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29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope this letter finds you and your family safe and healthy. As the lockdown carries on, we know the continued pressure this causes and we really appreciate all the work the pupils are doing at home to stay engaged in their learning. We also know that this doesn’t happen alone, so thank you as parents and carers for your continued efforts to help and stay connected. Please remember the work we are sending home is there to support your child through this challenging time, not to add increased pressure.

**Ipads and Showbie**

The pupils are all signed up for Showbie on their Ipad, and we are pleased to see so many pupils submitting work to their teachers. The technology has not been without its glitches, but hopefully much of that is resolved.

Pupils will have work every day on their Ipads from the class teachers they would have on these days. At the end of the week we are putting a sample of good work on Facebook, so look out for this!

We will be looking at using the Teams feature, to help with assemblies. We will issues more information on this shortly. We will also be issuing a survey to get feedback on the home learning and hear your views. This will be issued after the February weekend.

If there’s individual problems with Ipads please get in touch straight away and we will endeavour to resolve it.

**Mid Term Break**

The mid-term break is going ahead as usual. There will be no pupils attending school and no work on line on the following dates:

Friday 5th February- Tuesday 9th February

Wednesday 10th February is an In-Service day for staff.

**SQA News**

Before Christmas we shared that the SQA has announced that all examinations for 2020-21 have been cancelled. No assessments will be done on Showbie while pupils are learning at home. It is vital that all our senior phase pupils, S4-S6, try to keep engaging with their online learning. This will support the pupils for when we do get back to school. If they are struggling please let us know and we can offer support.

**Wellbeing phone calls**

The staff at Hollybrook have been phoning every parent and carer each week to check in, say hello and help in any way we can. Please use this opportunity to share any concerns, questions or issues you many have. Equally we love to hear about your successes and things that have made lockdown easier for you!

We have also attached a list of useful contacts and services to this letter that may be of use to you or help someone you know.

**Pupil Reports**

All pupils have been issued with an interim report before Christmas. The next Interim report will be issued when we return to school. We will confirm the date when we know when schools are reopening.

**Breakfast Packs**

Our Breakfast supplier, Magic Breakfast, continues to send us a range of healthy breakfast options. Mrs Drennan and her team have been organising these for families. These can either be collected from Hollybrook at an agreed time or if you cannot make it to the school, we can drop off at home. These are free and available to anyone who wants them. Please email us or pass it on during your weekly phone call.

**Pupils Leaving School**

If your son or daughter is leaving school in June 2021, then we will be in touch with you to arrange a meeting with Mrs McNally and Caroline Judah from Skills Development Scotland. A move post school always has some in trepidation and we recognise that this is even more so at the present time. Please be assured we are working hard to make sure every one of our leavers has a positive destination to go to.

**Communication**

We are will continue to use our school **Facebook** to share photos, however we will be using the new app **‘Scot Ed’** to share information and letters in the future. It is free to download for both Apple and Android systems. We will also continue with text message and email so please ensure that you contact the school with updated details if you change you mobile number of email address. This is of absolute importance to ensure you receive updated information. Information will also continue to be added to our school website. [www.hollybrookacademy.glasgow.sch.uk](http://www.hollybrookacademy.glasgow.sch.uk)

If you have any question or queries about the information above or anything else, please do get in touch.

Warm wishes,

Jackie Newell & Allison MacLeod

**Head Teacher and Head of School**