



Newton Weekly Note

Week Ending 15.5.20

HELPFUL LINKS

Twitter - [@NewtonPrimary01](#).

Technical Support -
newtontechsupport@stirlingschools.net

Family Support –
newtonfamilysupport@stirlingschools.net

School Website -
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/newtonprimaryschool/>

Advice to support children regarding Covid-19 -
https://www.cosla.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/15570/covid19adviceforsupportingchildrenandyoungpeople.pdf

Free School Meals

Educational Psychology Service
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/stirlingeps/information-for-parents/>

Education Scotland Parent Newsletter

<https://education.gov.scot/media/pdf10fp/parentcarernewsissue2.pdf>

NEWTON NOTE

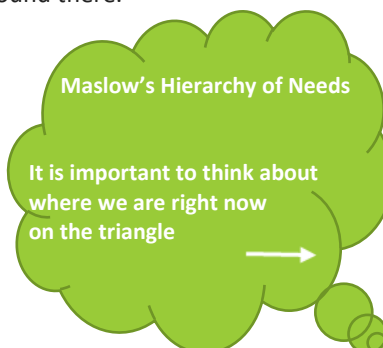
Thank you very much to the brilliant Mrs Campbell (P7C) for putting together our staff video message which was uploaded to Google Classroom on Monday morning for all our children and families. I hope it made everyone smile. Staff were given a preview of the video on Saturday and seeing everyone's efforts pulled together was wonderful. It was an emotional rollercoaster for all of us and there were definitely a few tears. An enormous thank you to the many parents and children who responded to this. Your positive comments and kind words were very much appreciated by all our staff. Supporting each other and working together is what keeps us all going and although we can't be together, and we are all very much missing our Newton Family we also understand the importance keeping safe. If you haven't seen our little compilation, please follow the link and enjoy.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1d5c3w3Xex5Lllroj5SIMRAYIrJs7IKIt/view>

Supporting Children and Families during Covid-19 We continue to offer support and advice to our families during this time. We have restructured our school website to have a dedicated section on '**Covid-19 Information & Support**'. Here you will find several links, resources, and information to support a range of needs at this time. The links **in yellow** to the left of this note are also there every week for parents to click on for support. This week I have also added links to the Education Scotland Advice for Parents Weekly Leaflet. It is now more important than ever that our Newton Community works together to support one another, and look out for each other, during these difficult times. Our dedicated Newton Family Support email address newtonfamilysupport@stirlingschools.net provides the opportunity for families to make contact with myself, Miss Alison or Mrs Brown to seek support or advice should you need to. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing
- Food Support including Free School Meals
- Abuse & Neglect
- Domestic Violence
- Financial Worries/Circumstances
- Access to digital technology/connectivity
- Free Sanitary Provision (see graphic 'Period Protected') on left of page
- Support with Learning

If you require technical support with Google Classroom, Glow, with Chromebooks etc. please email newtontechsupport@stirlingschools.net. Please check junk and trash folders as we know responses have been found there.



Nursery – P1 Transition letter and timetable with full information will be sent to parents of all new entrants this week. Please look out for it in your junk folder as well as your inbox.

Stirling Council have teamed up with Hey Girls to make sure you are 'Period Protected' during Covid - 19.

Thanks to funding from the Scottish Government, free sanitary products will continue to be available throughout Stirling.

Although our School collection points are temporarily closed during COVID-19, we are trialling a new ordering service so you can still get access to the products you need.

Any young person who menstruates up to 25 years is very welcome to use this free service, but you must live, go to school, or work/volunteer in the Stirling Council area and provide a Stirling post code for delivery.

A range of products across four care packs are available to choose from.

The online trial is for an initial two weeks (until 25 May 2020) and then will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Products may take up to six weeks to arrive after initial ordering. After the initial 2 weeks, the survey monkey closes orders are confirm then they are packed and delivered to your house.

We will endeavour to keep this time as short as possible, but we also want you to plan ahead.

If you don't receive your order after 6 weeks, please email SPandYP@stirling.gov.uk

To make an order complete your online form here.

<https://www.young.scot/campaigns/stirling/period-protected-during-covid-19>

WE HAVE TEAMED UP WITH HEY GIRLS TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE
PERIOD PROTECTED
DURING #COVID19

TALK Forth Valley Community Health Services
Our Speech and Language Therapists are missing seeing all of our children and families NHS Forth Valley

If you have any questions or are looking for advice or ideas to help your child's speech, language and communication skills while schools are closed, please have a look at our online information or get in touch.

