



Newsletter

Issue 8

June 2020



Welcome to the eighth edition of our newsletter. This has been a very strange year for us all but we write to you with the good news that the children will be returning to school in August. This won't be full time in the building but rather a blended learning approach with face-to-face teaching two days per week and online/home learning the other days. The school day is being extended to allow longer face-to-face time. Children are split into Cohort A and Cohort B. Cohort A will attend on a Monday and Tuesday and Cohort B will attend on a Thursday and Friday. On a Wednesday staff will have their non-class contact time and the school will be cleaned. All of the relevant information for your child is



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included with this newsletter so please take some time to read through it carefully. I have made the purpose of this newsletter to explain as fully as I can the way we will operate at Riverbank on our return in August.

Start/Finish Times

The school day has been extended to maximise teaching time. New times are:

P1a,P1b, P2/1, P2 and P3/2– 9:00 start/3:30 finish

P4/3, P5/4, P6/5 and P7/6 – 9:10start/3:40 finish.

Family groups can come to school together at the earliest start time.

Please leave the gate area as soon as your child has been dropped off. School staff will be in the playground to show your child where to go.

Playground

In your individual letters you will see that there are separate entrance points for different classes. These are:

P1a – Cuningar Loop Gate

P1b – Cuningar Loop Gate

P2/1 – Auckland Wynd Gate

P2 – Gate at drop-off point

P3/2 – Gate at Main Entrance

P4/3 – Gate at Main Entrance

P5/4 – Gate at drop-off point

P6/5 – Auckland Wynd Gate

P7/6 –Cuningar Loop gate

If you are a family group please use the same entrance gate if that is easier for you. Older children can walk round to their gate themselves.

Unfortunately parents/carers are not allowed into the playground except for P1 parents. Please respect this safety rule. If you need to speak with a class teacher please phone the school to arrange an appointment.

Uniforms

Full school uniforms will be worn in August. School ties can be bought from the school office in the week before school starts back and on the in-service days. Your child should bring a bag to school as normal. Their bag and jacket will be kept with them at all times in the classroom. Indoor shoes will still be required to be worn. Badged uniforms can be ordered online at www.shoolwearmadeeasy.com now and price includes delivery. Uniform can also be bought in local supermarkets.

Days of Attendance

When allocating days to children we took into consideration family groupings and friendships. We understand that there may be some people who are disappointed by the grouping their child is in or the days of attendance. We cannot accommodate any changes to the days due to lack of space in our groups. Please recognise the difficulty in this and work with us to carry out the decision that has been made.

Staffing

We have some new additions to our staff team this year. We welcome Ms Mallon and Mr Silver as our new probationary teachers. We also welcome Mrs McHugh, Mrs McGeough and Mrs Nicoll to our team. Mr Kenny, our Principal Teacher, will be working for the EIS one day per week and so we are delighted that Miss Hosie will be Acting Principal Teacher for one day per week. We are sad to see Miss McTurk leaving us and wish her all the best in her new post in St Paul's Primary. Please find below which class each teacher will be working with.

P1a – Miss McGarrity

P1b – Mrs MacMillan Currie

P2/1 – Miss Porterfield

P2 – Miss Proctor

P3/2a – Mrs McGeough (Mon/Tues) Mrs Nicoll (Thurs/Fri)

P3/2b – Mrs McHugh (Mon/Tues) Miss McLaughlin (Thurs/Fri)

P4/3 – Ms Mallon/Miss McLaughlin

P5/4 – Mrs Lovick

P6/5 – Mr Silver/Mr Kenny

P7/6 – Ms Stewart

Nurture Support/STEM Coordinator/Probationer Mentor – Miss Hosie

CLOL – Miss McLaughlin

Online Support – Miss Venables/Mr Kenny

Please note – if at any point over the school year we are able to return to normal then it may be necessary to change your child's teacher. This will be due to groupings being allowed larger numbers. We aim to limit the number of changes where possible and we will write to you to let you know about this in plenty of time.

Lunchtimes

If you are in receipt of a Free School Meal your child will still get one. The delivery of these are still being worked out at the moment and we will let you know our plans in due course. **Children will not be able to buy lunch at school – lunches will have to be made at home and brought to school unless children are in receipt of a free school meal.** Children will have a 15 minute break in the morning, a 30 minute lunch break and another 15 minute break in the afternoon. Please provide healthy snacks as appropriate.

What to bring?

Children should bring the following to school:

Water bottle

Gym kit

Snacks

Indoor shoes

Jacket

Can you please ensure that if children are wearing shoes with laces that they can tie these themselves? Thank you.

Children will be learning outdoors more often this year so please ensure they are dressed appropriately for this.

How will we limit contact in school?

Children are grouped in small classes together. This is what we call their “Bubble”. They will learn and play together in this bubble. We will encourage a 2 metre distance but we understand that within the bubble they may come into contact with each other. Regular hand-washing will help to keep germ free. Each child will have their own resource pack in their trays which includes a pencil, colours, plastecine, whiteboard and pen, glue stick, scissors, ruler, eraser, counters etc. This will be added to as we go through the year.

Each class will have designated toilets to use to limit cross contamination between groups.

In the playground each group will have their own area to play in. Again this is to limit contact and prevent their “bubble” from bursting.

What will happen if a child is upset/hurt/ill?

Please don't worry. We have staff who are nurturing and caring and if a wee one needs a hug then they will get a hug. Not all

staff will be able to do this due to health reasons. We will continue to look after your child to the highest possible standards while trying to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Sickness

If your child is displaying any flu/cold or COVID symptoms then please do not send them to school. If they become unwell in school with these symptoms then they will be isolated and you will be called to collect them. This is to protect them and others.

Risk Assessment

The full risk assessment will be placed in the window of the main entrance to allow you to see what safety measures we are putting in place to ensure safety for all.

Return to School Dates

Following latest updates from Glasgow City Council here are the return dates for August:

The Scottish Government has advised that schools should open from 11th

August with pupils starting from 12th August. This means that in Glasgow, we need to make some changes to the school calendar. These have been agreed through the Local Management Committee for Teachers in line with SNCT 20/76.

Monday 10th August - In-service day for all teachers and support staff in schools and nurseries

Tuesday 11th August - in-service day for all teachers and support staff in schools and nurseries

Wednesday 12th August – Cohort A children will attend (who would normally be in Monday and Tuesday);

Thursday/Friday 13th August – Cohort B children will attend

Cohort A children will only attend Wednesday of the first week. From Week 2 they will attend every Monday and Tuesday and the school will be closed on a Wednesday for cleaning.

As Monday 10th August is currently a school holiday, Friday 5th February 2021 will now be a school holiday.

I have tried to answer as many areas of concern as I can. I know you may have many more and I can be contacted in the usual way, phone, email or text. Please note even though schools close on Wednesday 24th June I will be contactable most days on the mobile number on the front of this newsletter. I really would rather you contacted me instead of worrying.

Please take care of yourselves. As a staff team we cannot wait to welcome you all safely back to Riverbank in August

Mr Hynes

June 2020