



ST. AIDAN'S

Primary School, Nursery Class and
Language & Communication Support Centre

January 2021

Issue 5

NEWSLETTER

To Our St. Aidan's School Family,

Happy New Year! I hope this newsletter finds you all safe and well.

Following the news of school closures due to a sharp rise in cases of COVID throughout the country, the staff and I have been working flat out to prepare our Digital Learning Plan. I appreciate that this did not get off to the best start with GLOW crashing on the first day but things seem to be back on track. With all forms of digital learning there may be a few glitches from time to time... please bear with us and let us know if you have ongoing technical difficulties and we can try to together to work things out. I know how difficult it can be to work from home and support your child in their home learning...**please do what you can**, the most important thing is that you all stay well and safe.

During this second period of lockdown our school will be open every day. We are keeping the number of adults in school to a minimum for everyone's safety but we will be available at the end of the phone or on email or on Teams to answer questions and support the Digital Learning going on at home. We will arrange a parent consultation next week to gather your views on the digital learning so far... I urge all families to respond to this short survey so that we can ensure we are providing the most appropriate support for you and your family.

I thank you all, in anticipation, for your support in the coming weeks.

With renewed prayers and good wishes,

Mrs McLean



Growing in Faith, Learning for Life

Digital Learning in St.Aidan's PS

Digital Learning will undoubtedly be one of the most useful tools in the current situation. Many of you engaged with this during the first lockdown and we would encourage everyone to get on board this time around. In the next page or two, there is an outline of all of the opportunities available.

Our main delivery platform will be Microsoft Teams. Every child has been issued with their login details on multiple occasions, however, if you do not have these at home, then please contact us via telephone, or email and we will get them to you.

SUMDOG

SUMDOG provides users with personalised Maths and Spelling practice through fun and engaging games. Teachers can monitor progress and set tasks and challenges. Children can play individual games, or they can link with other children across the school and even the country. There Are motivational tools included to encourage children to improve on their personal best.

Every child in North Lanarkshire schools has been provided with a SUMDOG login as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge. SUMDOG will be a familiar thing for most of our children, but perhaps not our parents.

If your child does not have their login details, please email or contact us at the school.



Studyladder

Studyladder offers a sequential learning program that includes videos, interactive activities and worksheets .

It cater for all learning needs from early level to senior level.

Most importantly children like using Studyladder.

They receive instant feedback on what they need to learn, rewards and certificates for achievement, while parents and teachers receive information on progress.



EPIC

EPIC gives the children an opportunity to access 50,000 texts! They can choose their own texts, however, Teachers will also assign texts to them and these will be accompanied by follow up tasks. This can also be used as a source for audio books.

Oxford Owl

Oxford Owl offers resources to support home learning. It provides the children with educational activities and games and has an ebook library for 3-11 year olds.



Office 365 Pro Plus allows all *Glow* users to download the latest version of the *Microsoft Office Suite* on to a total of 15 home machines and personal devices, **free of charge**. This provides access to a range of products such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and OneNote.



See the digital learning help section of the app for guidance.



Digital Learning in St.Aidan's PS

Home Learning Support January 2021

Please take a few moments to read over this guidance to help you understand the support in place to assist you and your family with home learning.

How will the learning be structured?

Our teaching staff have been working really hard to plan, prepare and up-skill themselves to deliver content in a range of ways to support different family circumstances. Home learning activities will take place in following formats:

Live Lessons - These will be timetabled at the beginning of the week and taking place on Microsoft Teams. This will be an opportunity for your child to check in with their class teacher and classmates. The times of the lessons will vary from class to class and more information will follow from individual teachers.

Online Lessons - These are lessons which children can access online, at a time that suits your families' needs. This includes tasks on Sumdog, or accessing pre-recorded PowerPoints set in the files section of Teams.

Offline lessons - Offline tasks will be set that your child can do without any need for a device. This may include outdoor learning or paper based activities. *Our aim is that by planning for all three formats, we will engage as many of our learners as possible.*

How many lessons does my child need to complete?

We understand how difficult it can be to support home learning, especially when parent/cares are working from home. Our hope is that if possible, your child can check in with their teacher at one point each day and work through as many tasks as they can *without causing stress to your family.*

What can I expect from my child's class teacher?

A weekly overview of lessons will be posted on the individual class section of the school app by 9.30am each Monday morning. *On some days, your child's class teacher will then be online and available to be contacted by the pupil using Microsoft Teams.* Please remember that our school is still open to key worker and identified families and that our teaching staff will also be supporting learning onsite.

What can I expect from my child?

