

September 2021

Friday 24th September

- Holiday – school closed



Monday 27th September

- Holiday – school closed



October 2021

Friday 8th October

- School closes at 3pm for October Break.



Monday 18th October

- School reopens

November 2021

Monday 15th November

- Inset Day - school closed to children.



Welcome back!

I hope you've all enjoyed the lovely weather over the summer holidays. The children have come back refreshed and ready to learn.



Again, this year the children have returned to school with positive attitudes, following all of our routines that are in place without any fuss. The restrictions that are in place, e.g. staggered starts will be reviewed in 5 week's time, once we are provided with an update from the Scottish Government. We will keep our school community up to date via our school app, so I would ask that if you still do not have it, please download it asap.

Our Primary 1s have coped with the transition to primary very well and Miss Reilly is delighted with them all. I am also delighted to hear that last year's Primary 7s are settling well too in their new environment.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff who have been very busy ensuring our building and classrooms are ready for the start of term.

I think it is fair to say that this year will be different again for us all. However, our children have shown the resilience that they have to face any challenges that come their way.



We have introduced a manner of the month to the school. August's manner is to remember to say please. I know it is a simple one, but sometimes it is easy to forget it. The children will be encouraged

and praised for remembering to use the manner of the month in all areas of our school. Our primary focus, of course, will be on maximising the time we have with our children to help them meet their academic potential, but we are also working towards developing responsible citizens in school and the community too.

Kind regards, Mrs Hogg

Covid-19 Procedures and Frequently Asked Questions

We continue to ask families to be vigilant with regards symptoms of Covid 19.

If your child's symptoms include either:

- a continuous cough
- fever/high temperature (37.8C or greater)
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste (anosmia)

Where a new continuous cough is:

- a new cough that's lasted for an hour
- where the child has had 3 or more episodes of coughing in 24 hours
- are coughing more than usual

You should follow the steps below:

- If your child develops any symptoms of COVID-19 they must not attend school. They should stay at home, self-isolate and get tested for COVID-19. Find out more on NHS Inform.
- All other household members of your child (including yourself) must also stay at home and follow the latest guidance, which can be found on NHS Inform. In the event of a positive result, the Test and Protect service will contact you to provide tailored advice on what to do. •
- Book a test at NHS Inform for your nearest COVID-19 test site. There are drive-through, walk-through, and mobile testing units across Scotland which are open from 8 am until 8 pm, 7 days a week. A full list of sites can be found at Gov.Scot. Or you can order a home PCR test kit online, or by calling 119. A test will then be delivered to your home. To return you can either drop the test at your nearest priority post box, or if you are unable to go out, you can also call 119 to book a courier collection from your home.

If your child has cold-like symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, they do not need to be tested and do not need to self-isolate.

However, we would ask that parents assess whether their child is fit to return to school or needs time off to recover.

For general Coronavirus Frequently Asked Questions and information:

<https://www.parentclub.scot/topics/coronavirus/coronavirus-faq?age=0> Coronavirus (COVID-19):

Pupil Achievements

Pupil achievements will continue to be celebrated every Friday at our virtual assembly. As we cannot all gather in the hall together, we are having a short assembly where Mrs Hogg or Mr McCann will talk to the classes, through the wonderful use of technology about Health and Wellbeing themes and to announce the weekly Hot Chocolate Friday awards for going above and beyond. Each child who receives a HCF Award will be given a Hot Chocolate Treat to take home on the Friday, instead of having it in school, until further notice. We will still have weekly class stars of the week too, which will be announced at the assembly.



READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE



We continue to promote positive relationships and behaviour through our Ready, Respectful and Safe policy.

We aim to encourage the children to go 'above and beyond' in school and to support the children to make the right choices to maximise opportunities for learning time in the classroom.

Our three rules are; READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE which are underpinned by our four school values - FRIENDLY, CARING, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL. Both our rules and values will be discussed in class and at weekly assemblies.

Water

As you are aware the children are encouraged to bring a small bottle of water to school each day. As per South Lanarkshire Policy, the children should only have water in their bottle and not flavoured water or diluting juice, unless there is a medical need for there to be so. If there is a medical need please speak to Mrs Hogg or Mr McCann.

The children may bring diluting juice or fruit juice to have in the lunch hall. We would appreciate your support with this matter.

Parent Pay

As you are aware lunches are currently free of charge to Primary 1, 2, 3 and 4 as per Scottish Government Policy. The present charge for school dinners in Primary 5 to 7 is £1.95. **I have been notified that the amount outstanding for lunch payments across the school is again quite substantial, this is money outstanding from before the summer break.**

All families are asked to activate their Parent Pay accounts. All Primary 1 families were issued with letters in August with activation codes. Even if you are entitled to Free Meal Entitlement, Parent Pay accounts should be set up.

The new lunch menu started today. All children should have received a copy last week in school.

Respectful

Responsible

Caring

Friendly

Physical Education

All classes have been allocated a weekly an indoor and outdoor P.E. session this year. There is specific guidance from the government with regards P.E. Any P.E. lessons taking part indoors have to involve non-contact activities.



On P.E. days we would ask that your child attend school wearing either leggings or jogging bottoms and trainers (preferably an old pair of trainers) and should wear a polo-shirt with their school jumper or cardigan on top. The children should also have a suitable jacket to wear for taking part in activities outdoors.

