Headteacher's Newsletter Friday 21 August 2020

Dear families,

We are at the end of week two and I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all our young people. They have been tremendous in settling back into school, taking on board all our new routines and helping us to keep everyone safe. They are trying hard to adhere to all the rules and have made these changes with enthusiasm and good grace. Everything takes a little bit longer, but the children approach this with patience and understanding. You should be immensely proud of the young people you are bringing up. Thank you too for continuing to be aware of others and maintain a 2m social distance between adults at drop off and pick up times. It keeps you, and all of us, as safe as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation in not using the back carpark as it is now much safer for the children, but please remember that we have two disabled spaces at the back of the school and Blue Badge holders are welcome to access them. We also have one disabled space at the front of the school and with your Blue Badge you are welcome to park wherever you need to.

We have had to take the difficult decision to lock the playing field each evening due to people exercising their dogs and not picking up after them. This presents a health hazard for our young people who have all their PE outdoors, but it is such a shame as the children have enjoyed using these facilities out of school hours.

Over the next few weeks and months it is likely to be a regular occurrence that members of our community, children and adults, may need tested for COVID-19. Although this is a daunting prospect, please remember that "Trace and Protect" is there to support us all should there be a positive result. Please inform the school and keep your child at home while he/she or someone in your household is awaiting results. For further information please go to www.pkc.gov.uk/coronavirus/schools

We have had some families returning from holidays abroad and it is important that you are aware of the legal requirements for your family. Parent Club is a fantastic resource that has lots of helpful information and advice. It may also be helpful to refer to the Scottish Government webpage with information about international travel - https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-public-health-checks-at-borders/pages/overview/ It has never been more important to always follow medical and Scottish Government advice.

Our Risk Assessments are in place and we are back to learning, both in school and outdoors: using books and through play; planning our next steps; sharing our learning with others; consolidating our knowledge and doing our homework. It is fantastic to have our classes in front of us, but we don't want them to forget how to use Teams and Seesaw, so staff are regularly putting classwork, homework and information for parents online. Please remember to have a look. Should you not be able to access this, please email or phone and let us know as we are able to help. Please remember to come prepared for the weather and pack spare socks and shoes for your child on a PE day, as all PE is currently outside.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Take care

Elaine Liney