



# Principal's Newsletter

November 2020



Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you are all keeping well and that the ongoing impacts of Covid-19 are not having too much of a negative impact on you and your extended family.

I also hope that you and your children managed to enjoy some quality time together during the extended half term break. As a result of the extended break we have had to make one very small adjustment to our term dates for this year. **School will now close for Christmas at 12pm (staggered finish time will come out later to the time) on MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, not Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December as previously advertised.** This is the only change required to our holiday timetable for now.

As you will be aware, the school photographer was in school last Monday to take individual class photographs. Huge thanks to parents and carers for registering with the photographer. This worked really well and will make the ordering of your child's photographs much easier for you, as parents.

Many thanks

Mr C. Fulton

Principal

## **SCHOOL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thanks to all the parents and carers that have already made their school fund contributions. We currently have approx. £3000 in donations.

If you are still to make your school fund donation for this academic year, please send this in with your child, to their class teacher, as soon as possible. This will allow us to plan how to use the donations most effectively. Hopefully, we will gain enough funding to commence work on our ICT suite.

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

### Principal

Mr C. Fulton

### Vice Principal

Mrs L. Kernaghan

### Head of Foundation & Key Stage 1

Mrs J. Orr

### Special Needs Co-ordinator and Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Miss J. Minnis

### Nursery Lead

Mrs P. Addis

### Head of Key Stage 2

Mrs R. Miskelly

## I'M WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD IN SCHOOL.



If you are concerned about the welfare of a pupil in school, please speak with Miss Minnis (Designated Teacher for Child Protection).



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### School Packed Lunches

Please continue to send your child into school with their packed lunch in a disposable container that can be put in the bin at the end of lunchtime. This has been working really really well for us in school and I thank you all for your continued support.

### Class Charity Information

We will be continuing to collect any spare change, on a weekly basis (Wednesday) to go towards our collections for this year. A reminder that all the money raised will be going towards helping with the refurbishment of our ICT Suite. I can't wait to get to a point when I can share the plans of our redesigned ICT suite with you all. ☺

### Mandatory Wearing of Face Coverings

Can I take this opportunity to thank all our parents / carers for working with us, from last Monday, in ensuring that face coverings are worn when entering the school grounds. I know that this information came rather late, however, parents / carers have been wonderful in making sure that this added bit of risk management has been implemented so easily.

By continuing 'doing what we are doing' I am confident that we will remain a safe place for our entire school community.

### Food Bank Donations

Before our half term break, we had asked parents / carers to bring in donations of items for the local food banks. As always, the response from our school community was **AMAZING!!!!**

The announcement of the early closure of school resulted in us asking the food bank to come and collect the items earlier than anticipated, however, we did manage to get a couple of photographs of the 'mountain' of donations before they went.

Once again, thank you VERY much for your support. The team from the food bank couldn't believe their eyes when they came to collect your donations.





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### School Attendance Information

What a really tricky year for school attendance. It is really important that children come to school as regularly as possible...even during the current Covid pandemic. However, to add to the confusion, it is equally important that children do not come to school if they have any symptoms of Covid-19 or have tested positive.

Each term, the Education Welfare Service (EA's attendance support team) make contact with me at school to ask for a list of children with attendance below 85%. **We must comply with this request.** I will then discuss each child individually with the EWS to determine if EWS support is required in order to ensure that the child's attendance increases.

It is really important that, if your child is not in school, even for 1 day, parents / carers provide school with a written note to explain why the child was missing from school. This provides me with the information I need to discuss a child's attendance with the EWS. If school is not provided with a note, I have no explanation for the absences, and, if a child's attendance is below 85%, the EWS will request that I refer that child on to their service.

Moving forward, it is our intention to send a reminder text message to you if we have any missing attendance information on our school system.

### **REMEMBER....**

**In order to ensure that we, as a school, can remain open for as long as possible, please DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL**

**IF:**

- They have a continuous cough
- They have a high temperature
- They have a loss of their normal sense of taste and/or smell.



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**Open Day for Nursery and Primary 1**

**Wednesday 6th January 2021**

**[www.victoriaprimary.org.uk](http://www.victoriaprimary.org.uk)**

Parents / Carers must phone the school to make an appointment in line with Covid Guidelines.

**Visiting Parents are invited to: Tel: 028 9335 1781**

**Meet the Principal**

**Chat with Nursery and Primary 1 Staff**

**Look Around Our Nursery and P1**

Tours will take place from 9.30am - 5.00pm and parents will have approx. 20mins to look around the setting.

**What our parents and carers say about us (Parent Questionnaire):**

'I would like to thank all the nursery staff for preparing my child for P1 and helping her to become the person she is today.'

'My child really loves school. She never wants to miss a day. She has had wonderful teachers who have made her school life so enjoyable. Thank you so much.'

'Victoria P1 has been the best school for our children. It supports children individually whilst also acknowledging the child as an individual and developing their personalities.'

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT SCHOOL WILL BE  
CLOSED TO CURRENT NURSERY AND PRIMARY  
1 PUPILS ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**



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## October 2020



All pupils and staff in school took part in our annual Act of Remembrance. The children all created poppies and 'planted' them in the green at the front of our school.

At 11am on 11<sup>th</sup> November, our school stood still, to pause, reflect and remember.

In order to make our time of remembrance extra special, Mr Browne, a parent, came into school and played the bagpipes for us. [CLICK HERE](#) to listen to a clip of him playing for us.

Huge thanks to Mr Browne for joining with us.





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### Term Dates 2020 / 21

<u>Term Dates</u>	
<b>August</b>	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> August – Primary 7 pupils return to school. P2 – P6 begin revision online learning, Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August – school re-opens for pupils in P1 – P6 (Please see individual year group starting information as per Principal's Newsletter sent 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2020.)
<b>October / November</b>	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> - <b>School Development Day (School Closed)</b> Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> , Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> , Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> , Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> November ( <b>School Closed for Half Term</b> ) Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> November – School reopens
<b>December</b>	Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> – ( <b>School closes at 12pm for the Christmas Holidays</b> )
<b>January</b>	Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> ) Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> – School reopens for P2 – P7 pupils. Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> – School reopens for Nursery and P1 pupils.
<b>February</b>	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> ) Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> , Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> , Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> , Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Closed for half term</b> ) Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> – School reopens
<b>March / April</b>	Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> March – ( <b>School closes at 12pm for Easter Holidays</b> ) Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> ) Tues 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> April – ( <b>School Closed for half term</b> ) Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – School reopens
<b>May</b>	Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> – <b>School Closed (Bank Holiday)</b> Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> – ( <b>School Development Day – school closed</b> )
<b>June</b>	Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Development Days (School Closed)</b> Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> – ( <b>School closes at 12pm for Summer Holidays</b> )

### LATEST HIGH FIVE EDITION

[PLEASE CLICK HERE](#) TO ACCESS THE LATEST ADDITION OF THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY'S HIGH FIVE NEWSLETTER. THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED BY THE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT TEAM IN THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY.