



Canberra Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

November 2020



Message from Mrs Heasman

Dear Parent/Carer As we approach the end of Autumn the children have been enjoying getting out and about the school grounds during outdoor learning. The nursery and some classes have been exploring the changes that the season brings and there are lovely displays around the school of drawings and prints made from autumn leaves. We have been fortunate that the weather has remained largely dry and this has allowed classes to take part in outdoor PE. Many of our children have discovered a creative side and have put it to good use as they learn creative dance in the outdoors. The extra space has given them lots of freedom to explore movement and improve their skills. We are now looking forward to Christmas and have plans in place to make sure that, despite Covid, the children will be able to enjoy this special time of year! Our plans are included in the newsletter for your information. We obviously can't do everything in the way that we usually would but have tried to keep most aspects in place in some form or another. I hope that you are all keeping well and managing in this difficult time. Thankfully we have the wonderful Canberra of children to keep us upbeat and smiling - where would we be without them! Regards Angela Heasman



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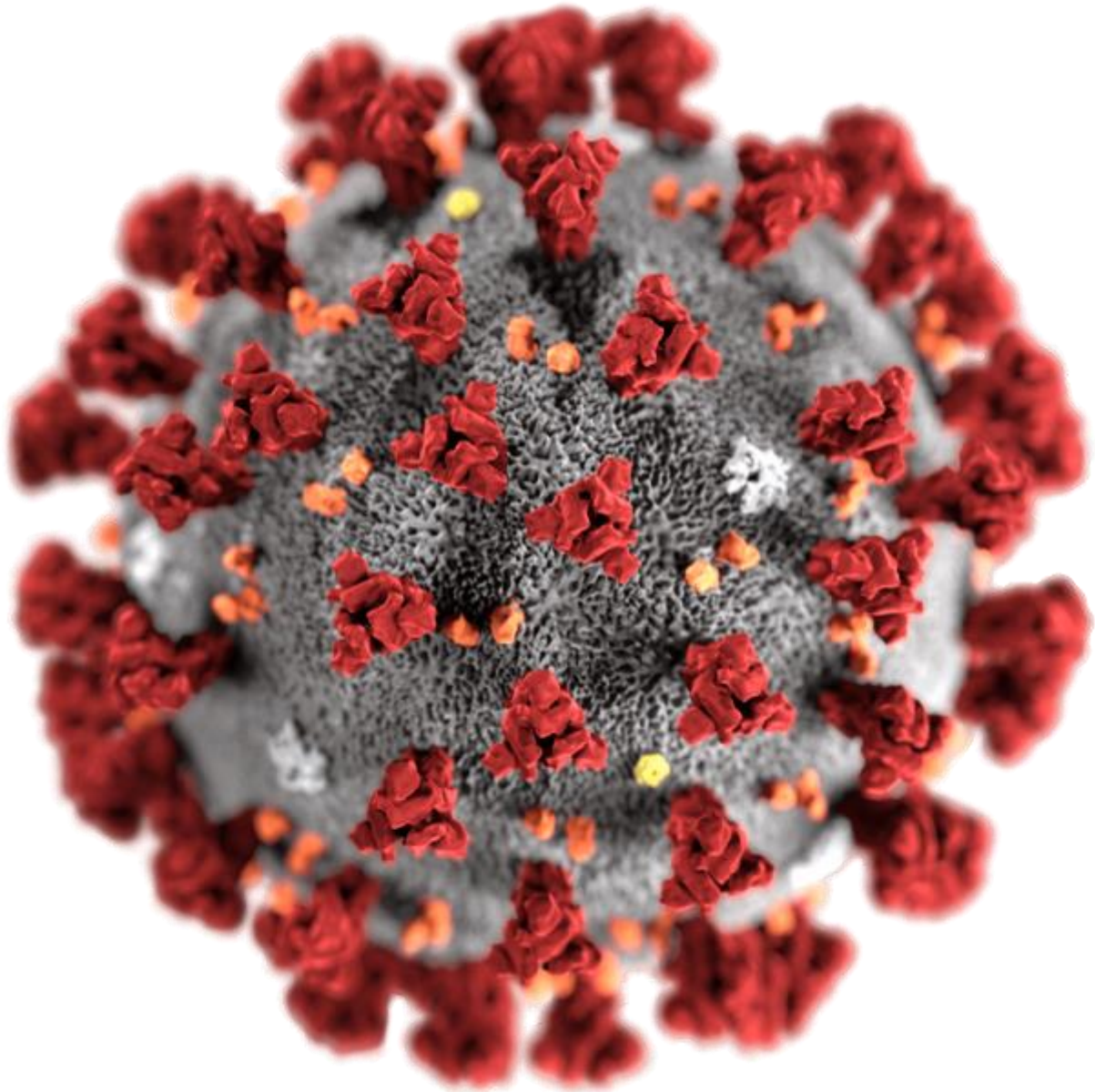
Dates for your diary Covid Update Christmas P7 - Duncanrig transition events Book Week Scotland

Dates for your diary



12.11.20 Flu vaccinations 16.11.20 In-service day (school closed) 30.11.20
Parent Council meeting 6pm (all welcome-contact school office to participate) 3.12.20
Duncanrig Captains virtual meeting with P7

Covid update



There have been some small changes to our procedures as a result of new guidance.