Allocation of days for each class can be noted in the table below:

Class	PE days
Primary 1	Tuesday and Thursday
Primary 2	Monday and Friday
Primary 3	Monday and Friday
Primary 4	Wednesday and Thursday
Primary 5	Tuesday and Thursday
Primary 6	Tuesday and Thursday
Primary 7	Wednesday and Friday

Meet the Teacher



Our annual Meet the Teacher event will not be able to take place this year again due to restrictions of visitors into the school building.

Look out for a class newsletter the week beginning the 6th September which will give you some information about your child's year ahead with their new teacher.

Breakfast Club

It is great to see families using our Breakfast Club in the morning. In order to attend, the children must have something from our Breakfast Club to eat. The children should not just be attending to wait until it is time to go out to the playground. There is toast and cereal on offer and I can honestly say it is the best toast in Hamilton, so please, if your child is attending encourage them to have something to eat.

Annual Letter Return

All of our children were issued with annual update letters, as well as the ICT user agreement, the photograph permission form, Twitter and School App and the EV5 insurance form, which we use when we go out with the school building.

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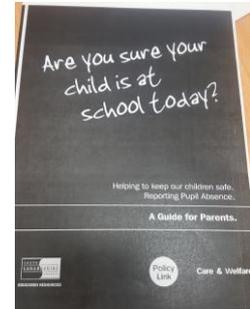
Can I please ask that if you have not done so already that you return all of these forms asap. Many thanks in advance for your support in this matter.

CHILDREN'S ABSENCES

Please note that should your child be ill and unable to attend school that it is important that the school be notified by 9.30 am.

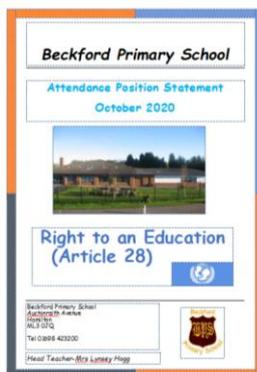
It is also important that the school has up to date contact details including:

- Home telephone number
- Mobile number
- Emergency contact details



If a child's absence has not been reported to the school, a member of staff will contact the child's parent/carer to find out why the child is absent. The safety and wellbeing of our children is everyone's first priority. Further information can be found in South Lanarkshire Council's 'Are you sure your child is at school today?' policy.

If your child has been ill due to sickness or diarrhoea please note that the advice from the NHS is that a child should not return to school until 48 hours after his/her last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. This is to reduce any further spread of infection.



We have revised our attendance policy for the start of term, where a copy of which will be put on the school website and each family will receive a paper copy of.

Obviously we understand that children get ill and absence due to isolating because of covid will be required. However we will be monitoring absence on a monthly basis and celebrating at the assembly at the end of each month (starting in September) those children who have 100% attendance for that month. It is expected that your child's overall attendance at school should be at least 95% for the school year.

Place2Be



We are delighted to welcome Louise from Place2Be back to Beckford following the summer break. As you will be aware Louise joined us in January as our Project Manager.

Our children continue to be very confident in self-referring to meet with Louise from Place2Be for a Time to Talk session at breaktimes.

Parents should only return letter sent last week with regards P2B should you NOT wish your child to access the service.

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Youth, Family, Community Learning (YFCL) Officer

We are also delighted to welcome Anne Welsh to the Beckford Team on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday this year. Anne is a YFCL officer who will work with our children, staff and families this year.

Anne will be supporting projects in the school including our Developing Young Workforce activities in the upper school and supporting the implementation of our new attendance policy.

We are funding Anne's position through our Pupil Equity Funding and will consult all stakeholders very soon as to what support you think Anne could give within the school to or families. Over the next few weeks Anne is going to take time to get to know our staff and children. You will see her around the school playground too. I am sure you will all make her feel very welcome.

School Information/Communication

As a school we encourage our children and families to talk to us, therefore if you have any worries or concerns about life in school, please do not hesitate to do so. Initially we would ask that parents contact the school by phone or to the office email. We need to minimise visitors to the school and therefore it would be helpful to try to address any concerns initially in these ways before a meeting is required.

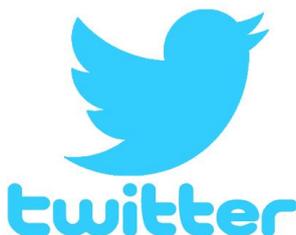
Website - www.beckford-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk.

Key documents including the school lunch menu, handbook and up to date newsletters are on our website.

Text Messages - From time to time we may send messages via a text message. Please note that we can only send this to one parent/carer on the emergency contact list. This is usually the first person named on the annual update check letter.



Twitter - Updates on activities and the learning and teaching experiences of our children are also placed through the school's Twitter Account.



Follow us at:

@beckfordps_slc

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School App – School App - Our School App can be downloaded for free from the Apple Store or Google Play. If you have been signed out of the app during the summer, please input the details as below again.

Username: BPS
Pin: 4143



School App for Parents

ConnectUs Scotland Ltd

Technology is a wonderful thing, but please remember our door is always open. If you need to speak to us, please do not hesitate to contact the school office (office@beckford-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk).

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Our newsletter is sent monthly via the school app to reduce paper costs, therefore future Newsletters will be sent electronically.

If you are unable to access the school app and require a paper copy of the newsletter, please complete the slip below and return to the school. Thank you!

I require a paper copy of the monthly school newsletter, as I cannot access the newsletter via the app.

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

Parent/carer's signature: _____

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