



Learning together to achieve our best

WEST LINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

MARCH NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK

We are delighted to be welcoming back the whole school from ELC - Primary 7 from Monday 15th March. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for supporting your children's learning during lockdown and for being patient with us, and the various technologies we have used to keep your child engaged in their learning. I would also like to give thanks to all of the staff who ensured that young people had learning to engage in and Class Meets to attend so that pupils continued to progress in their learning.

When we return next week, I know that some of you will be apprehensive, but we would like to reassure you that risk control measures have been considered and planned to ensure pupils return to a safe environment. With this in mind we would like to share some logistics with you so that you and your child are fully prepared for the return to school:

Pick up and drop off:

- As in previous communications, we respectfully ask that wherever possible pupils are dropped off and picked up, away from the school playground. We understand that our youngest pupils should continue to be picked up by an adult to ensure their safety, however older pupils should arrange a safe place to be picked up or walk home.
- If you are picking a pupil up from the school playground, we ask that only one adult per household attends, that you wear a face covering (unless exempt) and that you remain 2 metres socially distanced from any other adult or child from another family.
- At drop off time there is adequate supervision from school staff for children to be left in the playground without parental supervision from 8:40am onwards. If you are staying with your child until the bell we ask that you attend the playground as close to 8:50 as possible to avoid congestion. If your child is distressed, we would ask you to stay with your child and support in settling them before leaving.
- Pupils will be allocated a class zone whilst in the playground. This zone will be where they play at lunchtime and break time, as well as where they are dropped off and picked up.
- All children will enter and exit the school building via their classroom door.

Lunches:

- Can we ask that you order pupil lunches on parent pay if you would like your child to have a school lunch. Advanced knowledge of orders supports us to organise the lunch service safely taking account of the maximum numbers of young people allowed in the dinner hall at any one time. Thank you.

Toys/ Outdoor activity from home

- As in other communications, we ask that no toys or outdoor games/ balls come to school from home. This is to reduce contact between households and exposure to COVID-19 spread.

Inspire iPads

- All P4-7 pupils should come to school on Monday with their iPad charged fully and ready to use in their learning.

PARENT EVENINGS

In consultation with staff and the Parent Council Chair, Louise Fraser, it has been agreed that the scheduled Parent Evenings will now take place on **Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th April** instead of 24th and 25th March.

We have made this change so that class teachers can report on pupil progress whilst learning remotely, but also on their return to school. The additional few weeks will support us to complete benchmarking analysis and report on your child's strengths and areas for development.

You will also receive your child's PLP in June along with the Pupil as a Learner comment from your child's class teacher as usual.

The parent consultations will be conducted via telephone call, as they were in November. Details on how to book an appointment will follow. If you have any queries regarding this then please contact Ms Curson at the school at WestLintonPS@scotborders.gov.uk

ELC HOURS REVIEW

To continually support the families of West Linton, from August 2021 our ELC hours will be changing. Instead of only school hours, our ELC will be able to offer places to pupils aged 3-5 from 8:00am – 4:30pm Monday – Friday (term time only).



There are options available within these hours to have pupils attend for all or part of their 1140 hour entitlement. Alternatively if families require 8:00am – 4:30pm each day, there is an option to make a top-up payment to Scottish Borders Council in order that children can attend our West Linton ELC over and above the 1140 hour entitlement.

If you should require further information regarding this, then please do not hesitate to contact Miss Ferguson at the school by emailing WestLintonPS@scotborders.gov.uk

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thank you to Mrs Motley and the Ministers for Literature for organising such a wonderful World Book Day. It was great to see the young people decorating doors in school and at home, engaging with 'Masked Readers' and of course interviewing Cressida Cowell, author of How to Train your Dragon.



We remind you that the Where's Wally Scavenger Hunt is still available for you to take part in around the village. The boys and girls can find the clues on their class Teams.

P7 OUTDOOR EDUCATION TRIP

It is with much pleasure that we announce that we will be going ahead with our P7 Outdoor Education experience this year. This will of course be slightly different from our usual offer due to Covid-19 Restrictions and will not unfortunately be in the form of a residential week away from school.



However, we are in the quite unique and fortunate position to be situated so close to Broomlee Outdoor Education Centre and so are able to access five days of exciting outdoor adventure activities with one later evening activity as well. A letter with more information will follow in due course providing details for our P7 Parents about this offer.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 15th March – All children return to school building
- 1st April – Primary 4 Easter Service (to be held virtually)
- 2nd April – Good Friday Holiday
- 5 – 16th April – Spring Break
- 19th April – All pupils resume
- 30th April – Inservice Day
- 3rd May – May Day Bank Holiday
- 10th – 14th May – Primary 7 Outdoor Education Trip to Broomlee

