



Strathesk
Primary School

Weekly Mail Drop

24.02.23

(Our weekly mail drop will continue to be sent out each **Friday** this year)

Included in this week's mail drop:

- Letter from our Education Chief Operating Officer, Michelle Strong, in relation to school closures
- Parent Consultation options to be returned to class teacher (please also check your child's bag for a hard copy)

Parent Consultations

I hope you have had a great week. It has been another busy week in school and children are excited to share their learning with you at our additional set of Parent Consultations which take place on Wednesday 8th March and Friday 10th March. Please find attached a tear off slip. Please complete and return to your child's class teacher by Thursday 2nd March. We will try to accommodate your chosen time slot where possible. Times will be confirmed by Monday 6th March. Please bring your child with you to these consultations as he/she is leading the session. We ask that you arrive promptly for the session you have chosen.

Family Learning - Writing Workshop

As you know our writing workshop had to be postponed due to staffing issues. This will now take place this Thursday 2nd March at 2pm. This is a chance for children to share with you some strategies and skills we use in writing across the school. Please come along and join us.

Family Learning - Talking Together

Please join us for our next Talking Together session which will focus on play in the curriculum. *'Is it an important part of a child's development or not?'* This is an opportunity for us to come together and chat informally about play. There will be no presentation or formal agenda. Please join us if you can.

World Book Day

Also this **Thursday, 2nd March we will celebrate World Book Day.** Children are encouraged to bring their favourite book into school to share with their class. Teachers have organised individual class activities throughout the day to mark this occasion. We have chosen not to dress up this year. Children should wear school uniform to school as usual.

Strathesk School Choir Performance

We are delighted to be able to run after school clubs again this year. Mr Armstrong has been leading the school choir every Tuesday. They performed at Christmas in both Tesco and Cowan Court and they did us proud on both occasions! They have been working hard on their next big performance! Our annual music concert will be held at **2pm on Thursday 23rd March** in the school hall. The choir will be joined by our children who have been learning a range of musical instruments this year. Parents and families of children in the choir and those playing instruments are invited to join us on Thursday 23rd March at 2pm. Mr Armstrong will send out an invitation shortly with a reply slip. Please can you return this to him advising how many people will be attending from your family so that we know how many people to expect on the day.

Planned Strike Days on Tuesday 28th February and Wednesday 1st March

Please find attached a letter from our Education Chief Operating Officer in relation to planned strike days. ***At this time it is expected that school will be closed on both days. Please note***



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however our ELC will remain open on both Tuesday 28th February and Wednesday 1st March and children are encouraged to attend as usual.

Prime drinks and bottles in school

Please do not let your child bring Prime drinks into school. Prime bottles should not be recycled as water bottles. We have had a number of incidents involving missing bottles and disputes over ownership of bottles. Children are encouraged to bring water in basic water bottles that can be refilled throughout the day.

Scotmid Funding Secured

I am delighted to advise that we have been successful in a bid to secure funding of £500 from Scotmid. This will enable us to continue providing toast for all children each morning and also provide fruit and healthy snacks for our nurture groups which will begin in March.

Outdoor Learning - Visits to the woods

Mr Howie has had to reduce visits to the woods this term due to poor weather conditions. He continues to focus on STEM related activities in the playground and during PE sessions.

Clothes Recycling

Please make use of our uniform swap shop. We have a number of uniform items of all sizes and although previously owned, they are in very good condition. Please contact the office or Ali Turbitt, our Home School Practitioner, if you could use any of these items.

Similarly, if you have any unwanted clothes at home that your little ones have outgrown, can you please donate these to school? Outdoor clothing such as wellie boots, waterproofs, coats etc are very useful for outdoor learning and for taking away with us to camp however, any items would be really appreciated as children often need a change of clothes due to wet or messy play.

Gentle reminders

Please visit our school website strathesk.mgfl.net Our weekly mail drop and much more has now been added. Please take a wee look. We will continue to add information we think you might find useful so please visit regularly. We would appreciate your feedback and suggestions of what you would like us to share here.

A gentle reminder that our school is a pet and smoke free zone. Please do not smoke in or around the school grounds, including the playground and the school gates. Please do not bring pets, including dogs, into the school playground. Many of our children are afraid of dogs, even those on a lead, and some of our children are allergic to them. Thank you for your support with this.

Can you please ensure your child brings a healthy snack and water to school rather than sweets and fizzy drinks? Similarly, if your child is bringing a packed lunch can you please ensure all items are healthy? Over this term we have seen an increase in sweets, crisps and chocolate which can have a negative impact on a child's ability to concentrate in class. Please note we are a nut free school and so nuts or foods containing nuts, including Nutella, must not be sent into school as we have a number of children with allergies. Thank you for your support with this.

Head lice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They don't have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact. Please check your child's hair regularly for head lice. Treat head lice as soon as you spot them and ensure you



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complete the full treatment. There's no need to keep your child off school if he/she has head lice. For further information on how to spot and treat headlice please visit the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Next week's diary

Mon 27 Feb	Tues 28 Feb	Wed 1 March	Thurs 2 March	Fri 3 March
	Proposed strike action - school closure ELC remains open	Proposed strike action - school closure ELC remains open	P1 transition begins 2pm Writing workshop 3.30pm Family Craft Group organised by Ali Turbitt (HSP)	9.00 Family Learning session - Thinking Together with a focus on play in the curriculum

Please have a lovely weekend, everyone.