

28th August 2020 – Weekly Update



Dear Parents/Carers

Well this week has flown by and here we are with another Friday update. Everyone in school is really settling in so well and there is a calm feeling around the building and in the playground. Our pupils are working well within our new systems and procedures, remembering to hand sanitise on entry and exit, hand washing when they enter/leave the classroom etc, they are remembering the one way system and are understanding the changes in break and lunchtime timetables. We are so pleased with the progress we have made.

Making sure that everything is running as smoothly as possible is an ongoing process and the majority of plans were made when we were all at home so it's inevitable that as we fill the building with people we need to tweak things here and there. Throughout this update you'll find a few things that you can help with.

Early Learning and Childcare

Over the last week we have been able to welcome our returning pupils into our Nursery and next week we begin short induction sessions for new pupils. It's great to see our nursery back in action!

Updates to the guidance for ELC have meant additions to our staffing. I'd like to officially welcome the following new members to our temporary team:

- Mrs P Anderson – Support Worker (Nursery 2)
- Miss P Reid – Support Worker (Nursery 2)
- Ms J Kerr – Practitioner (Nursery 1)
- Ms B Pilichos – Practitioner (Nursery 1)

Primary 1

I cannot tell you just how amazing our P1s have been this week. The first week of full days and of course School Lunches and Packed Lunches! They have done incredibly well and have got the system well and truly cracked! There are just a few things that you could help us with to make things run even more smoothly:

- In the morning, please make sure your child is not carrying additional items that could be placed in their school bag. This ensures hands are free to be sanitised on entry.
- In packed lunches, please only provide things that your child can manage to open independently.
- Please clearly name your child's packed lunch box or add something easily identifiable. *There are lots of Minecraft ones this year!*
- If you can, at home encourage your child to practice walking with a small tray. Carrying a tray of lunch with a small cup of milk can be a tricky thing!
- Please discuss the menu with your child at home: [School Meal Menu](#)

At this time, local guidance states that primary children should be staying in school for lunch. We are not permitting home lunches currently. (This is a change to information in our Return to School Plan)

Water Bottles

Please remember to provide a filled water bottle for your child every day. These can be refilled in the classrooms as water fountains are not available.

Entry and Exit to school

Our staggered entry and exit to school will continue indefinitely and is working well. The staggered entry and exit allows for all classes to reach their room quickly and efficiently without creating any mixing of groups or bottle necks. Some of our older pupils are beginning to arrive in the playground a little bit early, please where possible stick as close to timings as you can to minimise the risk of 'bubble mixing'.

Traffic

Concerns have been raised by parents to local Councillors regarding unsafe manoeuvres and parking around the school. There has been a response from Police Scotland and some of you will have noticed a police presence in the area this morning. If you are unable to walk to school, please adopt a “park and stride” approach rather than parking close to school, avoid parking on double yellow lines or on the zig zags by the school gates.

Police Scotland have also sent a letter to all parents/carers today which accompanies this update.

Please remember that our school car park is closed to everyone except staff or for disabled access.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning is probably more important in our current situation than ever. To ensure that all pupils have regular access to the outdoor space all of our classes are timetabled throughout the week to have time in the playground or in the Woodies, within their class/group bubbles. Please ensure that your child comes to school quipped to go outside in rain or shine. They must come to school with a wind/waterproof jacket and appropriate footwear, every day. As we all know, the sun may shine in the morning, but it could be damp and windy by the afternoon.



Clothing

We do have a small stock of clothing to fit younger children in the event of an ‘accident’ or spillage. However, in the current climate we would like to ask parents of P1 and P2 children to provide spare clothing in a plastic bag stored in their child’s school bag – just in case!

Provision of online learning

As children are now back in school full time, teachers are working in classrooms face to face teaching and are unable to support home learning alongside their teaching commitment. If your child is required to self-isolate or quarantine, there will be activities available on the google classroom. These will be more generic activities and not individualised tasks.

Great Western Out of School Care Club

We have been working alongside our After-School Club to ensure that the appropriate Risk Assessments are in place and we are pleased to be able to reopen the service at Broomhill. The Club will speak directly with parents, but I wanted to share the following information regarding drop off and pick up.

- Parents/carers are currently not permitted entry into the school building. There will be strict procedures in place for adults going to and from the club, Jan Watt (manager) will give further detail to parents.
- Access to the club will be through the playground to the dining hall door. There will be no access through the school car park.
- Primary 1 pupils will be taken directly to the club at the end of the day, as they pass the room on their way to the infant door.
- Primary 2 – 7 pupils will meet Club staff in the playground by the green netball stand/shelters at the back of the playground (by the wildlife garden)

If your child develops symptoms

Additional information has been sent home this week from our Chief Office of Education which clarifies the procedures regarding anyone who displays symptoms of COVID 19. Please read and retain this information.

As per our Risk Assessment, if any child develops possible symptoms of COVID 19 they will be taken to an isolation space in school and you will be contacted to come and take them home as soon as possible. Your household should then self-isolate and book a test for those displaying symptoms. Please ensure that we have updated contact information and that emergency contacts are available. Please keep the school updated on progress with testing.

Mrs D Reid

Head Teacher

