Dear Parents/Carers

Our week started off with great excitement as our pupils were able to freely move around the playground.  Since Monday, Pupils are no longer required to stay in their playground class bubble and associated zones.  Classes are now mixing outdoors at playtimes and lunchtimes.  Other mitigations are however to remain in place until at least the October Holidays.  Please refer to the letter emailed earlier today entitled, **‘Letter to Parents and Carers from Jason Leitch National Clinical Director-16 September 2021’**.

Gold stars to us all as Aberdeenshire’s LFD test returns are high! We are up there at the top of the national ‘LFD League Tables’ of the number of tests being undertaken and associated results reported.  Thank you for all your efforts here!

**Thank you to all who continue to support our school community with the following….**

**Face coverings should be worn by parents and other visitors to the school site,** whether entering the building or otherwise, **including parents at drop-off and pick-up.**

**What to do if you or your child develop symptoms**

If you or your child develop a new continuous cough, or high temperature, or a loss of/ change in sense of taste or smell, your child must not come to school. The symptomatic person should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible, and the whole household should stay at home until the test result comes back.

Due to the high number of cases currently in Grampian, the NHS health protection team is also encouraging people who live or work in this area with “extended symptoms” to stay at home and book a PCR test. **Extended symptoms** include: general weakness, sore throat, shortness of breath, diarrhoea, headache, chills, muscle pain, or dry or productive cough. There is no need for the rest of the individual’s household to self-isolate.

PCR tests can be ordered at [**https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/**](https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/) or by phoning 119 if you cannot book online. When booking a test due to extended symptoms online, individuals should select the "My local council or health protection team has asked me to get a test" option. Further information on testing, and the rules around self-isolation, can be found on [**www.nhsinform.scot**](http://www.nhsinform.scot). If you are struggling to book a test you can call the NHS Grampian testing helpline on 01224 558494.

Finally, some **Fishermoss Family Friday Homework**….we would greatly appreciate you giving consideration to the communication put out this morning from Fishermoss Parent Staff Council and placing your vote. In addition, as we prepare for our sponsored walk it would be great if all remaining local area field trips permission forms for 2021/22, sent out by the school office, could be returned please. This permission slip is for local off-site activities only, which includes our **School Sponsored Walk**. A return from your email will be valid as a digital signature.

No special equipment is required for the sponsored walk other than your child being dressed for the weather…. a waterproof jacket, cosy layers and wellies or sensible walking shoes. If there has been rain some of the local woodland paths can become a little muddy.   Who knows, it may be shorts and shades!!  The route will be on paths and pavements, including the Community Woodland, heading up to the church and a return.  Miss Anderson and I spent some time this week planning and walking through a revised sponsored walk route.  We made some changes to the previous route, so we spend more time in green spaces, with a reduction in the number of roads we cross but enough to cover the Green Cross Code!  A lovely walk!  As previously shared, details of the route will be shared after the event so families can enjoy it together…if they so wish.

Pupils in P1-P3 will do the route once and P4-P7 pupils will show their stamina and cover it twice….as appropriate.  Further details regarding donations/sponsorship opportunities will be provided next week.

It is lovely to see the sunshine today as we head into the last weekend of the summer!  The summer months pass all too quickly. Make the most of it!

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards

**Margaret M. Ferguson**

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Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children’s Services



**‘Being the best we can be’**

**Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking**