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|  | **EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  **Morven Snodgrass**  **Head Teacher**  Seafield Primary School  Deanshaugh Terrace  Elgin  IV30 4ES  Telephone: 01343 547792 | | |
| 5 January 2021 | | | email: admin.seafieldp@moray-edunet.gov.uk  Website: www.moray.gov.uk  Your reference:  Our reference: MS/AWC |

**Seafield – January 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to all families and a big thank you to our followers on Twitter and our Seafield website, for keeping up to date with hot off the press news during the holiday period. As you will know by now, online learning starts as of Monday 11th January but there is limited Child-Care provided as of tomorrow, Wednesday 6th January.

**Spring Term**

As predicted for some time now, we are now into our 2nd Lockdown but the landscape is different this time around, as schools are open. Leadership Teams will be working from school every day and also staff who do not have a Class Teacher commitment will be attending work in person, in many cases.

We are seeing an increase in local cases, due to the faster transmission of Covid-19. We are ramping up our systems and procedures in order to deal with this. We have been expecting there to be ICT systemic issues in this 2nd lockdown, which will provide challenges to the procedures for communicating and learning we put in place previously; but we will persevere.

**Communication Systems**

As you know, the challenging situation we are living in can change so quickly. Twitter is the best platform to quickly share Scottish Government, NHS, Education Scotland, Moray Council, Head of Service and Seafield information with all stakeholders. Thank you to our Parent Partnership for supporting us in working together as a school community too, through setting up their new Facebook page earlier in the session.

As we go into the Spring term, we lockdown for a 2nd time but we feel we used the Autumn and Winter terms wisely to prepare all staff and families for this, through ensuring everyone was up to speed in using GLOW to communicate. If necessary, this has meant families having access to laptops from the Scottish Government. Thank you to those who asked for support with these, this will pay dividends in ensuring our pupils stay at pace with their peer group in terms of their continuing Learning and Attainment.

**Class DOJO**

There will be a suspension of Class DOJO until further notice. GLOW mail or email to our school office must be used for all communications with staff. The Seemis Xpressions text alert system from our school office and Moray Council HQ Business Support Team will also be key to receiving information quickly (this relies on parents/carers having given school offices up to date contact details).

**Child-Care at Seafield**

This will be provided for families with 2 essential Key Workers and Vulnerable Families only, as of tomorrow, Wednesday 6th January. We have approximately 46 Key Worker places here and a further 13 Vulnerable Families' places. Vulnerable pupils are at the discretion of the Senior Leadership Team at school and the Key Worker places have been given a yes or no by HQ staff, with final decisions made by Senior Leadership Team in school today. There is no appeal process with regard to Child Care places. This time around, decisions are made at a school level and may change as time goes on, depending on circumstances.

If your child/children are attending for Child-Care, you will have received a phone call already today; last minute requests will be considered tomorrow and Thursday, when this opportunity closes for all Moray Council families.

If attending for Child Care, please can pupils wear normal school uniform, in order that we maintain good behaviour and a positive ethos around the school, thank you. Assistance with uniform is always provided, as we have a huge bank of recycled stock, being an Eco Green Flag School. As previously, carrier bags may be brought but not school bags; in line with our Covid-19 Risk Assessment. We will be at the front of the school to meet and greet pupils arriving, if they have been given a place. A reminder that online learning starts as of Monday 11th January for all children.

**Additional Support Needs**

Some pupils with Additional Support Needs are at school. Again, Senior Leadership Team discretion is to be used with regard to what is most suitable, as some children will fare better at home than in school during these challenging times. We need to be mindful of capacity, infection control and staffing issues particularly for pupils with additional needs. If necessary or appropriate we may offer a reduced day/week to pupils if this will help support them.

**Leadership in our Community**

It is imperative that we continue with the good work from Terms 1 and 2 with regard to Leadership at all levels in our school community. We need to rework our Curriculum Rationale and we have already been working on our Vision and Values Refresh on the Seafield website, in light of Covid-19. Our Attainment predictions are right where they need to be at the moment for our pupils to achieve their expected levels in June, so we have to work hard to maintain this, as school staff and families working together.

**And Finally…**

We worked incredibly well as a school community last time round. Above all, please remember we are a top team and we can do this again - it will be easier second time around, we hope. Please take care, stay at home and stay safe.

Yours Sincerely,

Morven Snodgrass

Head Teacher