

Blackwood Primary and Early Learning & Childcare Newsletter – December 2020 No.23 Headteacher: Ms C McMillan



Update Monday 21st December – Afternoon Version!

This is for clarification and you will at some point in time receive either a letter/email or message from SLC but until then

- All children who attend Blackwood Primary and ELC will have an extended holiday until Monday 11th January.
- All children who attend Blackwood Primary and ELC will have remote learning opportunities for the Week of Monday 11th January – Friday 15th January.
- All school staff will return to work on Wednesday 6th January.
- Emergency Childcare will be provided within school from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm for children of key workers on Wednesday 6th January – Friday 8th January and then again on Monday 11th January – Friday 15th January.
- Key workers who need to access child care please see SLC website for additional information.
- We will await further advice for Monday 18th January – this will depend on the control levels of COVID 19.

It is our intention to continue to use GOOGLE classrooms for remote learning, therefore, it is important that this is accessed by all our families. If this is still a problem for you please contact the school office and speak with Mrs Park.

Paper copies of work can be made available during the week of 11th - 15th January if required.

I would appreciate if you could acknowledge receipt of this letter by following the link below.

Please note that Key Worker Allocation of a Child's Place will be confirmed officially by the completion of the South Lanarkshire Council form which will be on their website in the near future – www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

<https://forms.gle/dtVwjANi8PUXSAfh9>

Hopefully, this is the last correspondence from me this year ... but then again you never know!!! My message of thanks to each and every one of you remains the same.

Enjoy the festive season! Stay Safe and Happy Hollydays!

CMcMillan



COVID-19 Update - IMPORTANT

The recent announcement from the Deputy First Minister confirmed that there would be no change to our school holiday dates, therefore our schools are required to stay open until Tuesday 22nd December and close at 2:30pm.

This means that COVID-19 cases identified after school close on Tuesday 22nd December at 2:30pm will be managed by Education Staff at SLC HQ in Hamilton. They will work with NHS and Test & Protect to identify close contacts within school. This may result in a phone call from Test & Protect asking close contacts to self-isolate over the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

To ensure that HQ and Test & Protect have accurate data for close contacts Blackwood Primary and ELC are asked to pass attendance data and seating plans to HQ Hamilton at the end of the day on **Friday 18th, Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd of December**. Please ensure we have all your correct contact details on our systems so these can be assessed remotely.

Please keep the school informed of any absences between now and the end of term.

In school and ELC every effort will be made to maintain all safety protocols until the end of term.

It is anticipated that Tony McDaid, Executive Director (Education Resources) will issue a letter informing you of the update COVID-19 protocols for the holiday period and to confirm arrangements for January 2021 following the announcement on Saturday evening.

COVID-19 - until Tuesday 22nd December at 2:30pm

EMERGENCY COVID-19 SCHOOL MOBILE: **07541069610**

This phone has been purchased to be used in an emergency **after 4pm or at the weekend to inform the school by text if your child is going for a COVID-19 test and to send the confirmation once a result has been posted.**

Sample text : Christine McMillan in Primary 2 is going for a COVID test.

Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in school – Keeping Everyone Safe!

There is a **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy in place in schools across Scotland at the moment in our recovery phase for children displaying any symptoms of COVID-19.

The **wellbeing of all children, young people and staff** should be the central focus. **There are important actions that everyone can take to prevent the spread of the virus.**

Everyone who:

- **has the symptoms** of coronavirus (COVID-19) - a new persistent cough, fever, or a loss of sense of smell and /or taste – should stay at home and arrange for [coronavirus testing](#);
- **is living with someone who has coronavirus symptoms** should stay at home and follow the [relevant advice](#);
- **has returned (or come) to Scotland** from a country which is not exempt from the UK quarantine rules, should stay at home following the [relevant guidance](#).

If your child/ren have had a Coronavirus Test, please inform the school office of the result.

I appreciate that this may cause child care challenges for you, however we all must be diligent in our duty to prevent the spread of any illnesses at this time.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Regards

C McMillan
Head Teacher

Self-Isolating families or families needing a little support can access BLACKWOOD & KIRKMUIRHILL RESILIENCE GROUP (Based at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church) T: 07943 990630 or 07943 804965 This group can provide door step support for you



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