



Laurencekirk School
Frain Drive
Laurencekirk
Aberdeenshire
AB30 1EG
T: 01561 400640

e: laurencekirk.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
w: <http://laurencekirk.aberdeenshire.sch.uk>

Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear families

Covid Update

I hope this weekly update finds you safe and well. Here in Laurencekirk School we are very aware that there are raised numbers of positive Covid 19 cases locally and we wish to reassure you that we continue to take mitigations in school in order to minimise the risk to our children and staff.

We issued a letter yesterday from Head of Education, Mr Vincent Docherty, which outlined the actions that we take should we be made aware of a positive case of Covid 19 and more detail can be found there. It is important that if your child is displaying symptoms of Covid 19 that they do not come to school and a PCR test is sought. Absence messages can be left 24 hours a day and prompt notification of any absences really supports the smooth running of the school. Heightened vigilance around the emergence of such symptoms will play a key role in minimising risk as we move forward. Thank you all in advance for your co-operation with this.

Bikeability

Many of our children enjoy cycling and wish to cycle recreationally and for travel purposes. To support with this, we do like to run Bikeability sessions for our Primary 5-7 pupils. These sessions support our children to ride their bikes safely within the community and are always enjoyed and appreciated. Our Bikeability programme depends upon volunteers which means that due to Covid restrictions we have not been able to run these. We would love to be able to recommence this important work. To do so, we need a small group of willing volunteers who are able to do a training course together in order to lead the sessions and who can also spare an afternoon each week for the length of a term. It is a great way to support the work of the school and help our children to gain important life skills. It is very much appreciated by us all. This may appeal to a granny or grandad! If this is something that you would be interested in doing then please let the School Office know before Friday 10th September and I can look into booking the training. I have my fingers crossed we can make this happen!

Phones in School

Many of our older children bring their mobile phones to school and whilst we do not encourage this, we understand the reasons you may feel this necessary. However, all mobile phones must be switched off in school and must not be used during school hours for calling or texting. All communication must come via our School Office. I have dealt with incidences this week where children have been texting during lunch time and this is simply not allowed. I would be grateful if you could reiterate this message to your child if they are in possession of a phone.

School Values

This week in assembly, we continue to explore our school values. The value this week is 'Resilience.' We are discussing the power of the word 'yet.' By simply adding the word 'yet' onto the end of a sentence such as, "I can't do times tables, YET!" we are telling ourselves that we will find a way to be able to achieve new and tricky things. This simple word has the power to transform as we can ALL apply this technique (whatever our age!) to unfamiliar situations.

Pupil Voice

A wee reminder that we are seeking representatives for our Pupil, Eco and Rights Respecting Groups. All children are invited to apply for a position in one of the groups by preparing a short presentation about why they would like that role. This sheet was groupcalled out to you all and each class will work together to identify their representatives.

See Saw Reminder

As you know, we have invested in See Saw this year in order to develop and improve how we share information and report on progress. We require the relevant permission forms to be returned in order to grant access to this. If you have not already returned these forms, please do so. We are really looking forward to reporting in an ongoing way.

And Finally....

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and find time to recharge.

Kindest Regards

Jill Smith

Head Teacher