



Law Primary School
Haddington Road
North Berwick
EH39 4QZ

Wednesday 17th February 2021

Dear Parents / carers,

I'm sure lots of you sighed with relief yesterday when the announcement was made that Nursery and P1-3 can return to school on the 22nd February. We will be working hard over the next few days making arrangements for this and completing all the necessary risk assessments etc. More details will be issued by the end of the week. Parents of children P4-7 will continue with home learning for a while longer. I'm sure if the infection rates continue to drop we will all be back soon.

The guidance for reopening schools arrived after the ministerial announcement yesterday afternoon. The local authority subgroups will need a few days to read and agree actions that are required to be taken across the whole authority and we will be back in touch to highlight these prior to school opening safely next week.

There are many challenges involved with operating full days in school learning for P 1-3 and hubs at the same time but we are very excited to have the children back in school.

The return to school brings many uncertainties for staff.

One mitigation is the introduction of self-testing for all staff working in schools. This is undertaken at home twice per week and I thank the staff who volunteer to undertake this unpleasant procedure to ensure we all stay as safe as possible.

Parents/carers will need to play their role as the first minister advised. Only one adult should be there for drop off and pick up, and this should be done as quickly as possible, to avoid large numbers in the playground. Please leave as soon as you pick up your child, even though it might be tempting to take the opportunity to catch up with friends. Violation of this will result in the school closing down the playground for drop offs and pick-ups. More details to follow later this week.

Staffing

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Marr is expecting a baby in May. Both are well but due to guidance on pregnancy and the risk of COVID she will not be returning to in-school teaching. We are pleased to have Mrs Candy Inglis-Akers joining us until Mrs Lima returns from her maternity leave in April.

We are very sad to announce that a few members of staff have decided to move on to new adventures. Mrs Jane Crowe leaves us after 9 years and will be following her interests away from education. Mrs Paula Aitken has secured a job in another Primary school and lastly Mrs Margaret O'Connor has decided to retire after serving the school community for 18 years. Each member of staff has brought many strengths to the team and we say farewell with heavy hearts but wish them the very best in their futures.

Google Meets

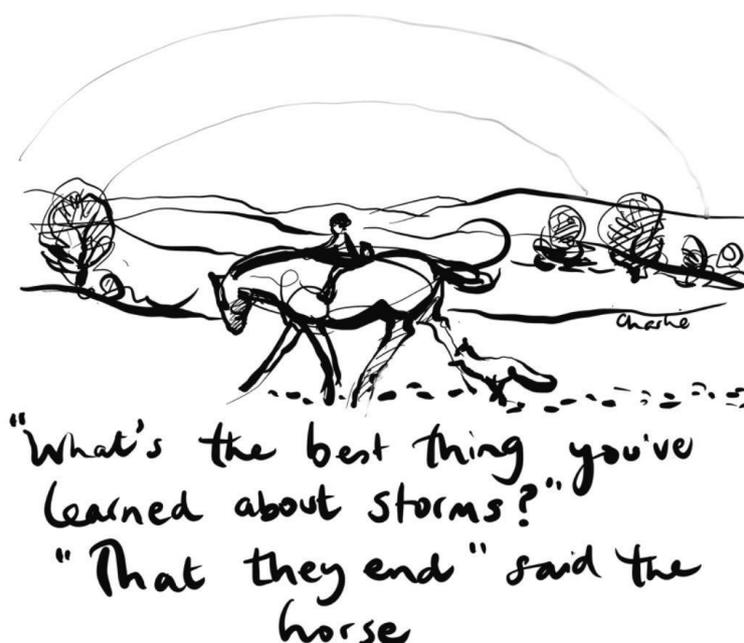
It was noticed that during a Google Meet a child was taking photographs of her classmates. Please note that this is not allowed as not all children have permission for their photos to be taken. May I

also remind you that children should not attend Google Meets in their nightwear. Cameras should be switched on whenever possible, and please use the background filters if you do not wish your house to be on view.

I hope you enjoyed the break. It was lovely to have the snow and the fun that it brought. For me it was time to rebuild relationships with my family that have become strained at times while working under extreme circumstances. It was also time to regroup before this half term.

Staff worked incredibly hard during the In-service day, planning for the uncertain time ahead. The learning stays the same but the delivery will be adjusted for remote versus face to face teaching. I am sure like me you would like to thank the many staff who have turned up every day to ensure that the learning and critical childcare has been available for those that need it and to the staff who are providing remote learning for children who are at home.

I am always inspired by quotes on social media feeds and this one came onto my feed yesterday



Not long now until we start our journey back to a new normal. I look forward to Monday and welcoming children back into the school building.

More information will follow later this week.

Kind regards

Jacqui Mackinnon
Head Teacher