



## Colgrain Primary School & Nursery

*'Inspiring all to Flourish'*

Redgauntlet Road, Helensburgh, G84 7TZ

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the November edition of our school Newsletter. The changing season has brought lots of autumn leaf colour to our playground and much loved puddle jumping from our young children!

In this newsletter, I would like to ask you all to consider coming along to the Google Meet PTC (parent teacher council) AGM tomorrow Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November @ 7pm. The link for this is [meet.google.com/dxh-finc-dxy](https://meet.google.com/dxh-finc-dxy) and if prompted for a code please input **dxhfincdxy**. Mrs Fry-Brockie is our current PTC Chairperson, taking over the role from Mrs Wright last session. Mrs Fry-Brockie took on this role and shortly after the COVID pandemic interrupted our normal lives. She has worked tirelessly on behalf of the parents and school to help where it is needed and support the community. We are now in need of a parent who can help take over this role in the PTC which can be done through the PTC AGM. I know that this is a busy time traditionally for all families in the run up to Christmas and with the latest updates from the Scottish Government on different restriction levels close by to the school, there is more stress and pressure on everyone. However, the important role the PTC have in our school community is vital, more so than ever. If you think you are able to dedicate the time to this role or in other ways to the PTC, please come along to the AGM and get involved.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the season for colds and flu's is now upon us. It continues to be very important that we carefully follow procedures from NHS Highland around COVID-19 and seeking tests to ensure the risk of infection stays low in our community.

Please use the link below to find useful information on covid-19:

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-general-advice>

If you or any of your household do develop any of the symptoms, please keep all family members at home while you book a test and await results. At no time should you send children to school where someone within the same household has symptoms and is seeking a test. Please notify the school office as soon as possible to inform us of your family situation. Staff will make learning packs available for the short term day / 2 day wait for test results. If your children requires to then isolate at home for the full 14

days, NHS Highland will provide you with a date of return to school. Please contact the office again to share this with us. We can then use the correct codes for absence and make arrangements for longer term learning from home.

(Please note that families can send emails to Mrs Candlish or myself during weekends if required.)

We have worked extremely well together and we have enjoyed the benefits with our school operating as close to normal this session. As infection rates are spiking in close-by councils, it will take a continued effort from the community to keep alert to COVID-19 symptoms. All measures in place in school align with the latest Scottish Government guidelines to ensure we are doing all we can in all the different ways possible to maintain our current position. This will mean that Christmas will be a little different for us, as it will be for our home life this year.

Staff will be working creatively to bring moments of joy and magic to the school as Christmas approaches. Your support at this time is valued as we try to give the children a memorable time while we keep to the guidelines given to us.

Stay safe,

Mrs P Walsh

Head teacher





### Christmas Magic with our Senior Citizens

Traditionally, P7 children in Colgrain Primary invite our Senior Citizens into the school for afternoon tea and a dance. We know this cannot happen this year and have been thinking in school about how to support our treasured senior citizens. We feel very strongly that we want to give back to the community and have been keeping updated with the hardships for our senior citizens currently in Care Homes where restrictions impact on family visits and connections.

This year, we would like to spread some cheer in local care homes by creating care packages for the residents which will come along with a special card from the children with a message of hope and joy.

If you would like to support us, we are collecting set items that our local care home has suggested:

*Fluffy Socks, Hand creams, body sprays, shower gels, toiletries, sweeties, small ornaments*

We will begin collecting items this week onwards. Children can bring these in and leave them in a sectioned off area in the school for quarantine purposes. Staff will then wrap them up and follow safe procedures for dropping off in the last week of school.

If you know of any other member of the community that may appreciate this please contact the office.



### PTC Foodbank Collection

We will be working alongside the PTC to begin to collect for the local Foodbanks.

We aim to create a collection area from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at the bottom of Redgauntlet Road for ease of drop-off. There will be an empty box where families can drop off items safely.

If this area seems busy, please maintain 2 metre distance and wait for others to move on.



# Literacy

This session, we are looking into what resources we have in school to support Reading, Writing and Spelling. We have used PEF funding to improve our stock piles of reading books and buy in some updated books for guided reading in class. At times these new books may come home.

The school has sourced some fun and colourful spelling workbooks that will help children understand and take in spelling rules. These spelling books are on their way to the school and will be sent home when they arrive. Children will be able to keep these books home for homework and can share completed tasks with a picture on Seesaw.

We will continue to improve our resources within Literacy as the session progresses.



## Up-coming Events!

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November – In-service Day – children should not attend

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November – In-service Day – children should not attend

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day – children and staff can wear Christmas Jumpers to school!

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch for the children

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Christmas Party in Class - children can dress in their best!

