21st August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of our first full week, I thought it would be beneficial to share how our return has been going. It has been fantastic to see all our children back in school, their smiling faces and clear excitement on returning. They have coped well with the different routines and our aim to have all classes outside each day seems to have been welcomed by the children.

I would like to thank all of the P4-7 parents who have remained out with our playground and made arrangements to meet their children at a nearby point, this has allowed our P3 parents to follow 2m distancing within our large playground and ensure that all children have the space to leave the school building and grounds safely.

In our P1-2 playground, it has been effective with P2 pupils being able to access their classrooms from 8:50 allowing parents to drop and go, allowing P1 parents to arrive after this. From next week the P1 doors will be open from 8:55 to 9:05 and we encourage parents to again drop and go as children can access the cloakroom area and there will be teachers there to meet them. At pick up, P2 will continue to leave by the door nearest their classrooms. P1s will be leaving the building from the Family Centre door. So P1 parents should wait for their children further up the playground. This will allow the two year groups to be dismissed safely and help with 2m distancing between the waiting adults. Please do try to follow 2m distancing wherever possible.

Can I please emphasise that **for everyone’s safety please do not approach staff at home time,** if you require to speak to staff please contact the office (01261 455755) who will be happy to arrange a call back or email.

At this time, I can confirm that for the remainder of this term, there will be no breakfast club operating.

You will have received the annual data check paperwork and it is vital that we have up to date accurate contact information including email addresses. Our main communication process is through email using a system called Groupcall. If you have been having issues receiving emails, please check your spam/junk folder and move the message to your inbox. Your email account should recognise further emails from the school address and keep them in the inbox.

While Christmas is quite a while away, we will be starting our preparations for the Christmas Card project in the next few weeks and hope to share the exact dates of this soon.

We have had several calls with similar queries and so have collated this into a Frequently Asked Questions section which follows. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me, I am happy to discuss any concerns or suggestions.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Laura MacKay

Head Teacher

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**How long do the children have in the dinner hall to eat their lunch?**

Each year group has 15 minutes to eat their lunch.

**How often are the children washing their hands in the school day?**

The children wash their hands at least 6 times in the day, however this can be more depending on how many times they are outside for learning and visits to the toilet.

**How often are the children outside for learning?**

Each class has a daily slot for access to an outdoor area which is only for their class.

**Can my child bring in a packed lunch box / bag?**

The advice is that there should be minimum items going back and forward between home and school. So by putting all wrapping /containers in the bin at school, this reduces the risk of potential transfer back home.

Water bottles are allowed as these stay with your child in their classroom and do not come into contact with anyone else.

**Why can’t my child change for PE?**

The Scottish Government advice on re-opening schools states that children should not be changing clothes during the school day.

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