



RESPECT INCLUSION TEAMWORK EFFORT

DIARY DATES

Autumn Holiday Monday 21st September 2020

Term ends Friday 16th October normal time

Staff resume Monday 26th October

Pupils resume Tuesday 27th October

28 August 2020

Dear Families

What a wet and windy week! It has been disappointing not to be able to take our Primary Sevens to the Meadows but the children have coped really well with indoor breaks. Let's hope the weather improves next week.

We are experimenting with a new way to broadcast Assemblies and will trial run this on Monday. I'll let you know next week if it works!

Many of our upper school pupils have been inspired by Mrs Holli Barton to recreate watercolours based on "The Boy, The Fox, The Mole and The Horse". Wonderful to see the author Charlie Mackesy retweet and comment on some of our P7 pupils' work. Follow us on Twitter for regular updates <https://twitter.com/SciennesPS>

We are currently auditing our digital infrastructure and provision in school as digital technologies are integral to effective teaching and learning. Thank you to all the families who have returned loaned iPads. If you have not yet managed to do so, please return these by the end of next week so we can set them up for new classes.

Extra-curricular clubs are currently cancelled but we have emailed details of an online Computer Xplorers' club P4-7 children may find of interest.

Thank you for all the second-hand uniform donations. The sale took place after school today and we are very grateful for everyone's help. A great example of sustainable reuse as well as supporting each other within the community.

I had a meeting this week with members of the Parent Council and we discussed possible fundraising options for the coming year. More details to follow.

The children will be starting to design Christmas cards from next week (and can opt to do a Winter design). This annual Parent Council Fundraiser brings lots of pleasure to families over the festive period. We couldn't quite face starting Christmas in August so we have plumped for September!

We have been implementing safety measures in school since before our return in August and these continue to evolve. One measure is to ensure Specialist Teachers only work with a maximum of two classes per day. Therefore, Mrs Cynthia Berry (PE Specialist), Mr Mark McKenna (Science Specialist) and Mrs Holli Barton (Non-contact Class Teacher) will be working with children in P3-P7 for a two-and-a-half hour session on a three-week rolling programme.

Previously I mentioned we would have to amend the P1 and P2 hours to accommodate staggered finish times. However, we have now been able to realign the children's day so that they can still finish at 2.50pm. P1 and P2 children will continue to start at 9.00am every day and will now finish at 12.10pm on Fridays. The start and finish times for P3-P7 children have not changed. (See below.) Safety reminders as usual:

- From Monday 31st August, where possible, we would now like to encourage P1 parents to leave the playground once the children have joined their line. We have Gate Guardians, staff and Senior staff supervising at both gates. This will help your child to become more independent and ensure increased physical distancing between adults.
- Once you have dropped your child at school or picked them up, please can you leave the playground and move away from the school promptly (at P1, P2 Drop Off and P1-P5 Pick Up).
- The staggered start and finish times are helping but it can still get quite busy so please ensure physical distancing at 2m.
- You may wish to consider wearing a mask, though that is entirely a personal decision.
- Where possible, it would help reduce congestion if only one adult drops off and picks up.

Thanks to Edinburgh Police for their presence supporting School Streets and physical distancing and to all our daily parent helpers. Please email our School Streets Co-ordinator Bob Carr sciennes.schoolstreets@gmail.com if you are able to help, particularly in the afternoon.

Have a good weekend. I'm looking forward to lunch out tomorrow.

Andrew

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BELIEVE • ACHIEVE



SUMMARY OF STAGGERED START AND FINISH TIMES AT SCIENNES PRIMARY SCHOOL AUGUST 2020
P1, P3 and P5 WEST WING **P2, P4, P6 and P7 EAST WING**

***N.B. PUPILS SHOULD ONLY USE THE ENTRANCE/EXIT STIPULATED**

Year Group	Start Time	Mon – Thurs Finish Time	Friday Finish Time	ENTRANCE/EXIT
P1	9.00am	2.50pm	12.10pm	WEST DOOR (Sick Kids Hospital side) Parents wait in playground in West zone
P2A, P2B	9.00am	2.50pm	12.10pm	EAST DOOR (Main Entrance)
P2C	9.00am	2.50pm	12.10pm	Classroom Entrance/Exit from Playground
P3	8.50am	3.20pm	12.05pm	WEST DOOR
P4	8.50am	3.20pm	12.05pm	EAST DOOR
P5	8.40am	3.10pm	11.55am	WEST DOOR
P6	8.40am	3.10pm	11.55am	EAST DOOR
P7	8.40am	3.10pm	11.55am	EAST DOOR

DROP OFF P1
pupils will continue to line up from 9.00am and all other pupils will be able to come into school directly without lining up BUT ONLY USING THEIR CORRECT ENTRANCE AT THEIR PARTICULAR ENTRY TIME. P1 and P2 Parents may enter the playground

at Drop Off. **Please then leave the playground promptly.**

PICK UP P6 and P7 pupils may only be collected from **outside the school gates**. P1-P5 Parents, please **only enter the playground just before your designated pick up time**, ensure 2m distancing and then **vacate the playground immediately** you have collected your child to avoid congregating. If you have siblings who need collected at different times, please leave the playground, move away from the front of the school and return at the designated time. Thank you.