

Blackwood Primary and Nursery Class

Term 4 Weekly Newsletter - No1 (22.4.20)

Head Teacher: Ms C. McMillan



Term 4 Update

Welcome to Term 4 at Blackwood Primary and Nursery Class - a very different version of school, but one which we are all embracing as the new normal is to keep ourselves and our families safe and well.



It is our aim to provide you with a weekly update of learning opportunities and to answer any generic questions you may have. Please use this email address – headteacher@blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk for this purpose.

Staff news!

Since we went into lock down, two of our teachers have welcomed new additions to their families and we send them our very best wishes.



- Mrs Stein (P1) gave birth to a baby boy Lachlan Theo Stein on 26th March.
- Mrs Kellie (P5/4) gave birth to a baby girl Bethany Sonja Kellie on 30th March.

Mrs Bennie (DHT) has also shared the news that she is expecting a second baby in July and will be on maternity leave for the season 2020/21.

Home Learning

It is important for family life that every family adopts an approach that works and fits for them. To this end this will look different in every home ... **and that is ok!**

It is also an opportunity for children to learn different skills and learn in a different way.

The learning packs issued prior to lock down contain plenty of activities and children can continue to revisit these throughout Term 4.

There are new online resources – Bitesize – BBC has been launched this week.



Google Classroom

It is our aim from **Monday 4th May** to launch, as a school, **google classrooms** for our learners, to provide weekly ideas for learning and to engage in online dialogue with peers and their class teachers. This has been approved nationally and by the trade unions. Passwords to access this resource were issued in the learning packs, and some have already been activated, so we would ask that if you have not done so can you please log on and sign up for this... any problems please contact Mrs Park at office@blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Mrs Bowman (DHT) is a hub manager and when she is on duty, she is using this opportunity to make phone calls to touch base with families. If you would like to hear from a member of the SMT please email – office@blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Mrs Bennie is keeping twitter up-to-date with lots of information, and if you have not done so yet, please follow us at @BlackwoodPS_SLC It would be appreciated if you could please send us an email to office@blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk let us know your username, as it is sometimes not obvious who you are. Thank you.



We are here to help ... let us know how!

- We have access to our Barnardo's Family workers who can offer support
- SLC are looking at ICT and internet access for all families – If you need internet access or any ICT equipment can you please let us know by emailing – **office@blackwood-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk**
- Linking with Community Resilience Group (Based at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church) open daily 10am-noon, Monday – Friday T: 07943 990630 or 07943 804965

Within our local community

Blackwood Primary and Nursery Class are working in partnership with the Community Resilience Group based at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church.

As lock down continues, this group plan to generate community through family activities and offer support to ensure the mental and emotional wellbeing of all.

Activities to participate in

1. LOGO design - design a logo which could be associated with this group and be used on any future correspondence.
2. Post Box - a post box has been fixed to the railings within the church grounds for notes, stories or drawings to be taken back into the community via care homes, hospitals or isolated groups.
3. Every Wednesday - online family night (via Facebook)



ECO - as you know Blackwood Primary has maintained ECO flag status for many years. One aspect of this is litter. There has been a huge tidy up recently in the village (thanks to those volunteers!), however as we go about our daily exercise we are becoming more and more aware of this as a problem within our community.

The resilience group would like our young people to get involved. On our daily walks can we take pictures of problem areas - litter / dog fouling / plastics and post them online. The young people can then design an A3 poster to remind community members to tidy up (resources can be collected from the church) which in the long term will be used within the community as a message from the young people to keep our community clean and tidy.

This would be used by the ECO committee as evidence once school has returned to normal.



Cost of the School Day – Money Matters Advice Service

We offer **free, confidential and impartial advice** - we can help check your benefit entitlement, assist with the claims process, challenge decisions and represent you at Social Security appeal tribunals. For debt issues we look at your financial circumstances, contact creditors, discuss options and give budgeting advice. **Contact number: 0303 123 1008**

Our Telephone Advice Line offers a similar service specifically aimed at pregnant women and families with young children. **Contact number: 01698 453154**



EDUCATION SERVICES
Executive Director: Tony McDaid
Blackwood Primary School - Head Teacher: Ms Christine McMillan