



# Cornbank St James Primary School

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Head Teacher  
Mrs Laura Cameron

05.02.21

Dear Cornbank Families,

Firstly, well done! We have all survived the first half of Term 3! ☺ It has not been easy and there have been many challenges along the way but please be proud of everything you and your family have achieved over the last 4 weeks. Next week allows everyone to have a wee bit of time away from 'school' for much needed rest and hopefully enjoy some family time.

As you will be aware, it was announced on Tuesday that we are planning for a phased return to school buildings from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We are delighted to be welcoming all our children in ELC and P1 - P3 back to the school building from this date. We will be continuing to support most of our P4 - P7 children with remote learning until further notice (hopefully this will not be too long away), with a small number of children of children in those classes continuing to be in the school buildings. We received this information about the proposed return to school at the same time as everyone else and have spent this week making plans. Due to current medical guidance, we will have to make some changes to staff working with classes in school and remotely. I will ensure you receive information regarding any changes as soon as possible. If you work in Education in Midlothian and are now returning to your work place and need emergency childcare for your P4-P7 child, could you please email the school as soon as possible so that we can ensure we have adequate support staff organised.

One of our changes to staffing that I can share just now, is that Mrs Chatham will be continuing to support learners from home. I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Chatham is expecting a new addition to her family in April 2021. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mrs Chatham and wishing her all the best with her pregnancy.

Thank you for completing our recent Remote Learning survey. We had a great response with 90 families completing it, representing a reasonably even spread across the school. Here are some of the key points:

- 97.7% are satisfied or very satisfied with Cornbank's Remote Learning offer
- 95.5% find weekly communication helpful
- All respondents find support provided by the school either helpful or had found they had not needed anything extra
- 90% find written instructions helpful
- 83% find sound recordings helpful
- 86.7% find online tasks helpful or very helpful
- 57.8% find active tasks helpful or very helpful
- 95.5% find written/jotter tasks helpful or very helpful
- 80% find Google Meets helpful or very helpful
- 91.1% of respondents always see feedback on children's work



- 72.2% find the volume of work just right, with 22.2% finding it too much

There were a number of very positive and supportive comments from families, which were greatly appreciated, along with some helpful and constructive comments. If you left your name, you will have already been contacted to talk through any concerns, but please get in touch if there is something you would like to discuss. As a staff team, we will be looking at how we can take forward some of your suggestions. We try to provide a variety of tasks to teach different curricular areas, but appreciate that everyone's situation is different. Please continue to use the activities in a way which works for you. Some families asked what they should prioritise - we would suggest Literacy and Numeracy.

Next week is our February break and staff have a planned in-service day on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our pupils back to the Google Classrooms on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Take Care,

Laura Cameron

Head Teacher