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Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to update you on a number of arrangements regarding this term.

Homework

You will recall we did not give pupils homework last term as there was a lot for pupils to take in returning to school after learning at home for so long. Homework will resume again for primary pupils next week. Due to covid procedures and to enable pupils to become more familiar with submitting homework electronically via Seesaw or Teams we have initially decided to reduce the number of tasks that pupils are asked to do every week. As there are fewer tasks, and also due to quarantine procedures, it may be that your child does not have a reading book for homework but instead is continuing to do this in class. Class teachers will set the tasks that they deem most important for consolidation at home so it will vary from class to class and/or from week to week.

To reduce items going to and from school we will not be using homework diaries currently; instead you will be emailed out homework on Mondays. P4-7 pupils will also have their homework posted on Teams.

P1-3 pupils will be using Seesaw to submit their homework. If you have not yet given permission for Seesaw then please do so as soon as possible in order to get the login details from the office. We asked nursery to P3 pupils to use Seesaw while school was closed so pupils will hopefully be familiar with it. We currently intend to only use Seesaw for homework and home learning purposes.

P4-7 pupils will be using Microsoft Teams to submit their homework. Pupils are already familiar with using this in class through Glow and the P5-7 pupils used this when school was closed. Please see the attachment for guidance on accessing Teams through Glow. Alternatively the Microsoft Teams app can be downloaded and used.

Once your child has logged onto teams, they should go to the home learning channel and respond to task set by saying hello to their teacher by Wednesday 28th October so we know that they've managed to log on without any issues.

We understand that for many, this is a new way of working. Please do not hesitate to email gw15sewardanna@glow.sch.uk or phone the school for any support you require. If you do not have a device suitable for using Seesaw or Teams please get in touch with Mrs Marshall.



Sanitising Stations

Upon their return to school pupils have continued to be vigilant in following the sanitising procedures. As we are now heading into colder weather and pupils are wearing gloves we will move the sanitising stations closer to the doors so that pupils are sanitising their hands just prior to entering the building.

Parent Contact Meetings

We are continuing to try to investigate the best vehicle for our parent contact meetings. We are hoping to hold them shortly after the November INSET days and will confirm dates and arrangements as soon as possible. In the meantime, if you have queries or concerns about how your child is getting on please contact your child's class teacher via the school office.

Water

Primary pupils should bring water bottles to school with them and, if having a packed lunch, should bring a drink with them. Tayside Contracts provides bottles of water for pupils having school dinners only.

PE

The Government guidance on PE remains unchanged and lessons continue to need to take place outside. Pupils should wear suitable PE kit on the days they have PE and bring a change of clothes so that if they get wet they can get changed after the lesson. Class teachers will confirm which days your child has PE if it has changed from last term.

Late Arrivals

There is a significant number of pupils frequently arriving late to the nursery and primary every day. This means that staff are unavailable to offer planned support as they are allowing pupils into and throughout the building as well as processing lunch choices. When the pupil arrives late in a primary class this often means the pupil has missed important instructions about the day and also the teaching input to tasks. In addition to this it can also disrupt the education of other pupils. It would be greatly appreciated if pupils could be ready to go into school as soon as the bell rings at 9am.

Gaelic Nursery

Unfortunately there were no suitable applicants for the position of Gaelic Early Childhood Practitioner, therefore the job is currently advertised again. In the absence of being to run the Gaelic nursery fully, our Gaelic Play Assistant, Mrs Mullin is regularly doing Gaelic activities in the main nursery.

Staffing

You will be aware from our newsletter that our Principal Teacher Mrs Jenkins is seconded to the position of Acting Headteacher at Logierait Primary this term. Miss Pringle has joined us as Acting PT; her remit will be slightly different to Mrs Jenkins as Mrs Marshall will now oversee nursery.

Mrs Forsyth is currently absent. While Mrs Forsyth is off, Mrs McLaren will teach Sky Room Monday - Wednesday and Mrs Hunter will teach Thursday and Friday. Miss Pringle will oversee Sky Room and plan with the teachers to ensure continuity and progression. If you have any queries about Sky Room please contact Miss Pringle.

As usual if you have any queries or concerns please don't hesitate to make contact via the school office.

Yours faithfully

V.L. Marshall

Mrs Marshall
DHT Primary

