

ROSLIN NEWS



Website: roslin.mgfl.net

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Happy New Year to the Roslin Community from everyone here at Roslin Primary. We hope you enjoyed the break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school, hopefully rested and raring to go.

Last term was a challenging one, with lots of staff absences due to COVID. It looks like this one is predicted to be the same. We will continue to do our best to cover ongoing absences and continue to follow National and Midlothian guidance. More details of this in the Newsletter.

END OF TERM

It was an exciting end of term and we tried to maintain some normality in school as we celebrated with a range of events. We had a Christmas Lunch, parties for each class, a visit from Santa and the Elves, crafts, pantomimes and singing altogether outside. Before restrictions tightened we welcomed our P1 parents outside to hear their children singing songs about the Nativity. Sadly by the following week when the Nursery parents were due to come and hear their children singing the rules had tightened and this had to be cancelled. A gallery showing some of the events is on page 3.

COVID UPDATE

As we return to school, COVID cases are high across Scotland and we have had to tighten mitigations. Our hope is that the children will not notice much change and learning will continue as normal.

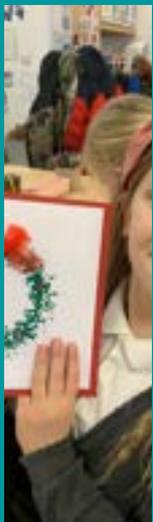
Inside school the children will again be in bubbles and no longer mixing with other classes (although this was already limited). They will continue to mix outside.

The Nursery will notice the biggest difference. As we return the numbers in nursery are over 50 children and so we will temporarily divide the children into two groups, each using one side of the nursery space. The children will continue to be with their key adults. They can continue to mix outside and so whenever possible this term, the learning will be outside.

If your child develops new symptoms that could be COVID, we will remove them from the classroom and ask you to collect them immediately. There are changes to isolation periods, if your child does test positive and you have any questions please call the school for advice.

The vigilance and testing previously carried out by families has supported us in keeping the school open and we are very grateful for your ongoing support with this.

School lunches will again be in classrooms for P3-7 (P1 & P2 in Dining Hall), with children choosing their lunch each morning, unless they have allergies and a parent/carer will continue to choose. P6 and P7 children will need to bring a packed lunch from home again. Lunches will be free for all P1-5 children. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals and your child is in P6 or P7, you will return to BACS payments.



P6 DATA PROJECT

During December the Data Team have been installing carbon dioxide monitors around the school. They also presented to councillors about the project. These monitors will support us in maintaining good ventilation levels.

STAFF NEWS

We are thrilled to announce that Miss Brodie got married in December and is now Mrs Blaikie. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Blaikie from all of us.

After a very high standard of applications and interviews we are pleased that Katy Wynne will be joining the team as a Learning Assistant. This week we will also be interviewing for Early Years Practitioners for the Nursery as numbers continue to rise there.

WATER IN THE CLASSROOMS

We encourage all of our learners to drink water throughout the day. It has been shown to support focus and hydration is important for brain function. As many of our pupils are sipping on their drink all day, we would ask that the children only drink water, rather than fruit juices or sugary drinks as these could be damaging to teeth.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our P5 and P6 pupils were asked to design flags for the Taylor Wimpy development. In December the winners were invited for a visit to see their designs in situ.

PE UNIFORM

We appreciate that things are different and the children are now coming to school in their PE kits two days a week. With this in mind the Learning Council intend to look at changing our PE uniform to meet this requirement. Until then, can we remind families that the expectation for PE days is darkly coloured bottoms and a light or plain top (this could be a school t-shirt). We are looking to avoid team kits and brightly coloured outfits.

While we don't want families to incur extra cost because of the changes, could you please bear this in mind when you are buying new items for school.

As with everything we now do in school that incurs a cost, if you are struggling to afford any of the activities linked to school please let a member of staff know and we can support this.

JUNIOR TOUR GUIDES

The Junior Tour Guide program has continued into December, with more excellent performances. However, due to updated COVID restrictions we have had to postpone the events inviting parents to see the performances in January. These will be rearranged as soon as possible with sessions beforehand to support the children to relearn their roles.

READING BOOKS

It was decided that as we start to replace our reading books, we would begin with new first novels. These were chosen by the Learning Council and are now in school ready to be used by classes.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 10th January - Staff In-Service Day
- 11th January - All pupils resume
- 18th/19th January 6pm - P7 Parents Event with Junior Tour Guides Rosslyn Chapel (to be rearranged)
- Half term break - 14th-18th February

