



RESPECT INCLUSION TEAMWORK EFFORT

DIARY DATES

Term ends Friday 16th October normal time

Staff resume Monday 26th October

Pupils resume Tuesday 27th October

2nd October 2020

Dear Families

‘FLU VACCINATION

Families should have received the letters and returned permission forms for the annual ‘flu vaccination which will take place in school on Wednesday 28th October.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Our Parent Consultations will by necessity look different this year and will take place Week beginning 9th November. We are planning on having a form of remote parent consultations. We are exploring whether we can do this on Teams but we may have an issue with bandwidth and the system crashing when all staff are carrying out Teams meetings. We are going to run some trials on this and look at options. If Teams is too problematic then we will look at doing a telephone consultation. Hopefully the Curriculum evening overview has helped with the Learning planned in the year ahead and the consultation can really focus on the individual child and be very specific.

SCHOOL STREETS

I sent out a communication to all families and staff yesterday about our School Streets Scheme and our brilliant volunteers who help every day to keep our children safe as they travel to school. Please see below for a reminder:

As you will have noticed, the Council has put measures in place to close Sciennes Road in front of the school. This is in support of social distancing rules and the Council will keep the road closed for the foreseeable future. As well as these new measures, the existing School Streets Zone restrictions still apply; the extended part of Sciennes Road and the full length of Livingston Place IS CLOSED TO TRAFFIC during drop-off and pick-up times. The volunteer group will continue to ensure that blue badge holders and residents of Livingston Place have access, as required. However, we need all parents to play their role in prioritising child safety. The areas around the closure zones are still extremely busy with cars dropping off, undertaking dangerous U-turns and 3-point turns, double parking and illegal parking. The bottom of Tantallon Place is a particular hotspot. The double yellow lines are

there to ensure good visibility for pedestrians crossing, particularly important for small children. PLEASE help us to make the schools run safer for all of our children and do not bring your car too near to the school - use adjacent and surrounding streets if necessary for drop offs and pick ups. The parent volunteer group who help manage the Schools Streets Zone has issued the following statement:

“On a daily basis we witness dangerous and thoughtless driving / parking which puts the safety of children coming to school at risk. This problem will only become more dangerous as the winter weather and darkness draws in. We ask that parents show consideration on the school run and park their cars safely in surrounding streets before dropping off on foot.”

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Sciennes Primary School Streets volunteers

EQUALITIES PARENT GROUP

I mentioned in February that we were going to develop an Equalities strategy. I would like pupils, parents and staff to be involved in developing this. I had previously asked for parental interest in February but then Lockdown happened. I appointed P7 Equality Advisors today and I will appoint the P4-P6 advisors next week. Staff will start to explore their ideas on the Inservice day in October. If you are interested in being part of a parent group, please could you email me directly. If you did so back in February, please can you let me know again!
Andrew.hunter@sciennes.edin.sch.uk

ASSEMBLIES

Our P4-7 Assembly this week was The Big Anti-Bullying Assembly. It was advertised as being a live event on Monday 28th September but was available on YouTube which gave us some flexibility over when classes viewed it. The theme ties in with our focus on Inclusion and our future work with Pupil Equalities Advisors.

EXCITING PUPIL NEWS

Congratulations to Sadie Swan in P6 who has been made Captain of Hibernian Girls Football U11 Team. Very well done to Ray Gallacher in P6A who trains with the East of Scotland tennis squad and was selected for the U11 Scotland squad to play the North of England team in Newcastle last week. Brilliant!

Have a good weekend. I am looking forward to a Friday lunch out and a trip to North Berwick tomorrow.

Andrew

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