

“ In our
togetherness
(as a team),
castles
are built.”



Lennoxtown
Primary

Lennoxtown Primary School



Dear Families, I can't quite believe that we are almost at the end of October but time certainly does fly when you're having fun! It has continued to be action packed this side of the school door and children are working very hard in a very happy and settled environment. I continue to be acutely aware of rising anxiety in our wider community due to the ongoing behaviour of the virus but I reassure you that we are working so hard within both the school and nursery to follow all our Health Hero rules and keep things as normal, fun and energetic as the current situation allows. The staff and I continue to wish you all the very best of health and you know where we are if you need us.

Best wishes from Team LPS

Important Dates

- 28.10.20 PTA AGM 6.30pm via TEAMS
- 29.11.20 – PLPs home to families
- 30.10.20 – Dress up/dress down day
- 2.11.20 – return PLPs and work
- 4.11.20 – Parent Council meeting via TEAMS 6.30pm
- 25.11.20 – Flu Vaccination
- 21.12.20 – Christmas afternoon at the movies.
- School closes for Christmas
- 6.-1.21 – Pupils return to school

Reporting to Families

- We continue to explore ways of staying connected and sharing our learning in absence of being able to have families in the building. We are going to work with our Parent Council to plan for how best we can share learning and progress with you and in the interim we are sending our Personal Learning Plans and work samples home next week. We are also updating our website on a regular basis and will add a 'Snap Shot' learning overview to each class's section which will give you a flavour of some of the learning themes we are working on. Teaching staff are also doing a lot of work in the background in terms of upskilling on the technology front and we are exploring voicing over PowerPoints, using SWAY and making more frequent use of TEAMS to share information with a view to using some of these mechanisms to get information out to you. We will continue to keep you updated.

Communication – We are working hard to stay connected. Please remember to check our

school/nursery twitter feeds and website for our regular news items. If you have any suggestions that you wish to share please call us or email the school office on office@lennoxtown.e-dunbarton.sch.uk. In order that any email communication is addressed timeously please email the school office and not HT or DHT directly as communication can be missed due to volume of email traffic on a day to day basis. If you have a suggestion specifically for the PTA or Parent Council please mark your email accordingly.

PTA Donation

– A huge thank you to our wonderful P.T.A who have donated £2000 to our school fund. We are going to use this money to buy quality waterproofs for the whole school and portable hanging/drying rack for each room. Buying quality will allow us to use the waterproofs year on year. Any balance left from the £2000 will go towards playground improvement. We have also been gifted £300 from one of our parents towards our playground cause and we are beyond grateful. Such kindness in the spirit of togetherness!

Mental Health - Please continue to be mindful of both your own and your family's mental health. Even the most resilient of units are being tested to the limit just now and we mustn't underestimate the power of invisible anxiety. We are adding a Mental Health section to our school website in the Parent section in the coming days which will signpost resources. Also, please do not hesitate to lift the phone to us, ever.

Toy Recycle

Thank you so much to all families who have contributed to our toy re-cycle project, we have lots of lovely things to see to new homes. Mrs Coyle is finalising the organisational side and will be in touch with instructions on toy booking and collection.

The Spark - A reminder that a telephone based counselling service is now available for children of ten years and over. The service can support young people with a wide range of difficulties including grief and loss, anxiety, low mood, family relationships and self-regulation. We can support you to access this and we will put the details on our school website.

Facebook

We are currently exploring other ways we can stay in touch and be connected. We have always been very much an open door school and we are looking at ways we can replicate that openness digitally! At present all families are welcome to call the school at any time and we will call you back as soon as possible. We are also making use of emails, groupcall, our school website and our twitter account. If you are not already following us on twitter then please follow as @LennoxtownP.

We have now started up our own Lennoxtown Primary Facebook page and we have started to upload some posts. If you are familiar with Facebook then please follow us as this will be another mechanism to share what's going on within the school.

Clothing Grant, Free Meal Entitlement and Food Bank referrals - Our current health crisis has changed the financial dynamics of many families. Please don't hesitate to contact us with support to apply for the above entitlements.

Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council Meeting is Wednesday the 4th of November at 6.30pm via TEAMS. Our Parent Council are going to support us in our seeking of views on reporting to parents. If you have any matters you wish to raise with the Parent Council, then please email the Office directly and mark it for the attention of 'Parent Council'.

Internet Safety

Internet Safety and appropriate use of social media is a hot topic of conversation of late and we are living in challenging times. As part of our school curriculum we regularly teach the children about Internet Safety and the dangers of talking to strangers online either through a game they are playing or chats that they are able to access. A number of children across the school spoke of 'talking' with people from different countries/areas as part of their online activity. I cannot express strongly enough the need for parental vigilance around access to games, social media and chat forums. In recent weeks I have emailed out links to Parent Resources which signpost support and information on how to stay on top of social media chat in particular. Please continue to set aside some time to check your child's social media and internet activity. The school will continue to impress the dangers and implications of unhealthy social media chat and the fact that once a message is out there it becomes part of a digital footprint that is identifiable to the sender. Government Guidance states that social media services require users to be at least **13 years of age** to access and use their services. This includes Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, Musical.ly and Skype



We are mindful that as virus numbers continue to increase there is growing anxiety in our families and community. Please be assured that we continue to work very hard to keep our school and nursery as safe as possible and if the inevitable happens and we had a positive case then our protocols are tight. The children and staff are a credit to us all and both our school and nursery continues to be calm, cosy and learning fit. Below I have attached a copy of our Health Hero rules, our handwashing schedule and our general safety measures below as a wee reminder of some of the processes we have in place. You can also find these documents on our website in the Parent Section under 'Safety Measures'. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns of a health and safety nature.

