

Broomlands Primary School



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August News

Greetings,

We are so pleased to be back! It has been a great pleasure welcoming the children into school and seeing them enjoy each other's company again. We have taken things steadily over these first couple of weeks back, settling them into new routines and rules around health, hygiene and social distancing.

We have all been hugely impressed by how the children have embraced these new aspects of school life. Behaviour and following of the rules has been exceptional.

We have a number of key things to remind you of and ask for, please:

- **Social distancing** at pick-up time – it is each adults responsibility to adhere to social distancing guidelines for as long as they are required by Scottish government.
- **Water bottles** – please ensure these come to school filled. If you bring a packed lunch from home please have a separate drink carton/bottle in with the lunch.
- **PE day** – we have asked for children to come in PE kit – please ensure they have a suitable pair of trainers for this.
- Guidance is that **parents should not currently be visiting the school**. We are happy to talk over the phone if there is a pressing issue or a concern over a child.
- Please use the **Groupcall Xpressions App** as the main point of contact with the school office. This can be downloaded easily onto a smartphone on both Apple and Android devices.
- Neither **dogs** nor **smoking** are permitted anywhere on school grounds.
- **Peanut allergy** – we politely ask that children do not bring food containing peanuts in the lunches/snacks. We have children in school with sever allergies and must ensure their safety.
- **Spare clothes** – If P1-3 children could have spare clothes in their school bag (pants, socks joggers, etc.)
- Please be aware that staff can only administer **medication** prescribed by a medical professional. A form is required which you can fill out in the foyer beside the school office.
- **Recycling** – Please do donate to the ragbag container, ensuring items are bagged prior to being deposited. We are paid for each kilogram received; money which is used to improve our resources for the children.
- **Parent Council** – this is open to all and we would all be delighted if you could come along and have a voice in how the school runs. The annual AGM will be held on Thursday 17th September – likely via digital means.

We have received lots of positive parent feedback about morning arrival arrangements, particularly regarding the calm, settled start to the day and the improvement in road safety. We plan to continue this into the future. We have so enjoyed meeting and greeting everyone at the gate and welcoming the children into school and will continue to do this daily.

Staffing

We said goodbye to Mrs King at the end of last session and wish her well in her next stage of life. She has been a great servant of the school for many years and will be hugely missed. Miss Nicol has finished her year as a newly qualified teacher and has secured a post as additional teacher elsewhere during the Covid crisis. We also are pleased that our nursery Modern Apprentice, Miss Crombie has secured a full time position in a nursery. We are delighted that Mrs Mutch is well and has returned to deliver music. Mrs Ward-Higgins is delivering our PE as before.

Mrs Currie continues to work alongside our nursery colleagues one morning/week which is going to be a supportive role and one where elements of early level practice are shared. The class will be covered by Miss Bays. Mrs Currie will also mentor our new staff member Mrs Liddle, who will teach Primary 2. Miss Horsburgh is our new nursery Modern Apprentice. We welcome them into Broomlands and wish them well.

Attendance

At this challenging time we are especially aware of attendance and have been delighted by the positive start to the year. Well done everyone. If your child is absent for any reason please contact the school office to make them aware. If for any reason we have not been informed of an absence a groupcall will be sent to ascertain the reason for absence. If we don't get a response to the groupcall then we will endeavour to speak to one of your chosen emergency contacts. If we are unable to make contact we will, in line with other SBC schools, need to contact partner agencies to ensure we can guarantee the safety of our youngsters.

Please do all you can to arrange medical or dental appointments out-with school time. If you are unable to do this then please let the class teacher know in advance, in writing so we have a clear record of this. Children being collected for appointments during the school day should leave only via the main reception. Thank you for your support with this.

School Improvement Report and Plan

The School Improvement Report is complete and will be shared at the Parent Council meeting. A hard copy is available from the school office should any wish to have one. School Improvement Planning has been affected by the Covid-19 situation and will evolve over the next few weeks. Currently we are very much focussed on ensuring a 'Recovery Curriculum' that meets the learning, emotional and social needs of our children post-lockdown. In summary, as the year progresses, we will be focussing on:

- Outdoor Learning
- Inspire Learning (iPad's)
- Data and Moderation
- Parental and pupil engagement
- Emergent Literacy
- Reading

Annual Update Form

These forms list the contact details we will hold on file for you. If you haven't done so already, please return them to school as soon as possible, even if there are no changes. If your details change throughout the year it is very important that you inform the school office as these details are vital in emergencies of any kind (eg illness, school closure, etc.) We will continue to make regular use of groupcall and would urge you to download the Xpressions app and ensure we have an up to date email address if at all possible.

Flu Immunisation

The flu immunisation form is being sent home with pupils in P1-P7 today. Please complete the form and return it to school by 28th August 2020.

Free School Meals and Clothing

Please use the link below to find out more about what is available to you. Scottish Government continues to support free school meals for all P1-3 children. We urge all families who are entitled to register for free school meals as this opens up other support that you may be entitled to.
https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20040/clothing_meals_and_transport/480/free_school_meals_and_help_with_schoolwear

Uniform can be ordered from www.border-embroideries.co.uk.

School Lunches

Please order school lunches online via ParentPay. Meals can be ordered weekly, monthly or up to a term at a time. If you order weekly can we please ask that you do it at the weekend in order to save admin time on a Monday morning. That would be greatly appreciated.

From Monday 24th August pupils can go home for lunch. Pupils have lunch on Monday to Thursday at the following times:

12pm to 12.45pm - P1, P2 and P7

12.30pm to 1.15pm – P3, P4, P5 and P6

Pupils who are going home for lunch should leave school from their class door and leave and return to school via the gate at the turning circle.

End of day arrangements

Please collect your child from the playground at the rear of the school or from nursery. All children from Nursery to P2 must be collected by an adult. We are happy for siblings from P5 upwards to collect younger siblings in P3 and P4 from school. The playground is not covered at 3.30pm so any children who are not collected should return to their class teacher and come into school to wait in the main reception for collection.

If your child is to be regularly collected at the end of the day by someone other than parents/carers, please complete and return the form below. If your child is in Nursery –Primary 2 and on occasion is collected by adult other than parents/carers please let the class teacher know in advance. If staff are unaware of a change to collection arrangements a phone call will be made to ensure your child goes home with the correct adult.

Holidays

A copy of school holidays for the coming year is available on the SBC website at

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20009/schools_and_learning/621/term_holiday_and_closure_dates/2

Mr Lindsay

CHILDCARE INFORMATION

My child/children..... Class(s).....

Will be collected by.....(provider) on Monday

Will be collected by..... (provider) on Tuesday

Will be collected by..... (provider) on Wednesday

Will be collected by.....(provider) on Thursday

Will be collected by.....(provider) on Friday

Please complete and return to school if your child regularly gets collected by an adult other than Parent/Carer.