



Stoneferry Primary School

January Newsletter—Week 3



At the end of another week of lockdown, I would like to start this newsletter by simply saying thank you to you all. The effort and support you are giving to the children at home is amazing and we at school can't thank you enough for everything you are doing. Sometimes, texts from school may appear abrupt, due mainly to the number of characters I have to work within, but I would like to reassure you that we are so grateful for your efforts. The demands on schools to ensure that the children receive the same education they would have received had we been open adds pressure to everyone's life, as we are all working in ways we have never done before. The learning curve is so steep for children, parents and staff but I am proud of how well the children are engaging. Following the tremendous level of work which we as a school put in through the Autumn term we are all committed to ensuring the children don't now fall behind through no fault of their own. This week I have been in discussion with a number of parents, trying to find solutions to problems and to help in any way we can. Please continue to call in this way and we will always provide support.

This weekend Miss Northen and myself will be looking at the provision in more detail. Please remember though that your child's teacher is always available on Teams so rather than struggle, please add a message and they will add guidance or give you a call to talk it through. We do understand that you are not teachers and have given the teachers the capacity to support you, so please make use of them. In addition we do understand that sometimes completing work and uploading before 3 p.m. can be difficult, and in this case please then upload the next morning at the start of the day. The most important thing is that the children are completing the work. So far our pupil engagement has been fantastic so once again thank you.

Mr Raw, Head of School

Stoneferry Corridor Redevelopment

Next week the development of the Stoneferry Corridor will start outside of school. I have been in meetings with the developer to ensure that all the necessary safety measures are in place, and from Monday the pavement outside of school will not be accessible for hopefully no more than 2 weeks. A temporary pedestrian walkway will be created which will involve closing one lane of the carriageway, and access to the gates into and outside of school will remain as usual. No building activity will take place when children are entering or leaving school too.

Due to the current situation in school, it was agreed that this would be the best possible time to complete this phase of the work to disrupt as few people as possible.

Greater Interaction with Teachers

As teachers become more confident with Teams and how it can support learning and the children, we are looking each week to improve our Remote Learning more and more. We understand the impact teachers have on the children so from next week, teachers will be increasing the amount of interaction they have with the children. This will include starting a story time session with the children and possibly a well-being discussion. Individual teachers will explain how they will manage these sessions through their live checkins at the start of the week.

I am very aware, through experience with my own children, that the children will be missing their friends and hope that a managed activity will give them an opportunity to do this from now on.

Free School Meal Vouchers

Children eligible for Free School Meal vouchers will receive these either through the post like last time or through email at the start of next week. Please can the parents of children eligible for the vouchers check their emails at the beginning of next week and let the school know if you need any support. These vouchers are not linked to Universal Free Dinners which all children up to Year 2 receive.