



6th November 2020 – Weekly Update

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been a really busy week at Broomhill and I'm sure we're all looking forward to the weekend. Many of the pupils have been discussing still being able to see Fireworks in gardens and it's heartening to hear about some familiar seasonal activities still going ahead safely. I had the pleasure of visiting Rm 22 this morning to hear some of the wonderful poetry they had written about Fireworks from all different perspectives. Their use of imagery and language was extremely impressive. I've asked them to share these with families at home.



This Sunday is of course Remembrance Sunday and whilst the usual commemorative events can't take place, Aberdeen City Council is encouraging everyone to mark the two-minute silence at 11am on Sunday 8th November on your own doorstep. We will also observe a silence on Wednesday 11th November in school. Poppy sales have continued in school this week and we'd like to thank you for your donations. A reminder that you can also donate online at:

<https://www.poppyscotland.org.uk/>

I'd like to thank all our parents/carers and visitors for the ease in which everyone has complied with our new rules for the wearing of face coverings/masks in the school grounds. Our weekly update last Friday encouraged this but the updated National Guidance for Schools formalised this approach at the beginning of the week and it's been reassuring to see everyone conforming to this. Thank you.



Our School Attendance level currently sits at a consistent 98% which is in line with the same period of time in previous years. I'm monitoring these statistics daily and meeting with ACC colleagues and NHS colleagues on a weekly basis where we can get an early sight of any trends or particular areas of concern and we are then able to adapt and amend any procedures to ensure that we keep the risk level low. Please help us by ensuring that you and your family follow the current National Guidance for our area.

I am always very proud of our pupils at Broomhill, their general behaviour and attitude is always extremely positive. This week, as we have changed our playground procedure and zoned the playground for individual classes, I am even more proud of their coping mechanisms and overall resilience. We are asking a lot of our pupils and many across our city and country are finding things difficult and this can often show in a deterioration of behaviour or in relationships. As always, we continue to support any pupil who is struggling but on the whole, our pupils continue to demonstrate and exemplify our Broomhill vision and continue to 'aim high, never give up, work together and do their best!' We are all exceptionally proud of each and every one of them.

Parents Evening Update

Mrs Mutch and Mrs Leslie have been working hard this week setting up your appointments for Parents Evenings over the next couple of weeks. We are using a new online system which should be quite straightforward, however in the event of any online 'glitch' staff will have your telephone numbers as a back up if the video link doesn't work. The system allocates 10 minutes for each appointment and will automatically cut out at the end of the time period, so please accept our apologies if it does this mid-

sentence!! Please log onto the system and select an appointment time if you haven't already done so. **The booking system will close at midnight on Sunday.**

Friday Food Bank



We were absolutely delighted with the Food Bank donations today for our first Friday Food Bank. I think Karen probably had to do a couple of trips to CFINE today to deliver all the amazing donations of food, nappies, and advent calendars. For hygiene reasons we decided that the items should just be placed in the boxes and not in carrier bags, however the sheer volume of items made this difficult to manage. Next time, you can leave your carrier bag if you wish and we'll add some additional hand washing steps to our process.



STOP PRESS: CFINE were also delighted with the donations and have asked me to include 'toiletries' along with the list of items previously shared: tinned foods, dried foods, coffee, tea, nappies, biscuits, selection boxes and advent calendars.

A reminder that donations can be made each Friday in November. Thank you.

Early Years Expansion Update



I hope you've all had a chance to have a peek at the plans for our new Nursery Building. <https://broomhill.aberdeen.sch.uk/2020/10/30/early-years-expansion/>

We met our Site Manager and Project Manager this week and look forward to developing these new working relationships with Robertson's Contractors. There are a few details to finalise regarding the site plans but as soon as these go through the Planning stage, I'll be in touch to update you on any amended arrangements for drop off and pick up.

New Reading Books

We were excited to receive a number of boxes of new reading books, this week. The additional supplies will extend the variety and choice of books and help to ensure that we have adequate stock to take account of quarantine procedures. We look forward to seeing these in use around the school very soon.



Pumpkin Trail

Many of you participated in the Pumpkin Trail and were able to decipher the message which was.....'Spooktacular Broomhillers!' We hope you all had fun looking for the pumpkins in the community. Thank you to our Parent Council PTA for organising this event.



Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th November at 7.30pm. If you would like to join the meeting, please let the Parent Council know at: pcbroomhill@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk and they will send you a link to the online meeting.

