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Date: Friday 5th February 2021

Remote Learning Update – Update 5th February 2021

Following the Scottish Government announcement this week, Highland Council have shared information for families today that has been sent as both an announcement on SeeSaw and published as a post on www.cawdorprimaryschool.com. You can access the update on the following link: https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/930/back_to_school

Once we have confirmation of, and have received guidance to support, the phased return back to the school building we will share information with families via SeeSaw. Next week (week beginning 08/02/21) sees the beginning of our fifth week of remote learning, and day on day I am impressed with the commitment from our children, the support of our families, and the relentless energy, hard work and determination of our staff to support development, learning and wellbeing.

Assembly Theme: Friendly February

And on the note of kind gestures, our assemblies this month are on the theme of “Friendly February” using the Action for Happiness calendar as our inspiration. Since beginning at Cawdor in October 2021, developing mental, physical and spiritual wellbeing for all in the #TeamCawdor community has been a relentless focus in each assembly, interaction and information sharing.

The staff team, in our early learning and childcare setting and our classes, demonstrate this as part of our ethos, and drive this through our health and wellbeing curriculum. As we plan ahead for a phased return to the school building, this remains to be a key driver to ensuring that Cawdor is a place where children, families, and staff feel safe, respected, valued and included.

I greatly appreciate the time that families are spending exploring the assembly themes together, and reinforcing the key messages of kindness, compassion and empathy (particularly during the challenging circumstances that we are all navigating).

Online Parent Meetings

As we have shared in our communications in December and January 2021, we had tentatively, prior to the winter break, identified that virtual parent meetings would take place at the end of last month. The meetings were postponed due to the regular two-way communication that has been established through SeeSaw and Google Classroom. We will arrange dates when we are aware of the plans for the phased return to the school building.

Thank you to the staff team for the sessions that they offered this week to answer any questions about remote learning, and thank you to the families who have contacted staff directly, or made contact with me, to share their gratitude and praise for the quality of remote learning being planned for and delivered currently across our early learning and childcare setting and classes. These small gestures of kindness really do go a long way.

Week Beginning 15th February 2021

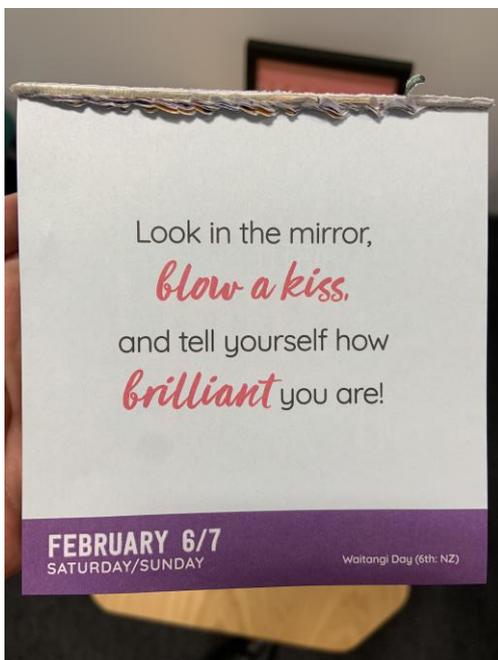
With wellbeing in mind, remote learning will look a little different the week beginning 15th February. On Monday 15th February 2021 and Tuesday 16th February 2021 we are closed for the mid-term holiday. On Wednesday 17th February 2021 we are closed for inset day. There will be no remote learning on these dates.

On Thursday 18th and Friday 19th of February, the staff team will be sharing learning experiences that promote learning away from the screen – promoting wellbeing through a digital detox (something I'm sure that will be an appreciated pause after the start of 2021 beginning again "on screen"). Either whole-group or small-group Google Meets will be offered on the Thursday and/or Friday, with the remaining learning experiences promoting learning away from the screen – outdoors and indoors. Information will be shared via SeeSaw and Google Classroom.

Registration

Until Friday 19th February (except Monday 15th-Wednesday 17th) the online registration link will continue to be sent daily via SeeSaw. I appreciate that this an additional task to the school closure last year, however, unlike the previous period of remote learning, we have a legal obligation to maintain our electronic registration on SEEMiS to ensure the wellbeing of your child. It is appreciated that this is filled in each day by 3pm for children in Primary 1 – Primary 7. All that is required is your child's name and class. We will follow Highland Council and Scottish Government guidance in contacting families via telephone that have not registered their child on a given day.

As we go into the weekend, I'm taking the advice from my daily calendar of inspiration, and thought I'd share it with you all.



Take care of yourselves, and have a great weekend!

James Cook
Head Teacher,
Cawdor Primary School