North Lanarkshire has set guidelines for pupils to follow during online learning. These include:

- Only using GLOW as a way of class communication
- Dressing appropriately for live lessons
- Behaving appropriately online - Microsoft Teams should not be used as a social media site
- Children DO NOT have permission to record, screenshot or share any virtual learning
- Show respect for everyone in the online class environment

We would appreciate you taking a moment to discuss this with your child in advance.

What is expected of parents/carers? If possible, use of a mobile phone or digital device to access Microsoft Teams either via the app or online via Glow. Please make use of the user guides which are available on the digital help section of our school app to get help with this. We would ask that parents check the app on Monday morning to see the learning schedule for the week ahead. Finally, North Lanarkshire guidance is clear that **parent/carers should not be using the video interaction to engage with teaching staff during live lessons.** If you need any support with home learning, please contact the school office on 01698 522702 or email Miss Jones at gw10jonesgillian@glow.sch.uk

Nurture | Loving | Respect | Achieving | Inclusion

OUR TEACHING STAFF

In order to accommodate the provision for children who are in school, we have organised a staff rota to cover classes. This will mean that your child's Teacher will be in school every 2nd week and that they may not answer questions quite so quickly as they usually do! However, each bubble has 3 or 4 Teachers assigned to it (to accommodate this) and therefore another Teacher may be supporting on particular days.

Please also remember that, when working from home, Teachers may also have their own children to support. Therefore, some Teachers will work at different times of the day to accommodate their own home situations - just as many of you will.

However, as you can see from the outline on the previous page, there are multiple times throughout the day when our staff will be online (over an above any other times that they arrange with children). This will ensure daily contact between home and school.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team will be in school every day as well as staff should require to speak with someone



FREE SCHOOL MEALS DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES

A payment system has been set up for pupils who receive free school meals - this includes all primary 1 to primary 3 pupils and all eligible P4-7 children.

Parents and carers of pupils who receive free school meals will be sent a message each week from the council. It will include a voucher code for £10.00 per week, per child.

The message will be sent either as a text message to your mobile phone or by email.

For more information, please email the free school meals team on: FME@northlan.gov.uk.

To apply for Free School Meals, please go to:

www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

NORTH LANARKSHIRE FINANCIAL INCLUSION TEAM

The aim of the North Lanarkshire Financial Inclusion Team is help families **MAXIMISE** their income and support them to achieve healthy finances. They can advise on benefits, housing, rent, financial difficulties of all kinds. They also provide budgeting help and support.

You can contact them by email and they will get in touch with you to see how they can help you. Many people are experiencing hardship and have had their circumstances change either due to COVID or some other reason. Please, please get in touch with the team or even contact Mrs McLean at the school and I will make a referral on your behalf. Email: FIT@northlan.gov.uk

Health and Safety

If your child or anyone in your household displays any symptoms...

Common symptoms are:

- a high temperature or fever
- a new continuous cough
- a loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste
- Note: A new, continuous cough means coughing for longer than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours. If you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual. The whole household should isolate until a test can be carried out.
- Your **entire household** should isolate until a test can be carried out.
- You should inform the school ASAP. When the results of the test are know, you should contact us again ASAP.
- If you have more than one child (even if they attend different schools/nurseries) you should keep them all off until the results of our test are known.

Remember FACTS for a safer Scotland

F Face coverings 

A Avoid crowded places 

C Clean your hands regularly 

T Two metre distance 

S Self isolate and book a test if you have symptoms 

nhsinform.scot/coronavirus
#WeAreScotland

Healthier Scotland
NHS SCOTLAND


CORONAVIRUS
STAY SAFE
PROTECT OTHERS
SAVE LIVES

NHS Lothian


Keep our school safe

Stay apart when dropping off or collecting your children

2 metres



Don't stand in groups



Remember FACTS
Go to nhsinform.scot/coronavirus

Anyone 5 years and over, who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus, can now get tested.

If you have a high temperature, persistent cough, or loss, or change, of taste or smell, you can now get a test.

You can book a slot at a drive-through testing centre. Or request a test kit to be delivered to your home.

If you have symptoms, you should only leave your house to go for a test.

Otherwise, you should follow self-isolation guidelines and stay at home for 7 days. And anyone in your household should stay in for 14 days.

To find out more and book your test go to www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. If you can't get online, call 0300 303 2713.



Healthier Scotland
NHS SCOTLAND

CORONAVIRUS
STAY HOME
PROTECT THE NHS
SAVE LIVES

Nurture | Loving | Respect | Achieving | Inclusion