Adverse Weather Procedures

I have to admit to being a bit of a 'snow buddy', I love a little bit of snow in the Christmas term, however I have to also admit that adding a snow storm into an already challenging 2020 is not something I'm particularly looking forward to. I'm hoping that by sending out our Adverse Weather Procedures we'll avoid any need to use them!!!

Important—Adverse Weather Arrangements



Adverse Weather Information arrangements 2020-21

In the event of adverse weather impacting on the running or opening of our school, the Head Teacher or Depute Head Teachers will post information through the following media sources, in the following order:

1. School Information Line

Parents/carers can access any severe weather message in the following way:

Telephone: 0870 0541999

Enter Pin Number: 011200

Press "1" to hear if there is a Severe Weather Message

2. Twitter

School closure alerts will also be available on twitter @SchoolBroomhill

And @aberdeenCC

3. Aberdeen City Council Website

Information regarding any closure/partial closure will be available at:

www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/closures

4. Radio

Information will also be updated via Northsound Radio (96.9FM)

5. Groupcall

Information will only be sent via Groupcall if this system can be accessed by school staff in school or remotely.

We ask that parents do not call the school directly, but use the media sources above to gain information, avoiding tying up our phone lines.

Late Opening

It is anticipated that in most circumstances it should be possible for school to remain open during adverse weather conditions. However sometimes a later school opening is an effective way to ensure our service can operate rather than closing altogether. We have a number of staff living in outlying areas and in order to allow our staff to reach school safely in the event of adverse weather the decision may be made to open the school slightly later eg 9.30am or 10am. This will be communicated to parents in the same manner. If staggered start/exits are still in place, amended times will be communicated.

A member of the School Management Team will also liaise with Great Western After School Care Club who run our breakfast club. The club have their own procedures for adverse weather which parents will be aware of.

Frequently Asked Questions/Topics

Hand Hygiene

Increasingly, bottles of soap are arriving in school from home. Unless your child has a specific medical condition due to an allergy of a specific ingredient which requires a prescriptive soap/sanitiser, pupils should continue to use the soap/sanitiser provided in school.

Hand Sanitiser Ingredients: 75% alcohol, purified water, glycerin, carbomer, trithanolamine, DMDM Hydantoin, Vitamin E, Aloe Barbadensis Leaf Extract.

Hand Soap Ingredients are: Water, Sodium Laureth Sulfate, Cocamidopropyl Betaine, PEG-200 Hydrogenated Glyceryl Palmate, PEG-7 Glyceryl Cocoate, Sodium Chloride, Fragrance, Benzyl Alcohol, Methylchloroisothiazolinone, Methylisothiazolinone, Triethylene Glycol, Propylene Glycol, Magnesium Chloride, Magnesium Nitrate, Citric Acid, Red 33 (CI17200)

Prescribed sanitiser or soap must always be able to be carried with the pupil so that hands can be washed in other areas of the school when outside of the classroom.

If your child develops symptoms

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

Scottish Government have updated the Quarantine rules and information for residents and visitors entering Scotland. If you are returning from another country your family may be required to quarantine for 14 days before returning to school. Please check updated guidance at:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-public-health-checks-at-borders/pages/overview/>

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. In the event of a positive covid case in school we will work closely with Public Health colleagues to identify close contacts who may be required to self-isolate if the 2m distancing rule has been breached.

Link to School Meal Menu:

- [School Meal Menu](#)

Protect Scotland

Something we can all do right now to protect Scotland is to download and register on the new Test & Protect app. You can find out more information here and download it from <https://www.protect.scot/>

Please share with your friends and family.

With the increase in infections and the new restrictions in mind, it is critical that we continue to follow the guidance laid out in the Scottish Government FACTS campaign:

- **F** - Face coverings in enclosed spaces – shops, public transport or anywhere else inside that physical distancing might be more difficult.
- **A** - Avoid all crowded places. Indoors, obviously, but outdoors as well.
- **C** - Clean your hands and hard surfaces regularly.
- **T** - Two metre distancing remains the overall advice.
- and **S** - Self isolate, and book a test, if you have any of the symptoms of COVID.



Please remember not to approach our teaching staff in the playground regarding any matters. Communication must come through our school office at this time. If you wish to speak with a member of staff, please call the office and we can easily arrange a time for a telephone meeting.



Monday 26 th October	Term 2 begins
Friday 20 th November	School Closed – In Service
Friday 18 th December	Term Ends for Christmas Holiday
Tuesday 5 th January	Term 3 begins