



Parsons Green Primary School
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Friday 12th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are really, really looking forward to having *EVERYONE* back in the building on Monday! Some of the information was shared on Wednesday this week and it is shared again to ensure everyone has all the info they need – please fill in the surveys if you'd like to tell us anything about the return to school, what could be better about school or to tell us anything that we've done well or that you've enjoyed, all feedback is really appreciated!

Please help us improve/prepare by responding to these surveys:

[Parent and Carer Survey re Remote Learning and Return to School](#)

[Learners Survey](#)

Reporting to Parents and Carers

Phone calls have taken place over the past couple of weeks and some will be coming up in the week ahead. If you haven't heard from the class teacher or haven't managed to arrange a time to chat then please get in touch. We are looking to see how we may use technology better for parent consultations in the future, an equal number of you had indicated that you would like either a phone call or a Team call and we chose to stick to phone calls this time round. We've had some positive feedback about phone calls feeling more relaxed, more personal/private and less frantic than being in the big hall. I hope that you have found the conversations have been able to focus on the strengths and next steps in your child's learning.

This Week:

Play afternoon on Wednesday was great fun! We hope that those at home also enjoyed some screen-free play-time too!

Friday Assembly

Please see attached Red Nose Day powerpoint shown to P4-7 today which explains a bit about what is happening next Friday. For next Friday everyone is invited to dress up in red from top to toe (or just a little bit!) and/or make some silly hair and learn a joke to make your class laugh (spicy challenge will be making your teacher laugh!). Some learners may even like to dress as a super-hero! Please DO NOT bring any additional props into school, including red noses.

Parent Pay is open for donations as with all fundraising, this is completely optional.

P1-3 watched a film today for their assembly called Our Story. It shows an animation of young people arriving in school for the first time from another country and how it feels to be the new person. It's a great reminder to everyone about how it can feel coming to school and to remember to smile and be kind:

<https://vimeo.com/276470810>

Parsy Reps

Please find attached the Parsy Rep minutes for this week as well as some posters that the Parsy Reps have made with advice for how to keep healthy and happy during lockdown.

There are 3 posters so far: How to stay happy during lockdown, How to keep fit in lockdown and How to keep in touch with your friends during lockdown. Teachers will be sharing with their classes, parents may like to chat with their children.

Check out their page on the school website:

<https://www.parsonsgreenprimaryschool.co.uk/classes/parsy-reps/>

Time Capsule

Thank you for the items that continue to come in.... please keep them coming! This is shaping up to be an epic box of delights that will be buried in just a few weeks to mark the school building's 60th birthday. P4-7 bring things with you that you have made/found next week and they can be handed in via your teacher.

Parent & Carer Survey Results -Newsletter attached

The Supporting Parents and Carers Collaborative is a team of multi-agency professionals working together in Edinburgh to improve the support available for parents and carers. In November 2020, the Collaborative launched a Parental Consultation to learn more about how families experienced the Covid 19 lockdown period. The response to the consultation has been overwhelming and we are grateful to all parents and carers in Edinburgh who took the time to share their views. This Newsletter lets you know what we heard. (We have found some of the themes in this survey echoed in the responses from PG parents and carers and are working with the collaborative about next steps)

Here is the link to the leaflet on the council webpage (a pdf is also attached)

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/29064/parental-consultation-newsletter>

P1 Coming to School

Last year we had the epic Edinburgh Bear Hunt to support transition for our youngest learners coming from nurseries across the city to start P1. This year there will be a similar transition offer and the characters are the Smeds and the Smoos from the book by Julia Donaldson. Look out for information throughout the summer term. The catchment families should have received an email asking you to confirm your child's place.

P7 Going to Portobello High School

Please look out for updates on the Portobello High School website transition pages from Friday. There will be video updates posted every couple of weeks from Friday answering your questions. There will be a virtual transition programme after the Easter holidays.

P7 Update re Benmore

I am very sorry to let all our P7 know that the Benmore trip will not be going ahead this year as hoped. The guidance around the tier system that will be coming into operation is not providing an opportunity to plan safely for people to travel or the centres to open. I know this will be disappointing news but we will do our best to continue to plan within the guidance for what is possible in terms of supporting as positive an experience as possible for our young people.

All money that has been paid into Parent Pay for Benmore will now be refunded.

Discover Programme

Please see the flier attached about the Discover Holiday Programme. If that is something that you feel would benefit your family then please get in touch directly with the HT.

Parent & Carer Guide to return

These [Back to School Top Tips](#) may be of help to revisit from the Building Resilience programme. You may have watched the short video before the August return and may find it helpful to watch again.

Please see the attached guide which outlines again the health and safety measures and mitigations in place to ensure the safety of everyone. Please note the change to finish times to make this smoother for everyone.

Drop off times are unchanged: between 8.45-9am

Pick up times:

Nursery – staggered finish from 2.45-3.10pm

P1/ P2 – 2.55 to 3.05pm (12noon on Friday) - top gates (please don't jump the fence!!)

P3 – 3.05pm (12.10pm on Friday) front steps/exit from main entrance

P4 – 3.10pm (12.15pm on Friday) front steps/ exit from main entrance

P5 - 3.15pm (12.20pm on Friday) back gates

P6 - 3.15pm (12.25pm on Friday) back gates

P7 – 3.20pm (12.30pm on Friday) back gates

A polite reminder to keep your children out of the garden at the front of the school, currently it is full of Spring flowers but there is also a large drop into the playground, thank you for your help with this!

Another polite reminder: PLEASE DO NOT PARK OR STOP ON YELLOW ZIG-ZAGS!
Thank you for practising safe parking and better still, for walking, scooting and cycling to school wherever possible.

Other News

This week Shionka Kamikaji-Inkster took part in the YouTube hosted Edinburgh Festival Competition Association virtual performance.

This performance features winners of the global competition in the Great Composer Competition in which Shionka came joint first for her age bracket.

Thursday's YouTube event can be seen

here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwsggEreX5c> . Shionka's piece is approximately 14 minutes into the clip.

Great achievement, Shionka!

Walk for NHS Charities Together

Sophie Webster from P6 and Juno (her dog), along with her mum Vicki, are walking up all of Edinburgh's seven hills on Saturday 13th March for NHS charities together! If you would like to support them please see the details below:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sophiew11?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=sophiew11&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=f699461d67194e0cb55d9998c6c6b0b6

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to NHS Charities Together, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

Good luck with your challenge Sophie!