school closure**. Please also ensure that we have up to date emergency contact details for you if your child/children should become ill during the school day, as if we are unable to make contact with you, Public Health will be contacted.

**Moray Education Parent/Carer Guide and Learner Guide**

These excellent guides for parents, carers and pupils will be issued by all schools on Thursday and Friday this week, ahead of the new term starting. Please take time to read the important information contained within and go over the details with your child/children. Thank you.

**And finally….**

Please remember, Covid 19 is still very real in locations not far from us. I do need to ask every member of our Seafield community to **follow the rules** set out by us as a staff. We need to get our pupils and community back to some kind of normality, but this will have to be done slowly in accordance with Scottish Government guidelines. Please take care, stay safe and don’t take any chances. I look forward to the new session starting next week.

Yours Sincerely,

Morven Snodgrass

Head Teacher