



Raeburn Primary School

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Headteacher: Ms J Bushell

Monday 21st September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter is arriving a little later than usual, as I have already written several times with so many changes in place to make the opening of school as smooth and safe as possible. I know you will now all join me in welcoming our new F2 families to Raeburn. I am delighted to say that our youngest children have coped remarkably well with their new start at school, considering our usual transition plans could not be in place. Thank you to the parents and carers for preparing your little ones so well.

As I said on my last letter it really is a joy to see our children back in school and they also have all moved up to their new year groups smoothly.

Staff news

I am delighted to tell you that Miss Asher has given birth to Amelie, her beautiful new daughter, last week. Both she and the baby are well.

Class Curriculum Meetings

Attached to this letter is the information that would have been shared with you at Class Curriculum Meetings. Staff have provided you with a powerpoint that should explain expectations and some parts of the curriculum for your child's new class. There are also other key documents attached which may help you to know what your child should be able to know and do by the end of this school year.

Bubble Closures and Home Learning

From March to July home learning was sent out each week for children to complete with parents/carers. Under our 'new normal' we know that there will be times when we need to isolate bubbles and children will be asked to self isolate for periods of 14 days. With this in mind we are currently reviewing our procedures for home learning to develop further what we were working with during the whole school closures. More information will be provided soon.

With effect from today (21st September) our Year 3 will be classed as 1 bubble. This is so we can teach Read Write Inc. to the children that require it.

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

Please do note the following information, which outlines important procedures to be followed:

It is vital that we are informed as soon as you know that your child will be absent from school. **Please ensure that you telephone the office before 9.30am on the day of any absence** (please leave a message on the answerphone if there is no reply). The reason that we need this information so quickly is for your child's protection - we need to know that they are safe.

PLANNED ABSENCES

We actively discourage children's absence during school sessions, particularly for family holidays. We ask that wherever possible, health appointments are made outside the school day to minimise disruption to your child's education. We are only allowed to give permission for term-time absences in **exceptional** circumstances. In

order for any request to be considered, it must be submitted in writing, clearly stating the reason for absence in as much detail as possible, including why this cannot be taken outside school hours, along with any additional written evidence attached. I must make you aware that if your child has poor attendance and you take them out of school we may issue a fine.

Please never book travel or accommodation until the absence is formally authorised.

Contact information and agreements

I am sending home for signing our **home/school agreement** and **internet safety agreement**. Please can you spend a little time with your child discussing the statements on the home/school agreement and ensuring they understand them. Please can you return these to school early next week. This can be signed digitally. If you have any new contact details, including a mobile phone number, e-mail address, or work number, please do let our office know, so they can update your child's contact details. In an emergency we may need to contact you quickly so it is vitally important that these details are up to date.

School clothing

Our children have returned to school looking very smart in their uniforms, thank you. Please do ensure that your child continues to wear the correct school clothing at all times, including black shoes. It is particularly important that all clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name. Due to the demands on our school hall we often timetable PE lessons for outside. Unless the weather is unsafe, due to cold or wet, children's PE lessons will continue outside. When your child has Forest School sessions they will be asked to wear suitable clothing to school, in the same way they do now for PE.

Non - negotiables

Attached to this letter is a summary of non-negotiables for each school year group. We are sending this home so you have a clear understanding of what we will be helping your child to learn and develop during this year. This is for your information. This summary is a list of the most important learning objectives that children must learn for each year group. When you are supporting your child with their learning at home please refer to these.

Dates for the term & year

I would usually provide a list of upcoming dates at this time of the year... I can currently tell you that we are not making plans for trips or other activities that we feel could be cancelled or cause disruption for our children. Activities linked to our Curriculum such as swimming have been scheduled, but again with guidance regularly being updated and the chance of local lockdowns being discussed these are all subject to advice and conditions beyond our control. There are no dates for Christmas plays at this point, I am now fairly confident that we will be unable to hold our usual Christmas activities, so I apologise in advance. As I stated in a previous letter, staff are currently looking at alternative festive possibilities so our children can have some of the usual excitement and build up...

A short list of provisional dates is provided at the end of my letter.

Medical Forms

When children have regular medication that we administer in school (eg inhalers) you will have completed a detailed form with information regarding dosage and times. Please let us know if there are any changes to your child's medication needs and complete a new form. All teachers will have folders with this information in classrooms, feel free to ask to check this information at any time.

Behaviour

The behaviour of our children at Raeburn is wonderful, and this is credit to our families. Through mutual support our children are encouraged and motivated to develop into good citizens who show a mutual respect to other people. I have attached a copy of our school code of conduct and a parent's version of our Behaviour Policy, to this letter. This is for you to keep and discuss with your child at home, so you can continue to reinforce positive behaviour with your child. Thank you for your continued support in this area. Sometimes there are issues with children and I would strongly urge you to continue to discuss any concerns you have with

us at the earliest opportunity. We are committed to ensuring that we discuss any issues promptly with you, then solutions can be implemented and concerns alleviated.

Little Owls and Raeburn's Wrappers

We were really pleased to start the year off with both Little Owls and Wrappers back open. Our after school sessions have been really popular and we have expanded into the school to provide more care for our children. Due to our ability to do this it does mean that we can offer care for more children if required, so please get in touch if you require a place. Our Wrappers will be open over the half term holiday in October.

Covid support for children with anxiety

I have recently been made aware of a new initiative launched by Barnados. They have made a commitment to provide support for all children who are experiencing anxiety due to COVID-19. I am including the link which parents can also access if required. If this is something you would like to discuss with school please get in touch with your child's class teacher and we can make the referral for you.

https://www.barnardos.org.uk/see-hear-respond?utm_source=14%20August%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

I am sure I will write again soon with updates as situations progress and change.

Best wishes and thank you for your continued support

Ms J Bushell

Dates:

September	1	INSET day- parent phonecalls
	2	INSET day- parent phonecalls
	3	Children return
	9	Full Governors Meeting
	30	Full Governors Meeting
October	9	Hello Yellow Day
	13	St Anselms Test
	14	Governors Pay Committee
	20	Upton Hall Test
	20	Parent/ Teacher Meetings (may be phonecalls or virtual)
	21	Parent/ Teacher Meetings (may be phonecalls or virtual)
	22	11+ Grammar Test
	22	Close for half term
	23	INSET day