

Thursday 26th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well. As this is the first newsletter in a couple of weeks (having issued our Home Learning Guidance and our pupil reports), it is very busy and contains a lot of news and information for you.

You will all be aware that we have had a number of positive cases of Covid-19 in Calderwood over the past week or so. I know that, along with our move into Tier 4 on Friday, this is a very anxious time for all of us. As such, it is more important than ever that we adhere to government health guidance and remain vigilant for symptoms of Covid 19. We can only keep Calderwood safe with your support.

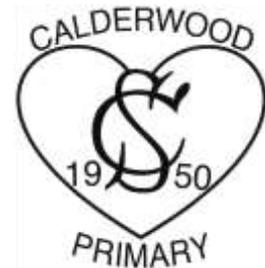
- Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell, especially if they develop any one of the three main symptoms of Covid 19: a temperature, cough or loss of sense of taste and/or smell.
- If your child, or someone else in your household, does develop symptoms, please arrange for them to be tested. Let us know and then inform us of the result as soon as possible. The Senior Leadership Team monitor their email regularly - including evenings and weekends - for this purpose.
- Please remember that if someone in your house is being tested for Covid 19, the whole household should self-isolate until the result of the test comes back.
- Please remember to wear a mask in the playground and socially distance from other adults. Please also stand back from the doors to give pupils and staff space when children are being dismissed. Please also remember to leave the playground as soon as you have collected your child (or children).

We are still working hard in school, with enhanced cleaning and hygiene procedures in addition to other measures, such as maintaining class bubbles.

We thank you for all your ongoing support and understanding.

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Innes 



School Staffing

Along with many other places of work, Covid 19 has significantly impacted on our staffing levels at Calderwood. This means that staff are having to take on additional responsibilities throughout the day. As always, our priorities are the **health and safety** of everyone in Calderwood and **continuity of learning** for pupils.

To ensure classrooms are supervised over lunchtimes, the school office will be closed each day between 11.55 am and 1.15 pm, as staff are deployed elsewhere. It may also have to close over wet playtimes from 10.10 – 10.45am. If you telephone the office during these times, you will be able to leave a message. We appreciate that this is not an ideal arrangement, and apologise in advance for any inconvenience it causes.

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Please wear a Mask!



Last Friday we moved into Tier 4 Covid restrictions. We are working exceptionally hard to keep children and staff safe at Calderwood. We need everyone in our community to do their bit. We are still seeing parents and carers coming into the 'bubble' (school entrance) to speak to office staff without wearing a face covering. This puts our staff at an additional risk. Please respect the safety and wellbeing of our staff by wearing a face covering when you come into our bubble, please don't put our staff in the awkward position of having to challenge this and **please only come into the school in the case of an absolute emergency**. Most issues can be dealt with over the phone. (We appreciate that some adults are exempt and this does not apply if you are in this category).

P.E. Provision and Outdoor Learning



As South Lanarkshire is now in Tier 4 of the government's Covid restrictions, the guidance states that 'children and young people within school settings can only participate in activities that are non-contact and outdoor'. We will be continuing to deliver all of our P.E. lessons outside, as long as the weather does not make this unsafe (e.g. a hard frost on the ground or torrential rain). We will continue to offer children opportunities for outdoor learning in other curricular areas, too. Please ensure that children come to school with appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather. Thank you!

Switch Off Fortnight

Thank you very much to Room 4 for their brilliant virtual whole-school assembly about Switch-Off Fortnight. They provided us with a lot of information about the importance of saving energy and what we can all do to help – not just during Switch-Off Fortnight, but all year round. Remember to switch off your lights, televisions and other electrical equipment when not in use. Lots of little acts like this can add up to a big difference!



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All hands on deck!



They say it never rains, but it pours, and there was certainly a downpour in our canteen last Wednesday evening after a pipe burst in the community kitchen. It was all hands on deck as Mr Morrison - accompanied by lots of teaching, cleaning and Out of School Care staff - worked to clear the mess. We were even assisted by PC Galbraith, our community police officer, who just happened to be in the right place at the right time (or maybe the wrong place at the wrong time if you were to ask him). In the true spirit of teamwork, many hands made light(ish) work. Thank you to everyone who helped!

Music Lessons

We are delighted that we have been able to restart music lessons with Mr Gammie, Mr Calder and Mr McAleenan virtually for our instrumentalists. It has been lovely to catch up with them all again over Google Meet.



Mrs Samson

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Samson on the birth of their beautiful baby boy, Isaac. Welcome to the Calderwood family!



Indoor Shoes

Please remember that all pupils should have a pair of indoor shoes that stay in the school to change into at the beginning of the day. Black plimsolls or other soft shoes are ideal.



Foodbank and Clothing

We have bags of essential items in school for any families who might need them. We also have some high quality boys' clothes. If you could benefit from any of these items, please contact me in confidence – at gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk.

Attachment Theory Training

During the In-service Day last Monday, staff were working very hard. Part of the day was an input from SLC Psychological Services on Attachment Theory. Their input was very thought-provoking and relevant in the current circumstances.



Calderwood Chronicle

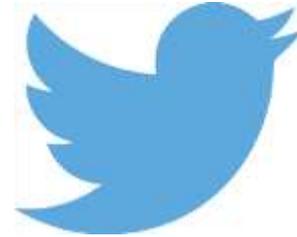
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PC Galbraith's Visit to P7

We are very lucky to be well-supported by our community police officer, PC Galbraith. He came in to visit our Primary 7 classes on Tuesday to talk about staying safe online. This is a very important topic, as we regularly have to deal with issues stemming from inappropriate social media use outside of school. He was very complimentary about our pupils, as always.



Twitter



We know that current circumstances mean that parents aren't always feeling quite as connected to the goings on in school as you normally might. Please remember to follow us on Twitter. We regularly post photos and updates about what classes are up to, sharing learning and celebrating achievements.

Book Week Scotland

We were very busy celebrating Book Week Scotland at Calderwood last week, with lots of fun activities and competitions. Primary 1, 2 and 3 classes were sent home with their Book Bug/Read, Write, Count bags. Thank you to Miss Scambler and Room 9 for leading the celebrations.



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Christmas Cards

We are getting to that time of year already where we are beginning to celebrate the festive season – this year even earlier than usual! We have a plan in place to allow children to share Christmas cards in a safe way. Pupils may bring in cards Tuesday to Friday and post them in one of our post-boxes – there will be one upstairs and one downstairs. Our two classes of helper elves will sort and distribute the cards on Mondays. This will start immediately and run until Monday 21st December, so the last day for posting is Friday 18th December. Ho, ho, ho!



Remember **FACTS**
for a safer Scotland



If you need to make contact with a member of staff from the school, please email:

Mrs Innes: gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Ring: gw07ringjillian@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Combe: gw10combeashley@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Kirkland: gw10kirklandjulie2@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Waddell (ICT support): gw07waddellmaureen01@glow.sch.uk