- Find us on **Facebook**: NHS Forth Valley Speech & Language Therapy/ Speech, language and communication advice and ideas updated regularly
- Visit our **webpage**: <https://nhsforthvalley.com/health-services/az-of-services/speech-and-language-therapy>
- You can call us on **01786 434078** (Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm) We will answer your call if we can, but as our therapists are working differently just now to support the wider NHS, you may need to leave a message and we will call you back as soon as possible.

Remember to keep using Makaton! Have a look at www.makaton.org or www.singinghands.co.uk for some signing fun, including signed stories.

We look forward to seeing you again soon
NHS Forth Valley Speech & Language Therapy

P.7 - DHS Transition Thank you to all families who encouraged children to complete the 'Hopes and Fears' questionnaire posted to the P.7 DHS Transition Google Classroom this week. Mr Ritchie and Ms Murney are working with S1 pupils to provide written or video answers to the fantastic questions that children have asked! They anticipate these will be available on the Google Classroom from next Wednesday. We would be grateful if parents can encourage children to check the Google Classroom regularly for activities and updates as per the calendar issued at the start of this week via Parentmail. These can also be found on our school website. P.7 class teachers will also post reminders on their Google Classrooms too! If you have any questions regarding P.7 transition please do not hesitate to get in touch with Miss Alison via newtonfamilysupport@stirlingschools.net.

Social Media - Last week in my Newton Note I shared that I understood that many parents were part of class WhatsApp/Facebook groups. I continue to ask parents to please be mindful of comments or posts that could raise anxiety for others. Please be supportive of each other and be understanding that everyone is dealing with this unpredictable and difficult time in their own way and doing what is best for their own personal circumstances. There is no 'one size fits all' approach.

Home Learning – Thank you to our parents who have fed back their views on the way we currently issue home learning. Our grids will be sent out at 7pm this evening. We have made a few tweaks to support parents with a little guidance around how long tasks might take (remember it will be different for everyone and that's ok) and some tasks are highlighted green to support parents to guide children if they wish to prioritise a few task. (You don't have to).

It is very clear that for every parent who wishes more structure and routine there is a parent who loves the flexibility of choice. We considered many approaches to issuing home learning prior to lockdown and on balance we continue to agree that the fortnightly home learning grids offer the most flexibility. All classes from P1-7 are now using Google Classroom as the main platform for sharing learning and uploading tasks. Teachers are commenting and feeding back to pupils every day and adding more daily and weekly challenges throughout the fortnight. If you are not familiar with Google Classroom, please go on and have a look at all the brilliant experiences our children have been sharing and have been engaged in during lockdown. Learning Grids are optional and are there for parents to use as a guide. We **do not** expect that all families will engage with the grids and how families support their children will depend on individual needs and circumstances. Many of our families have their own style for home learning and this is great. Do what suits you best. For parents who prefer routine, structure and timetabling there has been lots of guidance sent out over the past few weeks and you will also find this uploaded to our website. For others who can or prefer a more relaxed and flexible approach to home learning, engaging children in baking, gardening, completing household chores etc. are also some of the most valuable lifelong lessons children can learn. We fully support you no matter what approach you take.

Childcare Hubs – I would like to reassure parents all 'Hubs' within Stirling are **childcare provision** and can be used if both parents in the household are essential keyworkers and frontline staff. Hubs are only used by parents as a last resort and if parents are not working then children do not attend the hub. Children who attend the Dunblane Hub are being supervised by Early Years Practitioners, Support for Learning Assistants and Teachers who are volunteering. Children may choose to bring their home learning tasks/grids issued by their own school with them to the Hub and will be supervised to do tasks if they choose to. Although the hub is located in Dunblane Primary

Newton's Eco Code

	E	ncourage eco awareness around our school		
	N	ever drop litter		
	V	alue outdoor learning		
	I	mprove our playground		
	R	espect our school grounds		
	O	pportunities to grow and cook		
	N	urture all living things		
	M	ake community links		
	E	ngage with the Global goals		
	N	ever leave lights on when not in use		
	T	ell everyone that Newton is an Eco School		

School, it is not like school. The children do not have an advantage over others who are staying at home.

What Next? – I would like to assure parents that Headteachers have not been issued with any information, guidance or plans around schools in Scotland reopening. I am aware that at government level there is a COVID-19 Education Recovery group with different workstreams looking into how this might be possible in the future.

Currently all families are spending a lot more time together with our children that we ever could have thought possible. You will have happy days, and grumpy days, productive days and days that are a write off. But our children are not children for very long so please enjoy them while they are little. I do hope that children and families have a lovely weekend and enjoy some fun family time together.

Best wishes,
Mrs Kane



**The boy, the mole, the fox
and the horse,**

by Charlie Mackesy