

Lochdonhead Primary School Newsletter

Winter Term 2020

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DEAR PARENTS

ABSENCE AND ILLNESS

possible if your mobile telephone number changes. Thank you.

I hope you all enjoyed your October break. Even if we didn't manage to get off the island, we do live in a wonderful part of the world to enjoy a holiday!

Due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions we have not been able to enjoy our normal school trips nor have we been able to welcome visitors to the school, however we have been busy learning lots of new things in school and within our school grounds.

Do not hesitate to contact the school if you want to chat over any areas of concern. Also be assured that no matter which school I am in, I can be contacted at any time.

For point of reference, the telephone number for Ulva Primary School is - 01688 500 246 and my mobile numbers are 079029 44626 and 077866 85227.



Susie Carmichael,
Head Teacher



Individuals should not attend school if they feel unwell.

The main symptoms of Coronavirus (Covid-19) are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

As we move into winter, we feel it is a good time to remind everyone about NHS advice on children's attendance at school when they are feeling poorly. For bouts of sickness or upset stomach children should be kept at home for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness. If your child shows signs of being unwell, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school. Please refer to the "Advice on Illness" page on our school blog <https://lochdonprimaryschool.wordpress.com> for advice relating to the exclusion period following various ailments or you can request a paper copy from the office. Thank you for your co-operation and partnership in helping us to maintain a happy, healthy school.

If your child is absent from school it is important that the office is contacted on the morning of absence before 9:15am if possible. This procedure is in place for the safety and security of pupils. You will receive a telephone call or text message if no call is received. Please inform the school office as soon as

PICK UP / DROP OFF

Parents / carers should avoid coming into the school grounds unless it is essential. Can you please drop your child off at the school gate no earlier than 9.10am for a 9.15am start. We would ask that parents maintain the 2m distance between families while waiting at the school gate for your child at 3.30pm.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Helen Ramage, our Catering Manager, will provide a lunch menu for 3 weeks. If you would like to order a school lunch please contact Gemma Paterson at the office. We request that payment is made online.

WATER & SNACKS

Children are encouraged to drink water at any time throughout the day. Please send in a water bottle to school where it can be refilled. We would ask that juices are kept for lunchtimes only.

At present we will not be providing healthy snacks. Can you please therefore provide a healthy snack for your child.

LAST TERM

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

It was so lovely to welcome everyone back to school following lockdown. To measure just how happy and settled the children are we asked them their views on what they have enjoyed learning this year and what they wish for the term ahead.

What we have enjoyed:

I enjoyed reading and drawing in Art. I have enjoyed seeing everybody and learning in school instead of home.

I enjoyed learning how to play golf in PE.

I enjoyed learning my Gaelic colours. I enjoyed being at school because I could see everybody.

I enjoyed doing my self-portrait. This is the best school that I have been to because everyone is kind and a friend.

I liked maths. I enjoyed skipping I really liked playing chase with my friends.

I enjoyed doing mile a day. I like learning Gaelic

I like everybody playing my games with me.

I enjoyed skipping. I learned to hula hoop.

I really enjoy take aways, equals and plus in maths.

I enjoy reading so much. I was happy to come to school. I am always excited and I am never bored.

My favourite thing to do I school is counting.

I enjoyed playing outside with my hula hoop. I learned about Gaelic.

I enjoy learning and I hope to do really well.

I enjoy exercising. I learned how to draw pictures.

I love Lochdonhead School because I like snack, story and break.

What we wish for in the term ahead:

I would like for us to do even more reading.

I wish I could do more activities on the iPad so that I can get better at Maths

I wish that I could get better at my Maths and find the different strategies that work for me.

I wish that we could have a puppet show.

I wish that we could do Maths all the time.

I wish I could play with slime.

FACE MASKS

We would like to say a massive THANK YOU to Mark, Emma and Lucy Alecock who have been making facemasks since the start of lockdown and Bob and Linda at the Craignure Spar who have been selling them with all proceeds going towards the school. Thank you also to everyone who has purchased these lovely masks. We have raised £1,000 so far which is an amazing amount of money and greatly appreciated by everyone here at the school.



