



# HT Newsletter

## October 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have all had a lovely, long September weekend. I am extremely proud of all our pupils and the effort and enthusiasm they are continuing to show for learning in school since the start of term. Over the next few weeks, you will start to see more of what the children have been up to in class, and I know they will be excited to share this with you.

In the meantime, I have put a few updates and information that you may find useful within our October Newsletter.

### Staffing Update

There are a few staffing updates across the school that have taken place in recent weeks.

Mrs Fitzpatrick (Classroom Assistant), who has worked at WCPS for 20 years, has recently retired. I am sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Fitzpatrick a wonderful and fun retirement, she will be very much missed around the school.

Miss Currie (Class Teacher) is also leaving Wester Cleddens as she is relocating. We are sad to be losing Miss Currie as she is a fabulous Class Teacher and team member, who is extremely nurturing towards all our pupils. However, we are very excited for her as she moves on to a new adventure and wish her the absolute best as she continues her teaching career in a new city!

Ms. Beckett (Support for Learning Assistant) has joined Wester Cleddens on a temporary basis to provide further support for pupils across the school and we are delighted to have her join our team.

Mrs McLeod (Class Teacher) has also recently joined Wester Cleddens and will be teaching within our Primary 3/4 class. Mrs McLeod has worked within EDC for many years and was previously part of the Education Support Team. She brings a wealth of teaching experience with her and we are also delighted that she is now part of our school team.



### TEAMS and Home Learning Information

The following will be sent home with your child on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October:

1. Your child's Username and Password for Glow and Teams
2. Parent Information Sheet
3. Pupil Step by Step guide
4. Username Passwords for Sumdog and Active Learn/Bug Club



An updated video guide will also be sent to Parents/Carers via email. We have tried to make Teams as streamlined as possible, building on feedback given. We have reduced this to just a 'General' page and an 'Ask the Teacher' page.

Home Learning from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October will be sent via the 'Assignments' feature in Teams. More detailed information will follow, regarding how this works. As this will be the first week of using Teams for Home Learning, we are aware there may be a few teething problems or questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you are having issues with accessing.

We are very aware that families are all in quite different situations at this point and we understand if Home Learning is not always able to be completed, please do not worry if this is the case. If you do have any concerns or difficulties with completing Home Learning activities, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Worksheets/workbooks may be sent home to support Home Learning activities as the weeks progress (where appropriate). However, no work will be brought back into school. Instead, photos of completed work can be shared with Class Teacher using features within Teams (refer to guides, which will be shared on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October).

Where reading books for Primary 1 -3 are sent home, these will come home on a Monday and will be returned to school on a Friday. Books must not come back into the school until the Friday, as we have strict guidelines to follow.

Further features within Teams, such as the Class Notebook, will be introduced during October – December. However, we are keen to get children and families confident with navigating Teams for Home Learning first, using Assignments and the 2 pages which will be in place.

## Reporting and Communication with Parents

The following information will be shared over the upcoming weeks:

### 1. Meet the Class Teacher Video

- A short video from your child's Class Teacher

### 2. Learning Update

- This will be a very brief report on how your child has settled into class and brief update on Literacy and Maths, using the Star and Wish approach.
- Star = One or two things that your child has achieved or made progress within Literacy and Maths.
- Wish = One target or next step the Class Teacher would like your child to work on in both Literacy and Maths.
- There will be a section for pupils to write their thoughts and a section for Parents.
- This is the first time we have done this form of progress update, however, we wanted to share a brief update, while we get our Teams and Seesaw up and running.

### 3. Photo and video updates via Teams

- Your child and their Class Teacher will be sharing photos and videos of what they are getting up to in class via Teams. This will start when we return after the October holiday week.

We are currently awaiting our licence for Seesaw and as soon as we have this, we will quickly get this set up and send out information to parents.

## Drop of and Pick Up

Please can I remind all Parents/Carers who drop off and pick up their child at the end of the day that it should be one adult per child. As we are currently on local lockdown, there should be no gathering of groups taking place within the school grounds. This is for the safety of our pupils, parents, and staff. All adults must always be 2m apart and leave the playground as soon as their child is dropped off or picked up.



Under no circumstances should any dogs be entering the school grounds. Over the last few weeks there have been dogs being brought into the school by Parents picking up their children. As many Parents will know, the school children organised a big campaign a few years ago to stop this. If you must bring your dog to collect your child, please do not enter the school grounds, and arrange to meet your child outside the gate.

## Playground Update

The pupils have been very busy creating their ideas for the playground and we have started collating these to look at what will be purchased and developed.

Have a look at some of the wonderful ideas suggested! Every pupil has completed an idea sheet, and these are currently being put up on display within our school for all the pupils to see what each other has suggested.

Thank you to the kind donations of tyres and crates that we have received. The children have been having a fantastic time exploring, playing and creating using these – there is a lot of imaginary play and problem-solving taking place by all year groups!



If you have any questions on any of the above, or anything you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact the school via the school office by email [office@westerleddens.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](mailto:office@westerleddens.e-dunbarton.sch.uk).

Kind regards

*Tricia Kynigos*

**Mrs Kynigos**  
**Head Teacher**