- *From Monday 16th November indoor PE will resume. All classes will have one hour indoor PE per week and one hour outdoor PE. Details of PE days have been sent by email and are recorded on the school website within class pages. (this is subject to change if South Lanarkshire moves into Tier 4).*

- *All staff must wear a face covering in communal areas including corridors and staffrooms (except when eating/drinking). Face coverings are not mandatory in nursery or classrooms however many staff at Canberra choose to wear them within the class setting.*
 - *All parents/carers and other visitors to the school must wear a face covering in school grounds - this includes at drop off and pick up.*
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Christmas



We are excited to have our plans in place for Christmas! Despite Covid we hope to have a fun time that all of the children can enjoy. Just what we need to give us something to look forward to! To help you get organised we would like to share our plans with you. **Christmas parties** All classes from Nursery - P7 will have a Christmas party and we hope that Santa will be able to visit us virtually! Children will be able to dress up in their party clothes and will be treated to fun and games with their

own class. An individual treat will be provided. Our party dates are as follows: 14.12.20 Primary 7 15.12.20 Primary 5 18.12.20 Primary 1, Primary 3 & Primary 4 21.12.20 Primary 2 22.12.20 Nursery **Nativity** Nursery and Primary 1 will each perform and film a Nativity which will be shared with parents/carers via our usual channels. They will have the opportunity to wear our lovely Nativity costumes, learn their lines and perform. We will use the pre-recorded backing tracks provided to complement their performances. **Christmas Crafts** The children will make their Christmas crafts in class and will bring them home as Christmas gifts for the whole family to appreciate and enjoy. **Christmas Carol Concert** A Google Classroom homework task will encourage children to video record themselves singing a Christmas Carol or song. All children who upload a video will feature in a special 'Carols at Canberra Concert' video which will be sent out to parents/carers. Depending on the numbers of 'acts' this may be a whole school concert or compiled in classes or stages e.g. Nursery-P3. **Xmas Factor** A Google Classroom homework task will allow children to enter the Xmas Factor this year. All acts will be streamed within classes and the children will be able to vote on their winner! **Christmas jumper/accessory day** We will be holding our annual Christmas jumper/accessory day on Friday 11th December. Children are welcome to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper, accessory or tinsel to help us get into the festive spirit!

Primary 7 - Duncanrig transition



I am sure that our Primary 7 children are getting excited and nervous, in equal measure, about transition to Duncanrig next year! I am therefore pleased to advise that Duncanrig Secondary are now in a position to begin their transition programme for our Primary 7's. Building on their success during Lockdown they are once again using virtual ways to connect with our P7's to help them familiarise themselves with the school, the staff and the different subjects they will undertake in S1. Over the coming weeks and months the children will have regular 'Virtual introductions' shared with them. They have already 'met' Mrs Boyd who will be their Head of Year! A virtual tour of the school is also in the pipeline. In early December the School Captains are having a virtual question and answer session with the children. This will allow our P7's to ask those burning questions that I am sure are already at the forefront of their minds! Next term Mrs Thompson, from the Maths department, will be teaching the children via video link once a week. This gives them a taste of how maths is taught at secondary, using a topic that they would normally complete in Primary 7. Duncanrig's enhanced transition programme, which they run every year to support children anticipated to find the transition particularly challenging, will go ahead. The school are currently planning how to make this meaningful for the children during the current restrictions. Duncanrig are also hoping that the children will be able to visit the school before the end of the school year as they

recognise how important it is for the children to have a 'live' experience of the setting to allay fears and to help them prepare. This is, however, very much at the mercy of the progress of the virus and Government guidance. Let's all keep our fingers crossed! As ever Duncanrig will communicate with parents as the year progresses and they will constantly review what they are able to offer in line with Scottish Government Guidance on Coronavirus restrictions.

Book Week Scotland



We are looking forward to participating in Book Week Scotland next week. Classes will be focusing on reading and engaging in some of the activities on the Book Week Scotland website. Nursery, Primary 1, 2 and 3 will be engaging in a specially prepared programme developed by Mrs Burns, our Literacy coordinator. Primary 1 will be receiving their Bookbug packs which have three specially chosen books, and some other resources for learning at home. Primary 2 & 3 will receive their Read, Write Count packs which have a mix of reading and numeracy resources, including books to develop their reading skills. Happy reading everyone!