



Scotstoun Primary School

February Newsletter



Welcome to our February newsletter! I hope this newsletter find you and your families well. We have had a busy and productive start to the term despite the ongoing challenges of school life currently. This weekend is the February midterm break. Hopefully, the weather is kinder to us than it has been this week and we can enjoy some time relaxing with our families.

Best wishes,

*E. McGill*

Headteacher

### COVID update

We saw a rise in COVID-19 cases in the school following our return from the Christmas holidays with clusters of cases across some classes reflecting the national picture of increasing cases in the under 15 age group. We continue to follow our risk assessments and mitigation protocols and consult with our Head of Service in Glasgow City Council and Public Health as required.

The 'Reducing Risks in Schools' guidance has been updated with the following main changes:

- **Groupings (sometimes referred to as bubbles) are no longer required to be maintained**- This will be implemented at Scotstoun Primary in a controlled manner with us returning to our pre-Omicron position. This will allow us to reintroduce after school clubs within stages following the February midterm and allow committees to meet. These will continue to be risk assessed to reduce transmission. However, if there is a cluster of positive cases for COVID-19 in a class, we will limit the opportunities for further spread by reducing opportunities for contact between that class and others. The guidance still cautions against large group gatherings. Bubbles will be removed from the Breakfast Club.
- **A return to the previous position in relation to Parent Councils and PTAs** - Parent Councils and groups are again allowed to meet face to face in school buildings following a risk assessment if the group feel that online meetings are not effective.
- **Remove the requirement for staggered timetables** –this change has been made *“given the reduced emphasis on the requirements for groupings, high vaccination rates of the adult population and reduced restrictions elsewhere in society”*. **We intend to move to whole school start at 8.45am and finish at 3pm from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February.** Your child/children will still line up and be dismissed from the same playground as they currently are. A more detailed communication will follow next week.

### Parents' Evenings

There is currently no update on whether face to face parents' evenings will take place this term. Our parents' nights normally take place towards the end of March. We are hoping for more guidance around this soon and will keep you up to date.

### Scottish Young Musician Festival of Music 2022

Congratulations to two of our P7 children Hannah and Rebecca who represented the school this week at the Glasgow final of the Scottish Young Musician of the Year. They were two of 24 competitors from 19 schools, both secondary and primary, across Glasgow. They performed brilliantly and whilst they were

not selected to progress, they have a lot to be proud of. Well done girls and thank you to Mrs Kissack who helped the girls before and during the competition.

### **Road Safety Reminder:**

Several members of our community have raised concerns about road safety around the school. As a reminder, we are a car free zone from 8.15am until 9 am and again at 2.30pm to 3.15pm. This means that you cannot drive or park into the four streets that immediately surround the school during these times unless you have a resident's permit. You should also not:

- park or stop on the keep clear zones which are clearly marked on the corners;
- stop in the middle of the road to let your child out;
- park on the zig zag lines outside the school.

I have requested support from our community police colleagues for this important safety measure. They have provided us with an email address, which is available on request, for members of the community to report concerns directly to them. Bobby McCulloch, GCC road safety team, will be visiting the school to deliver road safety awareness session to all classes later this month as part of our road safety education programme.

### **Link Officer Visit**

Glasgow City Council Link officers provide challenge and support to schools through a series of core school visits to engage in professional discussion to consider aspects of the school's approaches to securing improvement. Linda Logue, our Link Officer, visited the school last week. She undertook a learning walk round the school, spoke with members of school staff about improvement activities they are leading on and with members of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss how our improvement activities are progressing and the impact which they are having. Linda commented on the warm and welcoming ethos of the school, the engagement of the children and the calm learning environment.

### **Keep an eye out for ...**

#### **Whiteinch Library**

Whiteinch Library has reopened its doors to the local community recently. Families have been in touch to relay how much they have missed this community hub and they are delighted to visit again.

#### **School Photos**

Our school photographer, Tempest, will be visiting the school to carry out class photographs. These will take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **World Book Day**

This takes place on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 when we will be focussing on reading for enjoyment. The theme for this year is "Relax and Read". Children can come to school dressed in their comfortable clothes, with blankets and pillows along with their favourite book to read. We will have a series of events in that week including a book swap.

#### **British Science Week. (14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March)**

This will be a focus week for us later this term led by Mr Boyd. Each class will focus on an aspect of science along with wider links to the world of work and global citizenship.

#### **Comic Relief**

We will be supporting Comic Relief on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. This will be organised by the Pupil Council – more details to follow.