LPS Health Hero Rules



LPS we will all be **Health Heroes** and there are things we will do to look after one another.

Everyone is now in their class base and your class is your bubble. Although boys and girls don't need to keep distance it is important that we keep our distance from other classes.

Everyone has all the books and jotters they will need so we don't need to share anything.

We will have our lunch in class instead of the dinner hall.

We have feet in our corridor to show us which side to stick to!

There can only be 3 or 4 people in the toilet at any one time. There is a sign outside the door to help you.

We all have our own playground space and it's important to stay in that.

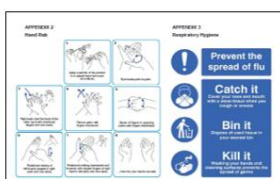
As a HEALTH HERO, the most important thing we can do is wash our hands lots and lots and lots and lots and we follow our daily handwashing schedule.

Handwashing schedule - ABSOLUTE MUST!

- On arrival
- Before break
- After break
- Before P.E
- After P.E
- Before lunch
- After lunch
- Before home time



*and any other time staff feel an activity requires hand washing!



Lennoxton Primary Safety Measures

Keeping things tight - Every child will learn and play with their own class only. This is in place as part of the Scottish Government's 'Track, Trace, Protect' initiative and it means in the unlikely situation that someone takes unwell we can easily track and trace movements therefore keeping everyone safe.

Each class has its own entry and exit point and space in the playground to avoid congestion. This will also support safe drop off and pick up. We have emailed you a map of entry points and we have also uploaded this on to our school website.

From week beginning 17.08.20 we will have staggered start and end times to the school day to ease any congestion in our corridors and playground. P1-p3 will start at 8.50am and finish at 2.50pm, p4 and p5 will start at 9am and finish at 3pm and p6 and p7 will start at 9.10am and finish at 3.10pm. Any parents wishing to drop and pick up whole families should drop the whole family at the start time of the oldest child and pick up at the finish time of the youngest child.

Packed lunches only as we will not be mixing in the dinner hall. Children will eat their lunches in the classroom before they go out for a lunch break. Primary 1-3 and Children entitled to a free meal will have lunch provided. We ask that children do not go home for lunch. The **water fountain will be out of use** so children are encouraged to bring 1 or 2 bottles of water with them every day.

Belongings and uniform - Children are welcome to bring along a school bag and pencil case. School bags will be stored under desks and pencil cases can be on desks but contents cannot be shared. We will supply every child in the school with their own personal learning pack which will contain all of the jotters and resources they need for learning. **Children will not share anything.** Children are encouraged to wear school uniform every day and this should be washed regularly. Children should also wear a warm waterproof jacket and sensible footwear as all P.E lessons will be outside. Children are welcome to wear tracksuit bottoms on P.E days with uniform on top.

Rigorous hand washing - We will all make sure that we look after one another and keep everyone safe by washing our hands regularly for 20 seconds. We will all do this a number of times in the day.

Hand Washing

Washing your hands has always been an important way to avoid becoming unwell, but now we are getting ready to go back in school it is even more important! We will be washing our hands regularly during the day including:

- At the beginning of the day,



- In between different learning activities.
- After blowing your nose or coughing.
- Before and after we eat.
- Before and after we go outside.
- When we use the toilet.
- At the end of the day.



Excellent signage - There will be lots of signs around school reminding you of what we can do to keep ourselves safe. You will have 3 posters in your class base to remind you about keeping your distance, washing your hands and catching and binning your sneezes. There will also be markings on the floor to show you where to stand in places like on the stairs and lining up outside after playtime. We will keep our 2 metre signs as a reminder for all of the grown-ups!

Walking in the corridors in the right direction - we will also have sticky feet to show the direction of travel within the corridors. This will ensure our corridors are never congested and that we're all looking out for one another.

Clean as you go! - All classes have their own safely stored cleaning products and teaching and support staff will clean as they go. This will include the wiping down of resources and tables on a regular basis. Our Primary 1 and 2 classes are employing a 72-hour rotation of resources similar to our practice in the nursery.

Visitors to the building - there will be no visitors to our building unless this has been previously agreed. Any visitors to the building will follow our strict routines, maintain 2 metre social distancing and be escorted in and out of the building. Parents will only be in the building in the case of an absolute emergency. Instead, any drop off or pick up requirements out with our normal school day will be at a designated school door and this will be communicated by our office team in advance.

Managing a suspected case - In the instance that a pupil or staff member should take unwell and present with covid symptoms within the school we have strict and safe procedures in place. Any recommendations for a group, class or school to isolate will be directly informed by Public Health and there are robust mechanisms in place to access support.

Welcome back induction - we have prepared a welcome back induction assembly that the children will access in their class via teams. This will highlight many of the changes the children need to learn and also remind them about catching coughs and sneezes. All classes have been issued with pedal bins with lids so that sneeze tissues are quickly contained.