



# The Lorne Phoenix

March 2020

It turns out that a lot can happen in a month and what a month March has been. I am not sure if, at the start of the month, we could have foreseen where we would all be by the end of March but here we all are ... #LorneLearningAtHome.

We are obviously all living through a challenging time that will be forever acknowledged in history. Please be kind to yourselves and each other. **Do what is right for you and your family** in terms of learning and we will continue to support in any way we can. There is no expectation that you and your family will do all of the work that has been shared, please pick and choose and hopefully, in time, you will find what works for you and your family. **We are definitely going through a period of adjustment and that is okay!**

As I have said in letters during the school closure, this will all pass and we will physically be back in Lorne Primary School in time but remember we continue to be a fantastic community so please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself if you have any queries or questions at all. This can be done via email ([admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk)) and I will do my best to respond as speedily as possible.

Susan Leach

## Vision and Values

Whether physically in the school building or not, the school's vision and values remain;

Vision –

Lorne Primary School aims to provide high quality learning and teaching in a safe and nurturing environment, leading to success for all.

Values –

Diversity  
Equality  
Achievement  
Respect

## Staff Training

Stewart Brown from the Digital Learning Team met with the SLT to look at Microsoft Teams on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March and how this can be used to facilitate staff collaboration.

The staff team enjoyed optional training on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March on Microsoft Teams and explored ways to use the digital technology platform to promote collaboration and access to learning.

PSAs were also offered training on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March on Microsoft Teams to ensure all can access and collaborate using this package.

## Office 365

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, information was sent out to all families on how learners can access their Office 365 accounts, this would allow the learners to access Microsoft Teams. We have a very helpful YouTube video (Lorne Primary School) on how to access this.

If your child does not have their username and password for Office 365 please let us know via the school admin account ([admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk)).

## YouTube

Lorne Primary School has a YouTube channel. Staff add short videos to support learning. During March we continued to develop our YouTube channel, adding videos exploring how we deliver Number Talks at Early Level and sharing our Read Write Inc approach.

**To access the school's YouTube channel, search for Lorne Primary School on YouTube.**

## School Website

We are trying to ensure that the school website (<https://www.lorneprimary.co.uk/>) has the most up to date information shared. This currently has useful documents that have been shared with families around Key Worker questionnaire, Free School Meal FAQs and Covid-19 information. The website also has class links to Microsoft Teams via the Lorne Learner's tab.

## Learning Pack

All Lorne learners were provided a **learning from home pack**. This was organised to provide enough work for 2 weeks, to take us up to the Easter break. There is absolutely **no expectation** that everything

is completed and we are very aware that everyone's circumstances are different.

### **Twitter**

Lorne Primary School is on Twitter. We can be found **@LorneSchool**. During this period of school closure we are also sharing ideas for activities on Twitter as well as sharing some of what our learners have been up to at home **#LorneLearningAtHome**. **Please do have a look and feel free to share any pictures of learning you have too.**

### **Parent Pay**

We are absolutely thrilled with the number of families that are now using ParentPay. Over the time of school closure this is one of our platforms that we are using to communicate with families.

### **Staff Team**

Our amazing team went 'Over and Above' to ensure that we can continue to meet the needs of our learners during this period of school closure. They have continued to work hard to support learners and families during the first 2 weeks of school closure. What a fantastic team!

### **Food Parcels**

The SLT and Mrs Hastings delivered food parcels to some families in the Lorne community. We were all very careful to follow the health and safety guidance around this and stay 2m apart from each other as we went!

If you are at all concerned about access to food then please do get in touch with school via the admin email account ([admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk)) as we have a team of staff that can provide help/support.

### **Book Week**

We thoroughly enjoyed Lorne Book Week, this ran from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. It was a very busy week, filled with;

- Blackwell's Pop Up shop
- Mystery readers
- Book swap
- Reading cafes
- Storytelling
- Vivian French author workshop
- Mike Nicholson author workshops
- Buddy reading session
- Everyone wearing pyjamas to school for our 'bedtime story' theme

- Coorie In - 'Captain Duck'

The learning over book week was shared during our Book Week assembly, what a fantastic celebration.

