

NEWTONGRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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EDUCATION DIVISION

Head Teacher
 Miss V Morgan

**Midlothian**

Our Ref:



26.6.20

Dear Parents and Carers,

And here we are, the last day of term, the end of another school session. Not one of us ever expected this year would go the way it has. Covid-19 pandemic has brought many challenges for us all and has needed us all to work together to get through these uncertain times.

Firstly, I would like to say thank you to you, our parents and carers, for the amazing support you have shown to our school team and, of course, for supporting your children during this home learning phase. This week as you know, we have had our P1 transition visits and our P7 return visits to school. It has been lovely to see some of our children and their families this week in school and in the playground.

Secondly, thank you to our wonderful staff team for all that they have done to support our children and their families throughout the school year and particularly whilst school has been closed. Covid 19 pandemic has brought as much change and uncertainty for staff as it has for families but with a strong and dedicated team we have continued to provide learning experiences for our children and prepare for the return to school whilst juggling our own family circumstances ... thank you!

Following the Scottish Government's announcement early this week, we continue to work on the assumption that staff will return to school on 10th August 2020 and **all children will return on the 12th August 2020**. You will be aware the Council had plans for a blended model of learning involving in-school and in-home learning. This model has now become our contingency plan if the scientific and health advice changes.

For children within our Early Learning Childcare provision (nursery), Midlothian Council are continuing with their plans for children to receive 600 hours from August, with the model of Monday/ Tuesday or Wednesday/ Thursday and alternate Fridays. Allocations of days and further information has been posted out to families.

We would like to reassure you that all your children's health and safety is of the utmost importance to us. Therefore, any changes that are made will stringently follow public health guidance, but we also want to reassure you that whether we go with Plan A - full return in August or Plan B – Blended Learning model, we are ready and we can't wait to open our doors again to our children and their families after the summer holidays!

As we receive further Scottish Government and Local Authority guidance, we will continue to communicate this with you on our school app and school website during the summer holiday period.

We may be closing for summer today but please remember there is lots of support available for families during the holidays. A 'family supports over summer' information sheet is available in the news section of the school app and on our website along with a 'Getting ready to return to school' guide. We hope you find both these documents helpful.

Finally, I would like to wish all the children, families and staff who are moving on from us, all the very best with your new adventures... I will miss you! For children, families and staff members who are joining us after the summer, I am looking forwards to welcoming you to our school and getting to know you better.

And to our whole school community, enjoy your summer, take care and I can't wait to see you all in August to continue our journey to **Aspire** for great things, **Believe** in ourselves and **Achieve** with all our might!

Stay safe

Miss Vicky Morgan
 Head Teacher