WILD TEDDIES

This was a wonderful topic to help us settle into being back at school, focusing on spending lots of valuable time together outside and covering lots of different areas, including Science and Art. Each child had a teddy of their own that they had found in the wild and they came to live with them. Through exploring how the teddies survived on their own in our school grounds the children learned about the secret of PAWS. Plants that are edible and poisonous. Air, how lichens and other plants produce the air we breathe. Water, how the water cycle provides us with fresh water and finally shelter, looking around the grounds to find where the teddies could have

been sheltering. The teddies also provided an excellent stimulus for the children to create a guidebook to edible fruits and berries.

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

The Children learned to Show Racism the Red Card. To show their support they created their own red cards.



THIS TERM

PE KIT

We will be having PE mainly outside. Please provide your child with warm PE clothes for this.

SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thank you so much for your kind donations to the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal. Never have these gifts been appreciated more than now. To have been able to collect 10 boxes from such a small school is simply wonderful - THANK YOU ALL!



HALLOWE'EN

We plan to recognise Hallowe'en at the school in the afternoon of Friday 30th October. This will not be like the parties that we have had before but we plan for the children to enjoy some Hallowe'en activities and crafts.

DRAMA

We are delighted that Andi Stevens will be joining us for Drama sessions at the school this term. These sessions will be outside in the playground in line with COVID guidance.

Andi will be working on a theme of Peak, Pit and Ponder to explore creativity in the light of the children's experiences over the past few months. 'We will be storytelling and learning to be the SUPER in us!'

CHILDREN IN NEED

Children In Need is on Friday 13th November. The children at Lochdonhead are keen to recognise this in some way and are thinking as to what they would like to do. Further details will be sent home nearer the time.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Christmas Jumper Day 2020 is on Friday 11th December. The children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers to school that day and, if they wish, bring a donation to Save the Children.



CHRISTMAS SHOW

This year's Christmas Show will look a little different. The children would like to create a puppet show retelling the Christmas story and this will be recorded and shared with you all online. I will send more information as to how this can be accessed in December.

ECO-SCHOOLS

Lochdonhead Primary has always been mindful of the environment and learning for sustainability. To this end we have embarked on our challenge to become recognised as an official Eco-school. Eco-Schools is the largest sustainable schools programme in the world with 19.5 million children, young people and educators engaged worldwide in 67 different countries.

Eco-Schools is operated internationally by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) and delivered by Keep Scotland Beautiful in Scotland.

The Green Flag Award is an internationally recognised achievement for schools and nurseries committed to Learning for Sustainability. Flags can be seen flying outside our schools all over Scotland.

Following Student Council meetings, the pupils have decided that our first 3 focuses will be Litter, Energy and School Grounds.

We will keep you updated of our progress.



TOOTHBRUSHING

Highly monitored tooth brushing has resumed in school where we will be following strict COVID guidance.

PARENT COUNCIL

The post holders for the Parent Council are:

Chair - Emma Alecock

Secretary - vacancy

Social Media - Elissa Keenan

Treasurer - Gemma Paterson

WORKING WITH PARENTS

As you know we are very keen indeed to involve you in any way we can in the working life of the school. Unfortunately, at present, we have been advised against non-essential visitors to the school. We will therefore be getting in touch with you online for your thoughts and views. I am happy to organise a Google Meet for the next Parent Council meeting.

For more information, and many more photos, please visit our blog on <https://lochdonprimaryschool.wordpress.com>

REPORTING

We will be continuing with 'Seesaw' as a reporting tool. If you need any assistance with this please let us know.

We will send out an interim report in December and a full written report in May.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- 19.10.20 - Schools open
- 11.11.20 - Remembrance Day
- 13.11.20 - Children in Need
- 26.11.20 - Schools close
- 27.11.20 - In-service
- 30.11.20 - In-service
- 1.12.20 - Schools open
- 11.12.20 - Christmas Jumper Day
- 23.12.20 - Schools close
- 7.1.21 - Schools open
- 5.2.21 - Schools close
- 15.2.21 - In-service
- 16.2.21 - Schools open
- 1.4.21 - Schools close
- 19.4.21 - Schools open
- 27.5.21 - Schools close
- 28.5.21 - In-service
- 31.5.21 - Holiday
- 1.6.21 - Schools open
- 30.6.21 - Schools close