### **2nd Great Lorne Family Book Bonanza**

Our second Great Lorne Family Book Bonanza was on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. During this event we had Tim Porteous leading a storytelling session, story related crafts, a reading cafe, the reading game, lunch, bookmark making, Mike Nicholson (author) workshop and mini-manicures.

It was such a great opportunity for families to connect with books and storytelling/sharing and finished off our Book Week so well. A huge thank you to the big team involved in organising and running this event.

### **Recognising Achievements**

We continued to recognise learner's achievements in March through;

- Star of the Week
- Maths Magician award
- Star Writer award
- House Points
- Over and Above (I love the hot chocolate too!)

SLT also had discussions with groups of learners around how they think achievement is recognised in Lorne and what could be done to improve this.

Lorne learners will be continuing to achieve during this time of school closure. Please do share this with us on any of our platforms. We would love to celebrate these too!

### **Education Competition Festival**

As part of their work with NYCOS, Primary 3 sang in the Education Competition Festival. They were able to show a number of singing games that they have been working on in their weekly NYCOS sessions to an audience. We were extremely proud of all of our Primary 3 team.

### **Primary 2 Assembly**

All classes and Primary 2 families were entertained by a Primary 2 assembly all about 'Castles'. The learners in Primary 2 shared all that they had learned about castles, speaking so clearly and singing so beautifully. Families also got to join in a reading café back in classrooms following the assembly.



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## Family Mathematics Workshops

Families were invited to join us in a series of drop in workshops over the term. They were organised as we recognise the important role parents and carers have in promoting Numeracy and Mathematics in daily life. The first workshop went well, Mr Aitchison explored Number Talks, the use of rekenreks and tens frames with parents and carers.

## Glee Club

The Lorne Glee Club were working hard to get ready for the Frisson Foundation Scotland Glee Competition at the end of March. Alice from Frisson Scotland lead a workshop for us with the members of the Glee Club participated in wearing their pyjamas!

**Exciting news just in for our Lorne Glee Club is that the Frisson Foundation are going to try to pull the voices of all Scotland's primary school children together as one big Glee choir. We will be in touch with more details soon!**

## Rotary Quiz

A team of Primary 7s represented Lorne brilliantly at the annual Rotary Quiz. The quiz tested their general knowledge. We were very proud of their efforts.

## Pupil Council

Pupil Council were the first group to have a meeting in the new meeting room (large storage room converted into a meeting room). The meeting focused on learner participation and they were all given the job to gather feedback from their classes about how we can improve learner participation in the school.

## Primary 6

Primary 6 were exploring the sombre paintings of Scottish artist Ken Currie. They used paints, pencil and charcoal and focused on shape, facial features and tone to create harrowing portraits.

Primary 6 treated families and Primary 2-7 learners to a captivating assembly focused on writing. Mr Kimmet and the learners shared stories, poems and

songs in such a creative and engaging way that we were all on the edge of our seats. The full assembly has been shared on the Lorne Primary School YouTube page.

Families were invited back to the classroom after the assembly to continue sharing stories around the campfire (pretend!).

## Dalmeny Park

Our Eco Pupil Voice group enjoyed planting shrubs at Dalmeny Park alongside Edinburgh Police North East. The aim of this was to generate more interest among the children in our local community in making use of the park, as well as brightening up the environment.

## School Calendar

All term dates and times can be found on this link; [http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20074/schools/20/term\\_dates](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20074/schools/20/term_dates)

### Calendar كينڈر

#### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Last day of term

#### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

Easter holidays

#### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Summer term begins (at home!)

#### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

In-service Day

#### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May

May holiday

#### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Victoria Day holiday

#### Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Last day of term

**Take care and stay safe!**