Dear Families,

I hope you all had a lovely summer holiday and we look forward to working with you all again this new school year. On returning to school we received updated COVID information from NLC in line with Scottish Government guidelines and we have been asked to issue the attached Question and Answer Letter to you from our Executive Director. As you will be aware, although things are looking much better we are being asked to maintain, for now, many of our routines we had in place prior to the holidays to continue to keep our school community as safe as possible while the impact of schools returning is measured.

Therefore the following points remain in place-

* Staggered drop off and collection times
P4-7 8.45-2.45

P1-3/4 9-3

* Use of designated gates at drop off and collection time ( as outlined in the letter sent to you in June)
* Families are required to wear face coverings at these times and on any time visiting school reception
* Staff required to wear face coverings around school communal areas and if in close contact with pupils
* Staff still required to be socially distant
* Good hand hygiene procedures throughout school day still promoted
* Staggered intervals and lunch breaks
* Use of different entry /exit points for upper and lower corridors
* Good ventilation throughout school
* No large groups or assemblies
* Cashless system still in place. All monies need to be paid online. P.1-4 pupils are all entitled to free school meals from Monday 16th August 21.

Good news – children can now participate fully in expressive arts and PE indoors and as bubble restrictions have been eased children no longer need to stick to zones for intervals and can choose their seat on their allocated class table at lunch time to enable them to socialise with friends.

We would very much appreciate it if families could still keep us notified of any concerns around symptoms, positive tests or self-isolation.

Class Teachers will issue their own letter later this week outlining PE days/KIT and plans for homework. We still intend to make use of our ICT systems for communicating with you all and will refresh information as soon as possible.

For now please return the Annual Data Check, which we will send home to P.1 pupils in schoolbags and we will email them to all P.2-7 pupils, later this week ASAP to ensure we have the correct mobile number and email address for us to be able to contact you by text or email.

We very much hope there will be less disruption this session and that indeed some of the above restrictions will be lifted soon but for now this will enable us to settle our children into their new classes in routines they are for now familiar with. We can then work in partnership to introduce and communicate changes as advised by our local authority and the Scottish Government.

Here's hoping for a settled, safe and productive year!

Lynn McFadden HT

NB- To contact school 01236 -632062 or new HT email

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