



Coupar Angus Primary School

Newsletter 9

April 2020

Dear all,

I hope families managed to have a restful and fun Easter break, albeit of a different kind!

At least the weather was good and brought us all some sun when most needed!

We are now into Term 4 and I hope you are getting back into this new routine of home learning.

We know this does not look the same for every family and is dependent on so many things. Working patterns of parents, number of children and family members, access to IT and paper resources, craft materials, reading materials all affect home learning.

Please remember the number one priority during this time is the health and wellbeing of your family and if the home learning is tricky you can get in touch (via seesaw or the email couparangus@pkc.gov.uk) You can ask us (or class teacher) to give you a call, to discuss some other alternatives or tell us you are having a break for a bit if that is what is needed.

I do also have the school mobile phone home as well. **So, you can call: 07500 606407** and leave a message or text and I will call you back, or ask a teacher to call you. This will be on from 9-12 every day, and I will collect messages and return them when I can. However, the email address is the quickest way to get in touch with me and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Our priority is to support in any way we can and that is different for each family. However, we are here to help and if there is anything we can do, please let us know.

We have sent home a flyer about the Community Larder and more information is included in this newsletter.

School will also open once a fortnight (this may change) so we can gather resources and send or deliver them, or you can pick up.

Next school opening time:

Tuesday 5th May from 10.30- 12.00

We plan to set up a table in the playground or hall for families to collect jotters, pencils, other resources, or come and ask for something else. We will follow social distancing rules and ask people to wait 2 metres apart.

Do come along if you would like a jotter or pencils etc.

If you cannot make it, let us know and Mrs McLellen will try and deliver them to your door! Many thanks.

We asked you to complete a survey for us and a huge thank you to all of you who did this. We've had 29 responses and lots of positive feedback about the home learning. Some aspects raised we will now look into and get back to some of you. Thank you. Do remember you can email at any time with more feedback or questions.

We sent out some more paper packs to some families after Easter for those who are sharing devices or have limited access. If you would like a home pack, let the teacher know. We feel the online learning is better as it allows teachers to give feedback, and communicate more easily, but for some families paper packs work better and we want to make it as easy as possible for you.

Again a huge thank you to mums, dads and all the family members for your efforts during this time. I hope you are finding some joy in your children's learning. I have a high school pupil

at home and am learning German in my spare time with him! (I am not very good!)
I know as home learning continues many of you will worry about the impact on your child's education in the longer term. However, in my experience children who have been off school for several months can catch up on any missed learning on their return.

We will plan the return to school very carefully and look at any gaps in learning and revisit key learning.

If you can do some reading, writing and maths, alongside lots of fun activities, you are doing an amazing job! However, don't worry and do keep in touch!

For the latest information about HUBs and education please see the PKC twitter @PKCEducation and website pkc.gov.uk/education pages.

Coupar Angus Community Larder

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING HARDSHIP DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS?...WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

Essential food items and fresh produce available. No referrals required and fully confidential.

We also have arts materials, books and games available for EVERYONE

(Primary School jotters and pencils available for Coupar Angus PS pupils)

Open every Tuesday and Friday, 10.00am – 2.00pm.

WHERE? Bank of Scotland House, Union Street, Coupar Angus, PH13 9AE

Contact us:
@ Coupar Angus Community Larder
07864 743 017

If you need help and cannot leave the house due to self-isolating, a local volunteer can collect and deliver items for

you from the larder. Please message or call to arrange.

If you would like to donate: We would welcome tinned foods, dried goods, toiletries, or any craft materials, books and games.

Contact details

If you do change your phone number at this time, or your address, please do let us know. It is important we can share information with you and get in touch. Please email couparangus@pkc.gov.uk if you have any changes to tell us.

Keep in contact

We are using seesaw and parentpay to send out newsletters and important information. We also post news on facebook and so you might want to join the private facebook Coupar Angus Primary School group.

Reports

Teachers (and Nursery ECPs) are currently working on the reports. They were due to go out in early June. We will try our best to adhere to this, but they will certainly be emailed or 'See-sawed' out by Friday 12th June. Then paper copies would come once we are back at school. We are considering how best to do this just now. (Paper copies are challenging just now as we are limited to 2 hours in school a week, maximum and printing off reports for the whole school takes 2 days non-stop and so this is a challenge for us just now.) However, it may be we can print for some year groups or families who would prefer this. However, reports will come to you in some format!!

Other Term 4 activities:

Term 4 is normally such a busy term with concerts, sports day, trips, end of term service and transition events for P7 – S1

and nursery – P1 and into new classes and new teachers.

We are thinking about how we can do some of these things in different ways (an online sports day perhaps!!) and some of them we can postpone until next session.

The nursery team and P1 teacher are looking at how we can do virtual transition activities and we are talking to BHS about some virtual transition for the P7's.

Information is coming very soon! Miss Sinclair and myself are working on the final class compositions for next session and more about this will follow soon.

Some things may be postponed and some may not happen, but we will do our best and we all have to remember we have never experienced anything like this before and the reason we are all in lockdown is to save lives and protect the NHS and we need to keep that in our minds at all times.

I have been in touch with SOC and Chairperson, Gill Clark and we will still have ties to give to the new P1s and S1 ties to give to the P7s and we will work out a way to get these to you.

We may look at having a SOC meeting this term via an online platform and if you do want to raise anything with SOC please contact them on socpta.office@gmail.com

Staffing

In the May newsletter I will give an update on the staffing, as there will be some changes next session. However, I would like to say a huge thank you to the school staff who are working the Newhill Hub just now and to all the staff for their dedication and perseverance in learning how to work 'online'! We are lucky to have a great team at Coupar Angus and I am sure you will want me to pass on your thanks as well.

Going forward

We still do not know when schools will return and in what format. I sense that August will not be business as usual and it may be a phased return or part-time schooling for a while, John Swinney mentioned these as points being considered by Scottish Government, in line with scientific guidance and we wait to hear further plans. However, there are some positives we will take from this time and certainly the community spirit has been very strong in Perthshire. I wish you all a safe journey through these challenging times and I would also like to thank all the teachers for their hard work on preparing the online resources and learning new skills very quickly.

Mrs N Drew

