



**Monday 22 March 2021**

It feels like such a long time since I've written a newsletter and not just an update on new restrictions or procedures! There is definitely a feeling of light at the end of the tunnel. The days getting longer and the arrival of spring flowers in the playground are adding to the positive mood.

After three long months it's fantastic to have every class back in school. Last week our P4-P7 children were given lots of opportunities to socialise and catch up with each other. We all felt this was a really important part of their general wellbeing. Children have settled quickly back into class and into routines. The focus in the coming weeks is on identifying any gaps in learning and planning learning to help reduce this.

### **Red Nose Day**

So many of our children, and staff, came to school wearing red or dressed up last Friday for Comic Relief. Although it wasn't the type of day it might have been in past years, it was still good to be able to do something to recognise the day. Thank you for all the contributions made through Parent Pay. So far we have raised £238.50.

### **Learning**

It has been lovely seeing children share their class learning again at our weekly assemblies. Primary one shared some amazing Super Hero teddies they drew for Red Nose Day. Primary two shared some of their fantastic writing about Victorian Homes.

### **Parent Consultations**

Last week we had our Parent Consultation appointments for P1- P3 children. These seem to have gone well. I know a number of parents opted this time for a phone call instead of the video call due to issues with technology.

Children in P4 – P7 will bring home a letter today about their Parent Consultation appointments in the first week following the Easter Holidays. You can choose whether you wish a phone call or a video appointment.

We aim to have one final set of Parental Consultations for all classes before the summer holidays with a written progress report also being issued before the end of the session.

### **Indoor P.E. and Swimming**

I was delighted to hear that the Council is hoping to restart indoor P.E. and School Swimming after 26<sup>th</sup> April when we move to level 3. It's been a year since children swam in the pool and participated in indoor PE lessons. More information will follow as we get nearer 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Planting**

Our primary 4 classes are preparing to plant potatoes in the final week of this term. These will then be harvested when the children return in P5.

Next term we hope to have more planting opportunities across the school.

### **Election Day**

Thursday 6 May is the General Election and the Nursery Building will be used as a Polling Station. This means the nursery will be closed to children on that day. The school however, will remain open to P1 – P7 and to the Language and Communication Classes.

### **Nursery Design Project**

Thank you to those of you who participated in the New Nursery Design Project. We really loved the ideas shared by Tomas's family (primary 1b) and have gone with a seasonal theme and rooms being named after local seasonal wildflowers. More about this will be shared in the coming months. We are currently looking at incorporating some children's artwork into the design.

### **Health and Safety**

Thank you for your continued support with playground procedures. Please remember to keep children home if they are showing any symptoms of Covid. We have also had a number of children absent with the vomiting bug. Please remember that they are required to be absent for 48hrs afterwards.

### **Borrowed Ipads**

We still have a number of iPads that were borrowed for home learning needing to be returned to school. If you have not already done so, can you please return any borrowed devices as soon as possible.

### **Change to Christmas Holiday Dates 2021/22**

The City of Edinburgh Council announced a change of dates for next Christmas holidays. Schools will now finish on Friday 17 December 2021 and resume on Thursday 6 January 2022.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Thursday 1 April – term ends

Tuesday 20 April – All resume for the summer term

Wednesday 21 and Friday 23 April – Primary 4-7 Parent Consultations

