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Headteacher Miss Lynn Black



20 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family have managed to take some time away from computers and devices over the past two weeks and enjoy a break from work or school. It's certainly been a different holiday from normal.

Members of The Senior Leadership Team have been working behind the scenes during the holidays to manage correspondence and plan for this term. My thanks go to the members of teaching staff who have been working in the hub before and during the break to support the children of key workers. Thanks to the teaching staff and Maureen Sanford (Lifelong Learning) and her team for delivering free school meals in the lead up to and in the first week of the Easter break and a big thanks to our CDT teachers who have been making visors for the NHS and frontline workers. As a community school with positive relationships at our heart this is, and continues to be, a real community effort as we #strive to be resilient, #strive to be responsible.

Free School Meals

As intimated during the break, families in receipt of free school meals will now receive a BACS payment in place of a delivered meal. We are currently following up any queries relating to these payments, however, please email us Beeslack.hs@midlothian.gov.uk if you have any further questions in relation to free school meals.

Spring Term Learning

A reminder of information shared with you in my update on the 2nd April. We have created a timetable (attached and available on the distance learning page of the website) to help pupils structure their learning and manage any 'due dates' or assignments. This will be in operation as of today and will hopefully provide a structure for some of our pupils who are struggling to know where to start! All new learning activities for each subject will be posted on the allocated day – due dates will also be restricted to those days to help pupils plan and manage their time. Again, I want to reiterate that this is advisory and if your son/daughter is overwhelmed then please reduce the amount they do – you are best placed to judge how best they can engage with learning and teaching during this time whilst balancing positive health and wellbeing within the family.

Supporting Children and Families

Our pupil support team continue to check in with pupils and have sent out a number of updates signposting a variety of supports and assistance for families. Details are on our Family Support page on the website;

<https://www.beeslackhigh.co.uk/page/?title=Family+Support&pid=458>

SQA

We are awaiting further information from the SQA on estimate grades, more information will be communicated with you as soon as we have it.

Communication

We are continually adding information to our school website – please check it regularly, particularly the distance learning pages and the family support page.

We also have a school app which is linked to our website – this can give you push notifications straight to your phone when we put any news information on our website. The app can be downloaded from Apple or google. Links to both are included below;
Apple

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/school-news/id413035731>

Google Play

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.e4education.schoolnews&hl=en_GB

If you have any questions or queries please contact us through the school email address (Beeslack.hs@midlothian.gov.uk) and these will be directed to the most appropriate member of staff for a response. If a member of staff is calling you, they will be doing so from their own personal phones so, if you have an unknown caller or blocked ID it may well be a member of staff trying to reach you.

We hope that you enjoyed our spring newsletter

(<https://sway.office.com/nHOpBEGl186ofBM6?ref=Link>) where we celebrated the amazing achievement of our pupils, and wonderful work of our staff. We look forward to lots of learning and exciting opportunities (albeit virtually) in the term ahead, and wish to thank you as parents/carers for supporting us to do this.

Yours Sincerely



Lynn Black
Headteacher