



25<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Primary 1 Transition**

Over the years, our school has developed a transition programme that allows children to transition from Nursery to Primary 1 in a smooth and meaningful way. However due to the pandemic and current restrictions we have had to alter the activities that your child would have normally taken part in.

The primary schools within the Lasswade Learning Community has been working together to plan transitions which are similar, so that all children receive an equitable experience.

Our transition programme for session 2020-2021 will be split into 2 parts and begin from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

**VIRTUAL** transition (through our school website and P1 transition Face Book page – 'Hawthornden New P1 Transition Group')

- Primary 1 handbook/power-point available for parents providing key information about starting school.
- A child friendly document all about Primary 1.
- A 360 virtual tour of our school.
- Contact with school through email/ post/ phone-call.

**PHYSICAL** transition

- When it is deemed appropriate and following advice from the Scottish government, children will visit their new class and meet their teacher.

We know this is a very worrying time for everyone, particularly if you have a child who is due to start school in August. Like you, we are waiting for specific national guidance around the reopening of schools. At this stage, we cannot tell you exactly when your child will start, but we will ensure that their classroom is a safe environment and that they are welcomed warmly. Children learn best when they feel secure, safe and happy. The wellbeing of our children will be our first priority. We will keep you updated as soon as we are informed.

We know that families have been encouraging their children's learning at home, and this has been important in developing their knowledge and understanding. Please don't worry if there are skills your child doesn't yet have. Every child is an individual and we are experienced and ready to welcome everyone. Play and learning will go hand in hand once your child joins P1.

Throughout June, we are going to have transition activities for all our new primary 1 children. This will be based on popular children's stories. We will post weekly activities on our P1 transition Face Book page. This will begin on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020.

It would be very useful for us to have all parent's email addresses and phone numbers so we can get in touch quickly when needed. Could you email our Depute Head Teacher Ruth Johnson ([r.johnson@mgfl.net](mailto:r.johnson@mgfl.net)) with the following details:

Child's name  
Email address  
Contact number  
Any siblings already at Hawthornden (so we can allocate their house team)

In the meantime, if you have any questions or want to share information that would support your child's transition to school please contact Ruth or myself by email.

Kind regards

Caroline Elsey  
Head Teacher