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*In these uncertain times, it is so good to see the children working and playing together and having fun. I hope you are as proud of them as we are! They have proved to be very adaptable and they have settled in well to our 'new normal' of split lunches and playtimes.*

*Many thanks to our Parent Council for helping out with our outdoor play equipment and getting the sand pit sorted. The good news is Mrs Alcock has been successful in the Parent Council grant application to purchase new equipment for both outdoors and IT. All children now have waterproofs, which means they can get outside in all weathers. A big thank you from pupils and staff.*

*As ever, if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch  
Stay safe and well, Elma McGregor HT*

**FACE COVERINGS** Thank you to all parents, carers and family members who are now wearing face coverings when in the school grounds. We really appreciate your support in keeping our school community safe.



### **KEEPING WARM**

In line with guidance from Scottish Government as well as South Lanarkshire Council, we will continue to be learning and playing outdoors, please ensure your child comes to school dressed for the weather conditions on that day. It may be helpful for pupils to have a spare pair of socks, gloves etc in their bag.

As previously indicated, we have been directed to keep windows open to provide ventilation throughout the day; pupils are encouraged to wear layers and they are welcome to leave a warm school jumper on their coat peg just in case.



## HALLOWEEN

Next Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, we are having a Dress Up/Dress Down Day. Children can come to school in either costume or casual clothes – please note however that no Halloween masks or additional items (pumpkins, swords etc) are to be brought in from home. During the day, we plan to have some Halloween fun in our separate bubbles, ever mindful of the Covid restrictions.

## PARENT PAY

Please keep a regular check on your Parent Pay balances.

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

It is vital, with the approach of winter and the ongoing issues around keeping safe, that all your emergency contacts are up to date and that you inform us of any changes to your own mobile numbers.



## CHRISTMAS CARDS

At the recent Parent Council meeting, it was agreed we would continue with our Christmas Card Fundraiser. Children have already designed their very own card. This template will be sent home to you with costs etc, and if you wish, you can order packs; with payment via ParentPay.



## HOME LEARNING

Many thanks for your continued support as we develop our use of Google Classroom at home. As well as being a useful tool for home learning, it will be invaluable if the children are confident in its use for going to Biggar High School. We are aware it is a steep learning curve for many, but our staff are on hand to offer advice if needed. We are encouraging parents to become involved in their children's learning but at the same time, it is important to encourage their independence. Eg if your child is working online on Sumdog, do not be tempted to give out answers as this will give the teacher a wrong impression of your child's progress.

## HELPLINES- some useful numbers

### COVID – 19 Sources of Help & Advice

Emergency Social Work: 0303 123 1008  
 Educational Psychologist: 01698 455800  
 (10:00am - 3:00pm) [enquiries@slcpsych.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@slcpsych.org.uk)

### Community Helplines (for support with shopping, prescriptions etc.)

SLC Community Helpline: 0303 123 1009  
 Biggar, Thankerton, Covington  
 & Quothquan: 073 76 318 724 (10:00am - 3:00pm)  
 Libberton (Rev George Shand): 01899 309400  
 Symington: 078 07 235 81

