



# Principal's Newsletter

December 2020



Dear Parents / Carers,

As I was sitting down to start to write December's Newsletter, I opened up my newsletter from December 2019 to have a look at and realised that the word Covid wasn't mentioned once at this point last year. What a year it has been!

I must continue to pay credit to the parents, staff and pupils for adapting so well to school life in order to help keep us all as safe as possible. Things really have been very different, however, school has continued to carry on as best we possibly can. Our pupils have continued on their educational journey with ease and I am really proud of them for giving their best when they are in school.

As we move into the Christmas period within school, we will try our very best to provide children with as much of our school Christmas traditions as possible. Although...they will be slightly different due to our Covid restrictions. More information will be given in this newsletter about some Christmas excitement to look out for.

Many thanks

Mr C. Fulton

Principal

## SCHOOL OPEN MORNING – CHANGE OF PLAN

We had planned to hold individual school tours of Nursery and Primary 1 on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Unfortunately, since sending out our adverts, we have been advised that no open events can take place this year and we have had to cancel these tours.

However, if you are a parent of a new to Nursery or P1 child, please do give school a call and leave your details and we will get an information pack sent out to you along with a link to a video for you to watch giving you all the details you need about how to apply. Call us on 028 9335 1781.

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

### Principal

Mr C. Fulton

### Vice Principal

Mrs L. Kernaghan

### Head of Foundation & Key Stage 1

Mrs J. Orr

### Special Needs Co-ordinator and Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Miss J. Minnis

### Nursery Lead

Mrs P. Addis

### Head of Key Stage 2

Mrs R. Miskelly

## I'M WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD IN SCHOOL.



If you are concerned about the welfare of a pupil in school, please speak with Miss Minnis (Designated Teacher for Child Protection).



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### School Packed Lunches

Please continue to send your child into school with their packed lunch in a disposable container that can be put in the bin at the end of lunchtime. This has been working really really well for us in school and I thank you all for your continued support.

### Class Charity Information

We will be continuing to collect any spare change, on a weekly basis (Wednesday) to go towards our collections for this year. A reminder that all the money raised will be going towards helping with the refurbishment of our ICT Suite. I can't wait to get to a point when I can share the plans of our redesigned ICT suite with you all. ☺

### Mandatory Wearing of Face Coverings

Can I take this opportunity to thank all our parents / carers for working with us in ensuring that face coverings are worn when entering the school grounds?

By continuing 'doing what we are doing' I am confident that we will remain a safe place for our entire school community.

### BOTTLE BANK DONATIONS

Hopefully by now you will have received a letter home from school informing you about our Bottle Bank collection. At this point in the year we would normally be asking for donations of bottles to support the PTA in running a Tombola at our Christmas Fayre. But...as with many things...this year is a little different.

This year, we are asking for donations of bottles etc (shower gel, toothpaste, shampoo etc) as each of our classes in school are making a hamper to be delivered to patients, in Covid Wards, over the Christmas period. Many patients arrive into hospital with nothing except the clothes on their back and, as many of their close family members need to isolate at home, some patients will find it difficult to have even the basic essentials sent into hospital for them. This year, we are going to lend a helping hand.

I would like to thank one of our parents for sharing this idea with us and we, as a school community, are only too happy to help.

#### TARGET

# 409 BOTTLES

That's 1 bottle per pupil in school.

#### CURRENT TOTAL

# 187 BOTTLES

That's a GREAT amount so far.  
Please continue to send in your  
donations.



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## CHRISTMAS AT SCHOOL

- **Christmas Cards** – for this year, we are asking that children do not bring in Christmas Cards for all other children in their class. We have 409 children in school. If each child was to bring in a card for all the other children in the class, we would have thousands of cards being brought into the school community at a time when we are trying to limit items coming to and from school.
- **Gift for Staff** – some parents have contacted me to see if it is still ok to send in gifts for staff. Firstly, we never expect a gift from our children / parents – we are here simply to do the job we love! However, if you feel that you want to send a gift in then you are still more than welcome to.
- **School Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day** – Children can come to school in non-uniform wearing a Christmas Jumper on **TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**. Children should bring in a £1 donation on this non-uniform day. This will also be our Christmas Dinner Day...with a bit of a twist. Due to the large numbers wanting a Christmas Dinner, we are unable to provide this in the canteen – due to distancing rules. Children signed up to have a Christmas Dinner will get a Christmas Themed Party Box delivered to their classroom for lunch. **Children will finish early on this day. Staggered finish from 12pm. Exact times will be sent out closer to the date.**
- **Christmas Disco** – Again, we normally have our Christmas Discos in the school hall on the last full day of term. This year, we still want to run our discos, however, we will need to operate them in our class bubbles. So, on the days outlined below, your child can come into school in their non-uniform ready for the disco. The disco will cost £1 and children can purchase glow sticks for 50p each. Please send money into school in an envelope.  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Discos for P1, P2 and P3  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Discos for P4, P5 and P6  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Discos for P7.
- **Christmas Party** – Class teachers will send out information about class Christmas Parties over the next couple of weeks.
- **Christmas Productions** – This year, our Nursery Nativity and the P4 – P7 Carol Service will take place virtually. Both will be uploaded onto the school website on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. We hope you enjoy watching them.



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### **Kids' Cave and Breakfast Club Booking Information (REMINDER)**

If you have not yet used Kids' Cave or Breakfast Club, please see the information outlined below about the changes that we have had to make for this year, as a result of Covid. Please adhere to these instructions when booking either Kids' Cave or Breakfast Club.

For information about booking our Homework / Activity Club please [click here](#).

For information about booking Kids' Cave please [click here](#).

For booking of Breakfast Club, please follow these instructions:

1. Bookings must be made in advance.
2. Bookings can be made from 10am on a Thursday morning until 12noon on a Friday. Any bookings made before 10am on a Thursday will be ignored.
3. Please e-mail your request for booking to [victoriaprimar@hotmai.co.uk](mailto:victoriaprimar@hotmai.co.uk) and include your child's name and the days you require breakfast club for the following week.
4. Please send in payment of £2 per day each day your child attends, or you can pay in full at the start of the week. Staff can only accept money in an envelope.

The information provided here supersedes all previous booking information from previous years.



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### Term Dates 2020 / 21

<u>Term Dates</u>	
<b>August</b>	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> August – Primary 7 pupils return to school. P2 – P6 begin revision online learning, Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August – school re-opens for pupils in P1 – P6 (Please see individual year group starting information as per Principal's Newsletter sent 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2020.)
<b>October / November</b>	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> - <b>School Development Day (School Closed)</b> Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> , Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> , Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> , Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> November ( <b>School Closed for Half Term</b> ) Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> November – School reopens
<b>December</b>	Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> – ( <b>School closes at 12pm for the Christmas Holidays</b> )
<b>January</b>	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> ) Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> – School reopens for all pupils.
<b>February</b>	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> ) Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> , Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> , Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> , Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Closed for half term</b> ) Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> – School reopens
<b>March / April</b>	Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> March – ( <b>School closes at 12pm for Easter Holidays</b> ) Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> ) Tues 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> April – ( <b>School Closed for half term</b> ) Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – School reopens
<b>May</b>	Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> – <b>School Closed (Bank Holiday)</b> Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> )
<b>June</b>	Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Development Days (School Closed)</b> Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School closes at 12pm for Summer Holidays</b> )

### LATEST HIGH FIVE EDITION

[PLEASE CLICK HERE](#) TO ACCESS THE LATEST ADDITION OF THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY'S HIGH FIVE NEWSLETTER. THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED BY THE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT TEAM IN THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY.