



EAST END

Primary School

Education, Communities & Organisational Development



03 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to you and your children for all your efforts in engaging with the remote learning over the past few weeks. There have been 'blips', mainly due to technology problems, and I hope we are now at a point where most IT is working for you. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you are still having problems with this.

I am very proud of all the work I am seeing the children post to their teachers and the positive feedback we have received from both the Parent/Carer survey and the Pupil surveys. Thank you to all of you who have completed these. Your feedback is very valuable as it helps us shape our remote learning provision.

As you are aware, there was an announcement yesterday from the First Minister that the Nursery and P1-P3 may return to school from 22nd February. There will be a further update on this matter on 16th February from the Scottish Government. Meantime, we will make plans for this possible return and then if this is confirmed on the 16th, notify you of arrangements for both the P1-3 return to school and the P4-7 remote learning offer.

Please find below some school updates.

Half term holiday - reminder

The children will not attend the School Hub or be provided with online learning activities on Thursday 4th, Friday 5th and Monday 8th February, due to it being the half-term holiday. Please enjoy this long weekend and take the opportunity to 'take your foot off the pedal' for a wee while.

Remote Learning – Engagement

As this is the second Lockdown that the children have experienced in a year, it is vital that all the children continue to make progress in their learning. All the staff are dedicated to supporting families as much as they can with remote learning, so please do not hesitate to contact the relevant class teacher or the school, should you be experiencing problems such as difficulties with devices / accessing work or any support required with activities. We are here to help you and would rather you make contact than try to struggle on if there is a problem.



“A school that is proud”



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I must bring to your attention that there is an expectation that pupils are engaging with learning every day Monday – Friday. If your child is not engaging with their remote learning then this is recorded on the class register and the class teacher will call you to enquire as to the reason for this.

Also just to remind you, that should your child/ren be unwell and not able to undertake learning at home on a day then please contact the school office and we will mark this on the register.

Children in the Hub

Please note that if your child is attending the school hub for part of the week then there is an expectation that they are continuing with their school work at home on the days they are not in the hub.

Each day at school pupils enjoy a morning break, and if they can fit it in, an afternoon break too. During these break times, they are offered the opportunity to eat a snack. Therefore please can you provide 2 snacks to school. These should be healthy, such as a piece of fruit.

In addition, while in the School Hub, your child will usually participate in an outdoor activity, daily. Therefore, can you please also ensure that your child/ren come to school on the days they are in the Hub with suitable outdoor clothing such as wellies, warm jacket and wet weather trousers if they have them. Thank you.

Finally, I would like to remind you that the school meal choices are currently on a 2 weekly rotation. A copy of this was e-mailed yesterday.

Contacting the Teacher/School

As mentioned previously, we welcome parents/carers contacting the school with any questions, concerns or comments. Ways to contact the school are either by phone between 9am – 4pm (01343 542381) or by email (admin.elgineastp@moray-edunet.gov.uk).

During Lockdown you may prefer to email your child's class teacher on their Glow email account or send a message through your child's class Team channels.

Staff will always endeavour to reply to any messages / phone calls as soon as possible, however, there may be times when they are not available. For example, teachers work in the school Hub one day a week, and on these days they may not provide feedback on your child's work until the following day and will not be available to answer messages / emails. The days that teachers are working in the School Hub are as follows:



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Monday: Mrs Fraser (P1-3) and Ms Williams (P4-7)

Tuesday: Mrs Taggart (P1-3) and Mrs Hanover (P4-7)

Wednesday: Miss Petrie (P1-3) and Ms Williams (P4-7)

Thursday: Miss Stirling (P1-3) and Mr Hopkirk (P4-7)

Friday: Mrs Harper (P1-3) and Mrs Bywater (P4-7)

Please also be aware that if emails or messages are sent to staff after 3pm then they may not be responded to until the next day as the teacher may be undertaking other duties such as attending meetings/planning for the next weeks learning etc. Please can e-mails not be sent at weekends either as both you, and the teachers, need to ensure that time is taken to 'switch off' and recharge. I appreciate your understanding of this.

Linkwood

Linkwood Primary School have now moved into their new building at the Linkwood site. We would like to wish them all the very best and thank them for being such super neighbours while they were with us at East End.

We would also like to thank them for the very generous leaving gifts they gave the children and staff before they left. I know the pupils at East End will really enjoy playing with all the outdoor play resources they gifted us and the staff will enjoy the yummy chocolates when we are allowed to share these treats in the staffroom again! The children in the school Hub have been busy creating thank you cards this week.

Yours faithfully,

Gail McIntosh
Head Teacher



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