

KIRKCUDBRIGHT PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Mary's Wynd
Kirkcudbright
DG6 4JT



Any enquiries please contact
Head Teacher: Mr. David Stevens
Direct Dial - **01557 332610**

Tuesday 31st August 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

I write to formally introduce myself as Mr Flannighan, your child's class teacher for the forthcoming session. I have interacted with most parents / family members at the classroom door (from a distance) and hope that you all now know who I am. I promise I'll get to know your faces as time passes and I look forward to working together throughout the session to support your child's learning and development.

I am sure you'll be pleased to hear that the children have had a successful start, settling in well. Due to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic, school is a little bit different for the children; however, they are taking the safety measures in their stride.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of P1-F routines and curricular activities. I hope you find it useful.

Timetable

Mathematics	Daily.
Literacy and English	Daily.
Health and Well-being.	Focus: Daily / Weekly. Physical Education and Sport (P.E): Daily / Twice Weekly. Tuesday = Mrs Brown and Wednesday = Mr Flannighan.
Religious and Moral Education	Focus Blocks.
Expressive Arts	Art and Design: Weekly with Ms McLeman. Music: Focus Blocks. Drama or Dance: Focus Blocks.
Technologies Sciences Social Subjects	Throughout the year these subjects will be taught individually and through our cross-curricular (topic) focus. They will be taught each week.

A 'Learning Focus Overview,' will be sent out termly to provide you with information about the learning happening in class, within the areas detailed above. **Please note:** the information detailed on the overview can change.

I have attached the 'Learning Focus Overview' for this term, which can also be found on our school blog, under 'Class Pages'. To access the school blog, please follow this link:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/kirkcudbrightprimary/>

When you have viewed the 'Learning Focus Overview', please sign and date it, returning it to school **no later than Friday 3rd September 2021.**

Cross Curricular / Interdisciplinary Topics

P1-F pupils will engage in cross curricular topic(s) each term. This/these will be detailed on the 'Learning Focus Overview'.

As part of one of the topics, the children will prepare a presentation for parents/carers to share and celebrate the learning. They will also enjoy a class outing linked with one of the topics.

Ways that you can help with cross curricular learning...

- If you have any items, linked with our topics, I would be grateful if you could share these. I can assure you that great care will be taken of anything on loan. Following Covid-19 guidance, loaned items will be quarantined for 72 hours, before they are shared with pupils.
- When/if it is safe to do so, it would be a great help if you could assist with class outings and with activities within the classroom (when requested). Extra bodies can enhance the children's learning!
- If you have any skills, experience or expertise linked with the curriculum e.g. science, technologies, health-care, public services, catering... let me know, this can enhance learning.
- I would be grateful if you would look out for letters/forms issued, filling them in and returning them to school as **promptly** as possible. Often late returns can slow proceedings... Please check your e-mails, the school blog and your child's reading folder regularly.

Homework

In P1-F, homework is designed to reinforce or extend learning undertaken in class. It is important that you supervise your child, supporting them to complete homework tasks to the best of their ability. This will enable them to retain/extend learning and will aid progress.

Making homework routinely and completing it via regular, short bursts of activity; rather than long periods of activity, will ensure that your child's motivation and enthusiasm for homework is maintained.

Set homework will be detailed in a timetable, which will be sent out in due course. Please practise the materials contained in your child's reading folder as often as possible. I endeavour to discuss homework prior to sending it home so your child is aware of what is expected.

Homework will be submitted physically or electronically, via Microsoft Teams (more information to follow) and house points will be awarded to all children who hand their homework tasks in on time. If homework is not submitted on time, a 'leeway day' will be given; however, the class traffic lights will be used if homework is submitted after that. If your child is struggling with homework, please get in contact.

Regular homework will begin soon.

A frequently asked question...

Should I change my child's wrong answers?

If your child is struggling, it is better not to rub out so I can see any mistakes being made. This will help me to help and guide your child. Instead of rubbing out, support your child in correcting mistakes, writing amendments above or taking/making a new line and rewriting.

Behaviour Management

Positive behaviour is expected and will be promoted within the classroom at all times. This will be achieved by using traffic lights, issuing house points and issuing awards - certificates, star of the week and silver cup.

Traffic lighting – To monitor behaviour within the class against the agreed expectations and classroom/rules, a traffic lighting system is used.



The Colours Explained -

Purple: Showing behaviour beyond expectations. A purple dot is issued and added to your child's record, stored in school.

Green: Showing behaviour that is expected. If your child's name remains on green all week a purple dot is issued and added to your child's record, stored in school.

Amber: Showing behaviour not meeting expectations. A little 'whoops' and often a one-off incident. If your child's name is placed on amber their behaviour is discussed, identifying why it isn't meeting expectations and how to improve. If improvement occurs, they are placed back on green; however, if behaviour continues, their purple dot for the week is lost.

Red: Showing behaviour that is unacceptable. If at any time your child is placed on the red traffic light, you will be contacted. Your child will also be issued with a 'Reflection Slip' so you can discuss the behaviour at home.

House points – House points will be awarded for attainment in schoolwork and for displaying behaviours/abilities related to the four capacities (successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens) and agreed expectations/classroom rules.

Star of the Week Award (Medal) – Awarded to the child(ren) who is demonstrating behaviours linked with one of the four capacities – Responsible Citizen, Effective Contributor, Successful Learner and Confident Individual.

Silver Cup Award – Awarded to the child(ren) who demonstrate the above consistently (all the time).

Celebrating Personal Achievements of Pupils

Not all learning happens in school, so please send to school with your child, certificates, rosettes, trophies, cups, shields or simply a note, to share any achievements out of school. This will enable me to celebrate and record your child(ren)'s wider achievements within school e.g. display, at assembly, in class... Following Covid-19 guidance, any physical materials sent to school will be quarantined for 72 hours, before they are shared.

Finally...

Thank you for taking the time to read this wee information letter. I hope you have found it useful. As always, I am here should you have any questions or queries. Please don't hesitate to get in contact (see below).

- **Classroom Door** - Urgent / small matters. Please appreciate that at the beginning of the school day, my time is short as the pupils require my attention. At the end of the day I have more time, unless I am going have a meeting/appointment to attend; however, I am sure you'd agree, it is good for me to dismiss the pupils first, one could slip by... **Please respect social distancing at the classroom door and wear a mask.**
- **Telephone** - Phone the school office on 01557 332 610, before 9.00a.m. (small matters only) or after the school day (larger matters).
- **Notes** - You can send a note in with your child to notify me of small matters e.g. change of pick up, upcoming absence... Make sure your child knows about the note and to hand it to me on entry to the classroom. Sometimes they can get lost or forgotten.
- **Meeting:** If there is a larger matter you'd like to discuss, please contact the school office on 01557 332 610 to arrange a suitable time to meet. **Please note: as part of Covid-19 safety measures, parents / carers are currently not permitted to enter the school building.**

I look forward to working with you throughout the school session.

Kind regards,



Mr J. Flannigan
Class Teacher

A 'Wee' Reminder

1. If you haven't already done so, please make sure your child is equipped with the following:

- School bag.
- Pants/socks (stored in school bag).
- P.E. Bag.
- P.E. Kit.
- Indoor (gym) shoes.
- Art shirt (old adult sized t-shirt or shirt).
- Water bottle.

Note: Please ensure items are labelled, to avoid loss or confusion.

2. Please refrain from sending your child to school with toys or other unnecessary belongings.

3. Please send your child to school with **one small snack**, as sending your child(ren) to school with multiple snacks or a very large snack, can cause them to miss out on playtime.