



# Heriot News ↴



Thursday 20th August 2020

Welcome back to a new session at Heriot Primary. We look forward to working with you in the year ahead. A special welcome to all the new children in Primary 1 and other classes.

School life is very different at the moment and we appreciate this can be upsetting for everyone. Please be aware that we are following all the guidelines with our best efforts to keep everyone safe.

Entry and Exit times can be difficult so we are asking parents to remember to social distance at the gates and not to linger with friends at the gates once you have collected your child.

We understand the difficulties it causes parents/carers having to remain outside the school gates. We are following set guidelines and ask for your continued support with this. Please phone the school with any concerns and we will do our very best to help.

If your child or anyone in your household develops symptom of covid-19 please follow the guidelines on the NHS website and notify the school that your child is isolating at home. It is important that the school is kept up to date with this information.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we all work our way through this very difficult time.

## **New School Phone Number**

Please remember that the school phone number is 0300 300 0158. Please save this number to your phone so that you recognise the number if we are trying to reach you.

## **Staffing Changes**

Mrs Staunton has returned to school following her maternity leave. Her beautiful wee girl is almost a year already! A very warm welcome to Mrs McLaren and Miss Clarkin who have come to join us at Heriot.

## **Water Bottles**

Please ensure your child carries their water bottle to school so they can drink water at their desk. Due to the current situation movement around the school is restricted so children need to have all their equipment readily available in the classroom.

## **Medication**

Children are now required to carry their own inhalers as no medication can be stored at the office. Any other medication should be given at home unless under exceptional circumstances. Please contact the school if this situation arises and we will do our best to help.

## **School Uniform**

Please ensure that your child's name is on **all** items of clothing and footwear. This will enable us to return any found items to the children. Due to the current situation we are unable to have a lost property box of clothes so all items of clothing need to go home each day with your child.

### **Flu Vaccination Consent Forms**

These were sent home earlier this week. Please return these by Tuesday 25th August at the latest. Immunisations are taking place on 17<sup>th</sup> November and the consent forms all need to be collated and checked so these are being collected from schools at the end of next week.

### **Free School Meals for P4-P7 children**

If you have not already submitted your application for free meals/clothing grant please do so as soon as possible. Even if your child is in P1-P3 you can still apply if you think you are eligible as you may get the clothing grant on its own or both if you qualify. We regret you will have to pay for your child's lunch until the school office has been given authorisation from Renfrewshire Council that your application has been approved. Due to the current situation parents will be invoiced from the council for any meals taken that require to be paid for.

### **Our classes this year are:**

P1a	Room 1	Mrs Harvey
P1b	Room 2	Mrs McFarlane/Mrs Steven
P2a	Room 3	Mrs Mauchan
P2b/3a	Room 6	Mrs Ryan
P3b	Room 15	Mrs Milne
P4a	Room 16	Mrs Mackay
P4b/5a	Room 9	Mrs Hunter
P5b	Room 14	Miss Clarkin/Mrs Cochrane
P6a	Room 13	Miss Wright
P6b/7a	Room 12	Miss Corr
P7b	Room 11	Miss O'Neill

### **Newsletters**

Newsletters are issued regularly, giving news of various events in the life of the school, as well as information for parents about meetings etc. Please try to find a few minutes to read our newsletters and let us know if you wish further information about any of the items. Our newsletters are numbered and due to the current situation, paper copies will not be sent home. They will be published on the school website under the heading 'Heriot Primary Newsletters' found at the right hand side of the homepage. We will send a text to let you know when a newsletter has been posted on the website. Please take the time to read these newsletters to keep you up to date with what is happening in the school.

### **School Holidays**

A school holiday list at the bottom of this newsletter and is also available on the school website under the heading 'Events Calendar' at the right hand side of the homepage.

### **Making contact**

Please don't hesitate to telephone (0300 300 0158) if you have any concerns about the progress or welfare of your child. We will be pleased to arrange for you to speak with a member of staff.

### **Annual data check and other information**

Due to the current situation paper copies of this are not being sent home. Arrangements are currently being put in place to update any changes to emergency contact information on line. You will be notified about this as more information becomes available.

In the meantime if any details have changed please telephone the school and we can update them for you. Please remember to update us during the course of the session as any information changes. I am sure you will appreciate that it is imperative that we are able to contact parents if a child becomes unwell and needs to be collected. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Absence information**

Parents are asked to inform the school on the first day of absence that their child will not be in school. **Please telephone by 9.30am** so that we can alert staff to a child's non-attendance. It is very important that we know children are safely at home with parents when not in school. If we do not hear from parents by 9.30am we will send a text to the main contact to alert parents. We may follow up our text if we do not hear from you. Sometimes we will ask our Home Link worker to do a home visit if we cannot contact you. If your child continues to be unwell please keep us informed. Thank you for your help with this.

### **Passing telephone messages to children during the course of the school day.**

Can we ask all parents to be mindful when asking the office staff to pass on messages to their child during the course of the school day. Although we are more than happy to do this if the need arises we have experienced a rise in requests for non urgent information to be shared. Last session we also experienced a significant increase in calls received right at the end of the day asking for information to be passed to children. This made it very difficult for all messages to be delivered prior to 3pm. It also left the office and phones unmanned at what is a busy time of the day.

### **Staff Car Park**

Please remember that the school car park is for staff use only. For safety reasons children should not be in the car park at any time, even with a parent. Our car park is very small for the number of staff we have therefore we cannot accommodate extra cars even just for drop offs/collections.

### **Telephone Enquiries**

The office staff will always do their best to help with telephone enquiries however, as I am sure you will understand, members of the management team are not always readily available to take calls. Messages will be passed on and we will respond as soon as we can. The office staff have no control over the time this may take. Unfortunately we cannot always get back to you right away which we understand may be frustrating in certain circumstances however this is not the fault of the office staff. If you would like to make an appointment to speak with any member of our staff please ask the office staff and they will arrange this and will call you back as soon as possible.

## School year

<b><u>Term 1</u></b>	Return date for Teachers	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 (IS)
	In-service Day	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 (IS)
	Return of Pupils	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
	September Weekend	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 and Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 (inclusive)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
	Schools closed	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 (inclusive)
	In-service Day	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 (IS)
<b><u>Term 2</u></b>		
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2020
	St Andrew's Day	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2020
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2020
	Christmas / New Year	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2020 to Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 (inclusive)
<b><u>Term 3</u></b>		
	Schools re-open	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
	Schools closed	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February (inclusive)
	In-service day	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 (IS)
	Schools re-open	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
	Spring Holiday	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2021 to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 (inclusive)
<b><u>Term 4</u></b>		
	Schools re-open	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
	Schools closed	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021
	In-service Day	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 (IS)
	Schools re-open	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
	Schools closed	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2021
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021
	Last day of session	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Teachers return Thursday 12 August 2021**

### School in-service days

- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2020
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021