Dear Parent/Carer

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through autumn and not in the midst of winter with all the rain we have recently had. No matter the weather, the leadership team will continue to meet and welcome our children as they come to and leave school.

Covid 19 continues to affect everyone and we ask for you to be vigilant. Should someone test positive within a classroom we will issue a class letter. We continue to ask you not to send your child to school if they are showing any of the three recognised symptoms – high temperature, new and persistent cough and/or loss of taste or smell.

**Pupil Learning and Attainment – Successful Learners**

We will be issuing parents/carers with a small report which identifies the level that their child is working on during the last week in November. This follows on from the parent/carer/teacher discussion in September. Should you have any questions do not hesitate to ask.

We had planned to send out a health and wellbeing questionnaire to all families, however we have been advised that one is coming centrally so we do not wish to burden you with double the work. Again we will advise you when we know more.

**Rights Respecting School**

During the month of November our whole school learns about Article 38: War and Armed Conflicts. P7 pupils will be selling Poppies around the school following social distancing rules. If you would like your child to have a poppy please give a donation which they will pop in the box to help support individuals in the armed services who help keep us safe.

**Emergency Weather Plans - Responsible Citizens**

Our playground can be covered in either snow or ice and this may affect how our children enter school in the morning.

If we must close the school playground due to either snow or ice you will be directed by the signage being displayed in the playground and staff directing you.

Everyone should walk on the salted pathways only.

There will be a salted pathway from the front gate to the annexe (RM 2 & 4) then following round to the junior entrance (Rm 9, 11 and 14) and then again to the dining hall entrance (Rm16, Rm 20, 22 and 23). Children should continue towards their class and remain in their bubbles.

All supported classes (Rm 3, 5, 12, 13, 15, 17, 20 and 21) will access by the main entrance.

Nursery children will enter the nursery as normal.

If your child comes to school unaccompanied, please make sure you reinforce the message of staying on the salted path.

**Winter Jackets - Effective Contributors**

We carried out a questionnaire regarding winter jackets and thank everyone for their response,should you have forgotten to reply please fill in the questionnaire as soon as possible. We hope to be in touch with families within the next week or two.
I have also been contacted by parents who missed the deadline to hand in jackets if you have one please hand into the school office and we will follow Covid guidance before passing on to another family.

**Equity – Pupil Equity Fund (PEF)**

Many thanks to the 57 families who completed our questionnaire on the spending of Participatory Budget (£7,608.50).

56% voted for Outdoor resources

28% voted for Cookery

16% voted for ICT

Plans are in hand and we will be updating you in the December newsletter about how we have begun to spend this money so that it has an impact on our children and families.

**Equity - Breakfast Club/Free Lunches**

At the moment we have between 17-25 children attending the breakfast club. If you would like your child to attend breakfast club please contact the school office.This will save you providing a breakfast for your child.

Mrs Westwater, our school cook and I have been chatting about the uptake of free school meals. For example the percentage of children entitled to a free school lunch and did not take a lunch during the beginning Monday 18th October (Week 3 menu) is as follows:.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| **56%** | **36%** | **36%** | **29%** | **41%** |

We are reviewing each week of the menu and Mrs Walker our Equity Officer will be in touch with you as to why your child/children is not eating the free lunch in the next few weeks.

**Swimming – P6 & P7**

Normally it is only our P6 children who go swimming, however this year we are awaiting placements from the swimming baths for both P6 and P7, as our P7 children missed this opportunity last session. As soon as we have the dates you will be notified.

**Nativity/Christmas Parties – Confident Individuals**

Our classes with P1 children will be performing a Nativity at Christmas, if Covid rules change we will advise you as to when you will be allowed into school otherwise, we will video the nativity, for those parents who have not given consent for photography their child will not appear in the video should we be unable to have families into school. Please think whether you wish this to happen. All dates will be in the December newsletter.

**School Photographs**

The photographer will be in school on Friday, 5th November, again those families who have not given photography consent will not be able to have their photo taken please think about this and email the school office if you would like to change your mind. The photographer will provide a copy of the Photograph and families will then purchase online. The details will be in the photograph pack sent home with your child.

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**Supporting the Community**

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs McCann for supporting MacMillan Nurses with their Halloween themed garden. Thank you to everyone who has donated towards this great charity.

**Parent Council**

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place on Monday 29th November 2021 at 7pm in the school. Should you wish to attend we look forward to seeing you in Greenhills Primary School where we will have our first meeting in school following Covid restrictions

Should you have any questions about your child’s health and wellbeing or learning please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Murray – Supported Classes, Mrs Miller – P1-3, Mrs Johnston – P4-7.

Kind Regards



Elaine Johnston

Head Teacher

 [www.office@greenhills-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.office@greenhills-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk) 

**Dates for the diary**

**November**

5.11.21 Individual/family photographs

15.11.21 Inservice Day – School closed to pupils

30.11.21 Flu vaccination for pupils who missed out in September