



HT Newsletter



November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful and informative. The children have continued to work hard within school and should be very proud of all their efforts. If you haven't had the chance yet, you can see some videos, photos and comments on what your child has been learning in class on their class learning journey within Teams – further information can be found within this newsletter.

We are aware we are coming into the season of giving and Christmas is fast approaching. At this time of year, the boys and girls often come into school with Christmas cards to share with their friends in class, however, this year we are asking that this does not take place. Due to restrictions in place, trying to organise the safe distribution of cards that come in from individual households and then distribute to children throughout the class is not possible. If children would like to share a card, an alternative is to share their card or picture with the class through their Class Teams page or even a Christmas Gif. We fully appreciate that this is very different to what we usually do, however, we must ensure we are putting the health and safety of all at the forefront.

New Staff Members

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome three new members of staff who have joined us over the last month. Mrs Kirsteen Griffiths has joined our team as a Classroom Assistant. Miss Jody Walker has joined our team as a temporary Class Teacher and is currently providing support with P.E. Miss Holly Abercrombie is joining our team as a Class Teacher from Monday 30th November and will help to support classes throughout the school.

Hot Meals

From Tuesday 1st December Hot Meals will be available for all pupils throughout the school. Wester Cleddens are moving to a new Cashless Catering system within the school, which will go live from the 1st December. Further information regarding how this system will work will be sent via email from EDC, to all WCPS families. This information will include details on how the cashless catering system works, how you can pay and order your child's meal in advance. If you do not receive any information before the 30th November, please contact the school office.



Flu Vaccination

Our annual Flu Vaccinations are taking place on Thursday 3rd December at the school, delivered by the NHS. These are taking place in line with current guidance.

Book Week Scotland

The boys and girls throughout the school and the staff team had an amazing time celebrating Book Week. We enjoyed the vast array of activities that took place, and the innovative ways of ensuring that our normal events that normally take place could still go ahead with some adjustments and the careful use of digital technology!





If you have not had the chance to look, please have a look at your child's 'Our Class Learning Journey' on Teams for photos, videos etc. for further information on activities that took place.

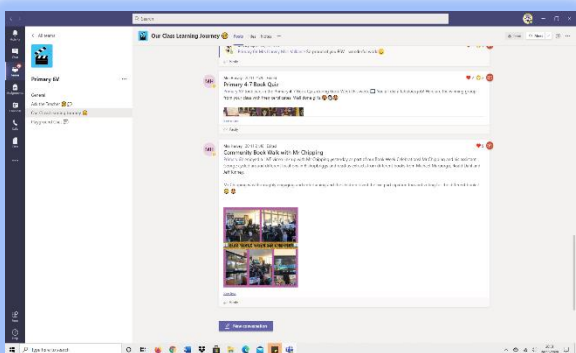
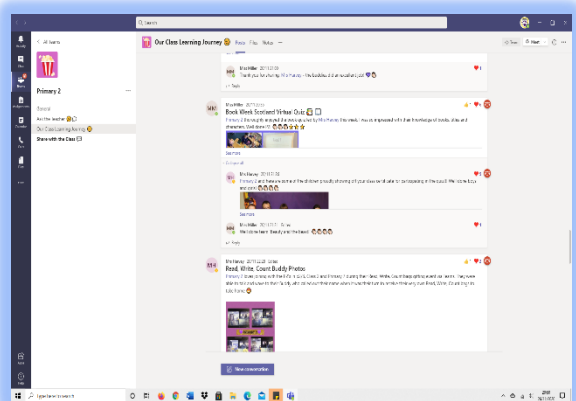
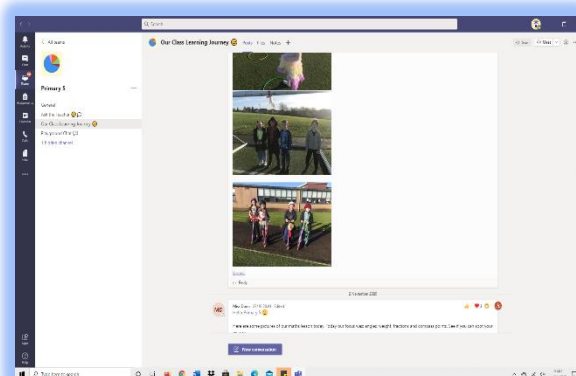
A special thank you to Mrs Harvey for organising such a creative and fun week to celebrate books!

Class Teams

The boys and girls are continuing to access Teams from home and in school to ensure they are becoming familiar with its features. This is important, as Teams will be used as the main mode of communication should a pupil or class have to self-isolate. As of last week, we had over 85% of the school logging on to Teams from home - which is fantastic!

If you have not had the chance to look yet, we highly recommend having a look at your child's 'Our Class Learning Journey' on Teams. In this section, every Class Teacher uploads photos, work, or videos of what the children have been getting up to in class. New work is shared on a weekly basis. Within our infant department (P1-3) work is uploaded more frequently due to the nature of play based and active activities.

If you or your child, have not already managed to log on to Teams from home, you may receive communication from the school regarding this to see if you are having any difficulty accessing. We are looking to ensure that all families can access, so that no communication from the Class Teacher is missed. We are currently creating some paper-based packs to support and enhance the Home Learning that is issued via Teams and these will start to be sent home in January.



Christmas Activities

We are currently planning a variety of fun Christmas activities for the boys and girls over the festive season and further information will follow! We are aware we can't have our normal Nativity, but we have something special organised for our Primary 1 families, which we hope you will like.

PTA Fundraising

The PTA have been very busy trying to look at alternative ways to fundraise for the school and look at other ways in which they can support. One of the ways in which you can support the PTA to raise funds at home, is to shop online via the Easyfundraising page -

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/westercloddenspa/>



Outdoor/Wet/Cold Weather Clothing

As you know, classes are spending more time outdoors when at school and we kindly ask that you send your child to school every day with a suitable waterproof jacket/coat and as the weather gets colder a hat and gloves, where appropriate. If the rain is particularly heavy, the children stay indoors for breaks and we also bring the children in earlier in the mornings from 8.50am. Your child can wear wellies to school and if they do, you may want them to bring shoes/trainers in their school bags to change into. We would also advise keeping a spare set of socks, leggings/joggers in school bags this term, if you do not do this already.



We kindly ask that if your child is not able to tie their own shoelaces, that you send them into school in shoes that they are able to easily get on and off, this is particularly important if changing out of wellies. We have many children who are wearing shoes with laces that are not able to tie these and this is difficult to navigate with restrictions in place, when the laces become undone.

Dates for Diary

- **Tuesday 1st December – Hot Meals for All Pupils Starts**
- **Thursday 3rd December – Flu Vaccinations**
- **Monday 21st December – School Closes for Christmas Holidays at 2.30pm**
- **Wednesday 6th January – School Reopens to Pupils at 9am**

If you have any questions, or anything you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact the school via the school office by email office@westerceddens.e-dunbarton.sch.uk.

Kind regards

Fiona Kynigos

Mrs Fiona Kynigos
Head Teacher



Happy Together, Learning Together, Achieving Together