



Muirhouse Primary and Nursery Class

November 2020

"Dream, Believe, Work, Achieve."

Happy Safe Learning Trust Friendship Kindness Respect

Dear Parents and Carers

This is a short newsletter to bring you up to date with recent and forthcoming news. There will continue to be regular email updates and social media posts.

STAFFING, SCHOOL MEAL CHARGES AND CROSSING PATROLS

You should have received a separate letter detailing some changes to staffing that have had to be made in response to support staff vacancies, risk assessments and the ongoing issue of staff having to self-isolate for extended periods of time. Your patience and understanding during these challenging times is very much appreciated.

You should also have received separate letters from NLC regarding increased school meal charges and the cessation of lunchtime crossing patrols.

If you are not receiving school emails, please contact the school office to check your email address corresponds with the one on the system.

Remember to keep your contact details updated using Parent Portal.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

In line with Government guidelines, parents are now required to wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up children from school. Please be mindful of social distancing at pick up times and avoid loitering around the gates.

PUPIL ABSENCES

It is essential that parents notify the SCHOOL OFFICE of all pupil absences before 9.30am to ensure accurate and timely completing of the registration process. It is necessary to know the reason for each absence and how long it is likely to continue.

SELF-ISOLATION

Guidelines around self-isolation have changed since the previous newsletter.

Currently, anyone notified by Test and Protect or Public Health that they have been in contact with a positive case will self-isolate for 14 days from the day of contact. Other household members do not

need to isolate unless there is a positive case within the household. Please notify the school if your family has been directed to self-isolate. Pupils in this position will have access to learning activities through GLOW Teams and See Saw. Free meal vouchers will also be arranged for those who normally receive this in school.

Pupils should be aware of their login details for GLOW and other online platforms such as Sumdog. Parents can sign up for See Saw by providing the class teacher with their email address.

PAYING FOR LUNCHES

Payment for school meals is now online. Please ensure that your child has sufficient money on their cards to pay for meals taken.

VENTILATION

You will be aware that guidelines state that the building remains well ventilated throughout the day. This does cause us some problems, especially when wet and windy, and whilst we do endeavour to keep the classes well heated and well ventilated in all weathers, it can become draughty. Please ensure that your child wears adequate clothing during the winter months.

PLAYGROUND

The playground is prone to puddles and muddy areas. Please be aware that pupils are repeatedly told to stay out of muddy areas. Even so, sometimes muddy shoes are unavoidable and slips and falls can occur. Your understanding is very much appreciated.

HALLOWEEN

Well done for all the creative ideas. Thanks to the parent council for donating the medals. The day provided some light relief.

HOUSE TREAT

Well done to Oak House for being victorious in the Term 1 house contest. They have chosen a screening of the movie "Onward" as their treat. This will take place on **Friday 6th November**. It will be



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necessary to have two screenings to ensure adequate space to seat and group pupils safely. On Friday, pupils of Oak House only, may dress as they please free of charge. No football colours please.

POPPY SCOTLAND

Poppies have now arrived in school. Pupils will not be coming round the school as usual but poppies will be available from the hall at lunchtimes. House Captains and Vice Captains will oversee this. A donation of 50p or more is recommended.

CHILDREN IN NEED DAY-FRIDAY 13th NOVEMBER

Merchandise has been ordered to sell in school. Pudsey and Blush headbands are £2.50 and wristbands are £1. As soon as these arrive, they will also be on sale in the hall at lunchtimes. Pupils should bring the correct money, as no change will be given.

On Friday 13th November, all pupils can dress down. Spots or Children in Need merchandise is permitted but not necessary. A suggested donation of £1 should be brought on the day. Again change will not be given.

IN-SERVICE DAY

The school will be closed to all pupils on Monday 16th November for a staff in-service day.

STAFF CHANGE DAY

Miss Finnie will start delivering teacher non-class contact time and Mrs Savva will take over P6a on Tuesday 17th November. Mrs Muir will deliver learning support from this date.

FLU IMMUNISATION

This will take place on Wednesday 18th November. There will be a follow up day on 9th December for any pupils who were absent on the 18th November.

PARENT COUNCIL AGM

This will happen via Webex on Thursday 26th November. If you would like to attend, please email ht@muirhouse.n-lanark.sch.uk to be added to the invite list.

There will no doubt be further updates which will be communicated via email and social media. Your ongoing support and cooperation is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Gillian Matthews
Head Teacher