

27th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Normally at this time, I'd be wishing you all a Happy Easter. Unfortunately, the holidays this year will be very different, with everyone stuck inside, so let's make the most of the extra family time we'll all have and break out the Scrabble and Hungry Hippos!

I understand that last Thursday's announcement about schools closing has put a huge strain on parents and carers, who now in addition to the 24/7 care of children, are being asked to home school too. Last week, while the team frantically tried to produce learning packs and set up a virtual school, your children were fantastic and handled the situation very well. Many of them helped the staff; without this help, we may not have managed, so I want to pay tribute to and thank them all – they are outstanding!

We are phoning families to give the opportunity to discuss any support you may need – considering the current lockdown this will be limited, but we feel a supportive call may be of help; please be aware that the numbers we use will be withheld.

The mental and emotional health of our children and parents and carers is of high importance at this time. Parents and carers do not need the unrealistic burden that they should replace their child's school at a time when life is as uncertain as it's ever been, so please take time in the early days of schools closing to allow your children to talk and question and discuss and play and read and enjoy this extra and unexpected family time.

Lessons will be posted in the classrooms from Monday 30th March until Thursday 2nd April. In these few days leading up to the holidays there is time for children to try out their virtual classrooms. During the Easter break, we will not be posting lessons; this will give children and families the chance to step back and relax for a well-earned rest. We will post a few fun challenges and some health and wellbeing activities for anyone who wants a wee challenge over the holidays!

Lessons will start again on Monday 20th April. We know that you will support your child/children in ways that suit them as individuals and you as a family. 😊 You know your child/children best, so please judge the time when you are both ready to start to work on the tasks and resources we have provided.



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LEADERS AWARD



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Head Teacher: Mrs MC Temple – BEd., SQH

Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn

Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley PA1 1TZ

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In some families there are children and babies of different ages and stages and this will be particularly difficult to manage – remember, we are here to help you. We understand that in some houses, families will be trying to share a device among many, and that device is perhaps also needed for a parent to work from home. So please continue to use the learning packs.

We as a team are also planning for the future, when this crisis is over and we return to school. Please be assured that there will be a plan in place to make sure that all our children catch up and that there is also time for the children to come to terms with what has happened. It is especially difficult for the children of Primary 7 and the children about to start in Primary 1, but we are working on that.

I would like to thank the whole staff for their tremendous efforts – we had a virtual team meeting today and all staff are working away in the background as well as working with their own children too. Some of our staff are also working in the hubs schools to provide support to NHS workers.

This is the time when we will come together as a strong school community and decide upon the future priorities for our children. We will do this with the knowledge that we have all done our best, in unprecedented circumstances, for the most important people - your/our children.

Thank you all for working with us in recent weeks. Thank you for your support, for your patience and for the kind messages – these mean a great deal to all our staff.

Finally, please remember that we are all in this together. Our thoughts are with you all - please stay safe and healthy during the coming weeks and when school opens again, return safe and sound.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs MC Temple

Head Teacher



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