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Be Safe, Be Kind, Aim High



Planning for June and August 2020

I hope you are all well and managing in these challenging circumstances. I know with only a week to go until the end of term that there will be some anxiety around what happens next.

I would like to reassure you that while we have had to prioritise arrangements for children transitioning to Primary 1 and High School, we are also currently planning for the transition of children at all stages in our school.

From Monday 22nd June, We will be welcoming our new Primary 1 children to introduce them to the building and adults in school. We will also have the opportunity to welcome back our Primary 7 children for their final visit. We are very much looking forward to this. In order to meet social distancing guidance these activities will take place over a number of days that week.

The planning process is far from straightforward and while I may share plans with you, please be aware that these **may** have to be altered dependent on Scientific, Scottish Government and Midlothian guidance.

Midlothian Council have asked all schools to share specific arrangements around blended learning next week including days your children will be in school/be at home and the teacher who they will be working with. We are planning around sibling groups across Nursery – Primary 7 and will consider all options (there are so many!) if needing to plan staggered pick-ups and drop off. There is also likely to be a commitment to continue to support Category 1 and 2 keyworkers which will all be decided at government level. While we need to have structures and systems in place for August, it is vital to work in partnership with you so we can create a blended learning model that is right for our school community. We will be gathering feedback, advice and ideas around blended learning when we return in August.

I have received a few emails from parents/carers regarding when we will be allocating class teachers. I am able to share the names of the majority of teachers that will be supporting learning and teaching at **each stage/s**.

Primary 1	Miss Dominique Pelosi
Primary 2	Mrs Laura Denson and Mrs Emma Donald Mrs Denson is currently absent from work and this is likely to be extended when we return in August. I am awaiting confirmation from the authority on who will cover Mrs Denson's absence.
Primary 3	Miss Karen Hancock and Mrs Marion Pringle
Primary 4	Mrs Heather Galbucci, Miss Kerry Dolan and Miss Sarah Millar
Primary 5	Mrs Lis McKie and Mr Brodie Abbott
Primary 6	Mr Brodie Abbott and Miss Isla Emsley
Primary 7	Mrs Lesley Mason
Support for Learning/Blended Learning Support	Mrs Katrina Cummings and Mr Scott Palmer

Staffing Update

Senior Leadership Team	We are delighted to welcome back our DHT, Mrs Kimberley Hughes, for 2 days per week in August. Mrs Hughes returning on a part time basis has allowed us to extend our SLT and I am so pleased to inform you that Miss Karen Hancock and Miss Kerry Dolan will be our Principal Teachers next session. I don't have enough words to thank these 2 talented ladies for their hard work and support over the past year and I am excited to see our leadership team grow.
Ms Susan Burns	The lovely Ms Burns will be retiring at the end of term after being a very important member of the Cuiken Family for 25 years. We have been incredibly lucky to have had the pleasure of Ms Burns as part of our teaching staff team and we are going to miss her passion, dedication to ensuring the best for our learners, creativity, Zumba lessons and brilliant sense of humour – (I don't have enough room for all the positive comments I could make!) We wish Ms Burns all the happiness and luck as she starts the next chapter of her life – which I am sure will involve lots of dancing and long lunches with friends!
Mrs Andrena Fisher	We will also be saying goodbye to another much loved member of the Cuiken Family as Mrs Fisher will also be retiring at the end of term. Mrs Fisher joined the team in 2004 and is such an important part of our fabulous Learning Assistant team who be greatly missed. She has supported so many of our learners over the years and made such a difference to a number of individuals. We will miss Mrs Fishers warm and friendly nature as well as that lovely smile but like Ms Burns we wish her all the happiness and luck for the future. We can't wait to hear about your travel adventures and we know you will enjoy spending more time with your 'fur baby'.
Miss Lynsey Duncan and Miss Emma Boyle	Both have been successful in securing teaching posts within Midlothian Council and we wish them all the luck for their future. I want to thank Miss Duncan and Miss Boyle for all their hard work and dedication during their time at Cuiken Primary.
Losing staff is always sad however ONCE A MEMBER OF THE CUIKEN FAMILY ALWAYS A MEMBER OF THE CUIKEN FAMILY	
I am also delighted to welcome Miss Isla Emsley who will working with our Primary 6s next session.	

Thank you for everything you continue to do to support our school, we are so proud of your children. We appreciate your continued understanding during this time. Particular thanks for positive emails, cards and feedback for teachers who are doing an amazing job in very difficult circumstances.

Mrs Claire Bond

Head Teacher