##### Argyll and Bute Council





Comhairle Earra Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

**Community Services**

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Keills Primary and Pre 5 Newsletter

October 2023

I can’t quite believe I am writing this newsletter and it’s the end of term this week. Where has the time gone? Please find below important information about the goings on here at Keills Primary and Pre 5. We will continue to email this letter to you and pop it in children’s bags.

Please find below some further information and reminders:

Keills’ Vision, Values and Aims

Please find attached a small leaflet detailing our new Vision, Values and Aims.

Halloween

As we continue to involve our children in decision making and event planning, our P7s will be planning a Halloween event on **Friday 27th October**. More information will come your way via Seesaw but children will be able to dress up in costumes that day.

Pre 5 Staff

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Jennifer McLellan to the Pre 5 team. Mrs McLellan will joining us after the October break as a full time Childcare and Education Worker and will be working alongside Allana. A Classroom assistant post will go live this week and we also hope to have this post filled just after the holiday.

Parent Engagement Survey

I would like to thank everyone who came in to join us for the One Planet Picnic. Your attendance and support at these events is really appreciated. We will soon be sending out a parent engagement session asking what else you would like to be involved with at Keills so keep an eye on emails. Our next parent event will be during Book Week Scotland, so keep an eye out for invites.

Lunch ordering

A big thank you to everyone who is pre ordering lunches using IpayImpact. Please continue to sit with your child and place your orders. We are sometimes finding that children are not aware of what has been ordered for them. We can always make changes in the morning and we do appreciate that children will forget! It would help us out if you reminded your child what has been ordered. An idea might be to pop the menu on your fridge as a daily reminder!

Hi Vis Vests/Bus Transport

At a recent Parent Council meeting, a question was raised about the need for Hi Vis vests. Whilst we do appreciate that this may be an additional thing to remember, we feel as a school that children’s safety is paramount. I would continue to encourage you to support this as it does make a difference when identifying children who travel on the buses both when on the bus and also whilst waiting on the busy roads in the morning. It does also help our bus drivers particularly during busy periods. For our few children walking home, I would still encourage you to support the wearing of these.

We will limit the use of the Hi vis vests when children are on trips accompanied by teachers, for example, transition events at the high school.

I have also been in touch with the transport department regarding the recent increase of public on the bus with Port Ellen temporarily closed, the condition of the fleet (seatbelts) and lack of signage stating that the bus is shared with the school. I have received some verbal reassurance from the department but have requested an email response that I can send onto parents.

Flu Vaccines

We have a new school nurse, Lynsay McNaughton. She will be coming out to do the Nasal sprays for P1-7 on **Tuesday 21st November** for those of you who consented to this. We will remind you and the children closer to the time so they are prepared.

**Key Dates for your diary**

**Friday 6th Oct: Last Day**

**Monday 23rd Oct: Pupils return**

**Friday 27th Oct: Halloween Parties**

**Tues 7th/ Wed 8th Nov: Parent Meetings (Letters to follow)**

**Wk 13th-19th Nov: Book Week Scotland/Bookbug parent events (Invites to follow)**

**Monday 27th Nov: INSET day**

**Friday 8th Dec: Mid-session reports out**

**Wednesday 13th Dec: Panto performances (pm and evening)**

**Friday 15th Dec: Sponsored Family Santa Walk to Lily Loch (Info to follow)**

**Thurs 21st Dec: School close- 2.30pm**

**\*\*Keep an eye on Seesaw for more info on class events!\*\***



Finally, I would like to thank all the children, staff and families for their hard work and support this term and I look forward to another exciting term ahead! My door is always open and please feel free to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

**PS. You will notice lots of these images on school communications. You may know already, but these are the Articles from the Convention on the Rights of the Child!**

Andy Welch

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