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ELC Newsletter  
January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Mrs P Walsh – Head Teacher

Welcome to the January edition of our Newsletter!

We have had quite a start to the term and the year 2021 so far. In this this Newsletter you will find updates on our Home Learning provision, plans for our parents evening discussions later in the term and some news on celebrating success for our children.

The whole Colgrain Primary and ELC community has really stepped up as a true partnership in the start to this term. I have, more than ever, been proud to be here in what I would describe as my Colgrain Family. Thank you seems like too small a phrase to share my appreciation of the effort put in from every single member of this community, but I feel thankful every day and in every moment.

We launched our new online learning provision on the 11<sup>th</sup> January this month not yet knowing how it would work for families at home and how our young people would respond. I think it is safe to say that the young members of the community have shown us their determination and motivation to take part in their learning to the best of their ability, in any way they are able, which is exceptional. Of course this could not happen easily without the support and dedication of all the parents and carers out there learning how to work Google Meet and Seesaw, using a range of devices to do so. While we did have some technical issues to sort for some families (and a thank you here for parents who helped each other in the community too!) we have now settled into a rhythm in the online learning school.

We have received many emails to the school and notes on Seesaw from our parents and carers thanking the staff for their hard work and all they are doing for the children. These messages of support are always shared with staff as they lift spirits and give staff the boost they need at this time while they learn new ways of working, manage wellbeing of their children, who they are always worried over and manage their own family life. The team here have been truly outstanding in the wide range of ways they work each day to support our community.

We hope to return to face-to-face learning as soon as we are able but in the meantime, stay safe and look after yourselves.

## Reporting to Parents / Communication with Parents/Carers

During this period of ELC closure, it is important for us to keep in touch and support our children and families. On a fortnightly basis, your child's keyworker will call you.

We hope that children will be in the ELC in the month of March, however we are sure that we will not yet be able to carry out face-to-face appointments with our parents. To this end, we are scheduling phone call appointments for parents again this term.

We will set up an opportunity for parents to send in some questions they want to ask Key Workers to make the best use of the time together. In many ways, parents will have a good insight into learning this term and the conversation will be a great chance for parents and key workers to talk through how things have gone at both ends.

These calls will take place during the week beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March. We will be in touch nearer the time with further information and how to book an appointment.



### Starting next week...

Keyworkers will begin to send home certificates of appreciation for all the efforts put in by our children.

We are delighted with the level of engagement from families and it will be nice for the children to receive recognition for this.



## Google Meets

We have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to be 'live' with you in these twice weekly sessions. If you haven't managed along, and perhaps need a little help with Google Meet, please just contact the school office.

## Time to Celebrate!

We'd like to take this opportunity to share some of the fantastic photographs you have shared with us on Seesaw....



## Dates for the Diary

Monday 8th – Friday 12th February  
Monday 15th February

Tuesday 16th February

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March

School/ELC closed for February Week Holiday  
School and ELC In-Service Day – children should not attend

School/ELC Open (Further information on full school return TBC by Scottish Government)  
Parents Appointments this week – information will be provided nearer the time.