



Learning together to achieve our best

WEST LINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

MAY NEWSLETTER

WELCOME & STAFFING UPDATE

All young people and staff have returned to school after a lovely Easter Break. We hope you were able to enjoy some time in the sunshine, even though COVID-19 restrictions still meant that we could not venture far.

We are delighted to share that Mrs Butler had her baby on 10th April; a gorgeous boy called George Arthur Butler and weighing in at 7 lb 7 oz. We are led to believe that Thomas is delighted with his little brother. I know you will join me in extending our congratulations to Mrs Butler.



As you will now be aware, this term has some changes to our leadership in school with Miss Ferguson and Ms Curson supporting Newlands and Broughton Primary Schools in Mrs Peaston's absence. This change also means that Mrs Motley is now out of class on a Monday to support leadership during this period. We are very pleased that Mrs Turner has agreed to increase her hours to include a Monday and provide continuity for the Primary 2 class.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs Saxon, our Depute Head Teacher, who has been successful at interview for a Head Teacher position at Clovenfords Primary School. This means that Mrs Saxon will not return to her substantive post here and Miss Ferguson will remain at West Linton after the summer break.

We wish both every success in their new permanent roles.

COVID RESTRICTIONS – UPDATE

Whilst many things are beginning to open up in our community, we would like to respectfully remind you that whilst we enter level 2 restrictions from Monday, the Scottish Government School's Guidance continues to have strict restrictions we must continue to adhere to.

Pick up and drop off:

- Wherever possible pupils should be dropped off and picked up, away from the school playground
- If you are picking a pupil up from the school playground, only one adult per household should attend. You must wear a face covering (unless exempt) and remain two metres socially distanced from any other adults or children from other families
- At drop off time there is adequate supervision for children to be left in the playground without parental supervision from 8:40am onwards
- Pupils will continue to play in their class zone whilst in the playground. As soon as we are able to, we will begin mixing bubbles in the outdoor environment again
- All children will enter and exit the school building via their classroom door.

Toys/ Outdoor activity from home

- 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.
- Unfortunately, this includes Pokémon Cards and other swapping cards that are passed between homes on the school premises.

These measures are to continually keep all of our young people, families and staff safe and we thank you for your attention to them.

WHIPMAN UPDATE – 4.06.2021 – 12.06.2021

This year, our usual summer festival will be replaced with a virtual offer from the Whipman Play Society. They are planning lots of very exciting opportunities which are COVID-19 safe. So please watch this space!

To ensure the young people of West Linton and Newlands continue to enjoy the festival, we will be holding some events in school.

All classes will create an outward facing themed display from their classroom windows – We would request that the children also come to school on 4th June in a costume that is reflective of that theme. e.g. If the theme chosen by the class is 'The Ugly Bug Ball' children could come dressed as a bug on Friday 4th June. The idea is that the class' artwork and costumes will be judged by the Whipman and Lass; as they would if they were on a float in the fancy dress parade. If you are visiting the school grounds to view the art work, we would ask you to do so outside of school hours and that you maintain a two metre social distance from anyone else using the school/ community space.



One of the other things we know that the young people love during Whipman is the Children's Sports. Since that cannot go ahead this year, we will be organising a mini Children's Sports during each class' PE time at school. We will be supported with the organisation of this by the Whipman Play Society. But the implementation of the Sports will continue to be within the children's class bubbles during their usual PE slot with Mr Davidson.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

13th May – ELC Virtual Assembly

20th May – Primary 3 Year Group Virtual Assembly

4th June – 12th June – Virtual Whipman Week

7th June – 18th June – Outdoor Learning Focus Fortnight

11th June – PLPs home & classes confirmed for session 2021-22

23rd June – P7 Leavers Virtual Assembly & School Closure.

Transition arrangements are being discussed and reviewed by the COVID recovery group at SBC and we will let you know dates and event once we have more detail.

MICRO ADVENTURE CHALLENGE

When was the last time, you tried something for the first time?

In memory of the wonderful Archie Hall, who loved doing new and exciting things, we are asking you to create a challenge and carry it out in your family bubble. Ask your friends and extended family to sponsor you to raise money for an amazing charity.

We are asking families to complete their micro adventure on the weekend of 12/13 or 19/20 June. The challenge could be something small or something large – we will leave it up to you!

You could:

- Walk up a river
- Get a bus somewhere and walk or cycle back
- Climb a peak in the Pentlands
- Go for a night walk!
- Go rock pooling or make some beach art
- Create a Geocache.

All sponsorship money will be added to one JustGiving Page; the details of which will be shared in due course. We hope you can take part.

PROPERTY NEWS

To continually improve our playground and the safety of our community users, fencing and further lighting will be installed.

New fencing will be erected on the Springfield side of the playing fields and will be similar to the fencing on the other three sides of the grounds. Further sensor lighting will also be installed on the current CCTV posts to deter anti-social and unauthorised use of the school grounds.

