



Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you all for this new session, and a particular welcome to our new families who are joining us this year. I wanted to ensure that you have all the important information in advance of the new term, so hopefully this newsletter contains all the details you would hope to have. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office if you have any questions, or if there is something you need to know that is not included here.

All staff have returned today for two in-service days in preparation for the year ahead. The children will return for their new school year on Wednesday 18th August. It was so lovely to arrive at school this morning and to see the gardens and grounds looking simply wonderful- thank you, as always, to our amazing PTA and volunteers who worked on this over the weekend.



We are all here to support every child and family, and very much look forward to working in close partnership with you throughout the coming session. Although some restrictions remain in place, we are very hopeful that we will be able to welcome you back into school, in person, soon.

Day 1 – Wednesday 18th August 2021

We cannot wait to welcome all the children back on Wednesday 18th August. The children all met their new teacher before the end of term in June, but here are some helpful reminders about drop-off and pick-up.

- When children return to school, we will continue to operate a soft start approach.
- All children from Primary 1-7 should arrive at school anytime between 08.50 and 09.00 and enter the school building via their designated entry/exit doors (please see below). A bell will ring at 08.50 to signal the start of soft entry time. Please note that children are not late for school if they don't arrive until 9am- this is the official start to the school day. Our wonderful support staff will provide indoor supervision until the start of the school day (9am), when another bell will ring. If children arrive after this time, they should enter the school via the main reception doors please.
- In line with Scottish Government guidance (which may be subject to ongoing change), we request that all adults follow current social distancing advice and also wear a face covering when dropping off or collecting their children unless exempt from doing so. It is important that only one adult accompanies children to and from school please and that all adults leave the school gates and surrounding pavements/areas straight away after dropping off or collecting their children. Thank you.
- If travelling to school by car, please aim to arrive as close to the designated arrival time as possible, then park and bring children to their appropriate gate entrance. We encourage you to drop older children off at a safe place so that they can make their way to their gate entrance independently.
- Parents and carers are not permitted to enter playgrounds.
- School staff will be in attendance in the playgrounds **from 8.50am** and we would request that, for safety reasons, children try to avoid arriving at school earlier than 8.50am. Staff will also be at gates at the end of the day and we will of course look after your children until you arrive.
- P1 and P2 children will leave school at 3pm and P4 - 7 children will leave school at 3.15pm each day.



Our Netherlee Community Working With and For Our Children



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- To help parents and carers plan their arrangements for before and after-school, a table is provided with information regarding which door your child will use to enter and exit the school building. This also suggests the nearest gate that you may wish your child to use to enter the playground. However, we appreciate that many children come to school in sibling groups, so they can, of course, use any gate to enter the school grounds and then make their way safely through the playgrounds to their specific entry/ exit door. We would ask, though, that our older children use the suggested gate, if at all possible, and that all children use their specific **entry/exit door** when entering the building.
- We appreciate that if you have more than one child to collect you may wish to agree a family collection point and we would ask you to discuss this carefully with your children so that they know exactly where to meet you.

School Uniform

We are continuing with our very successful school uniform recycling scheme this session. Our **Recycled Uniform Rails** will now be available for you to view **every Friday** at the following times and locations-

Primaries 1 – 3 8.50am-9am Clarkston Road Gate

Primaries 4 – 7 3.05pm- 3.15pm Side Gate, next to Acorns Nursery.

As before, our **uniform recycling box** is always placed outside the main school office, just at the top of the outside stairs, every day, and we are always very grateful for any items of unwanted, clean uniform which is in good condition that you wish to donate.

The uniform rails will be available from **this Friday, 20th August** at the times and locations above.

School Meals

From now on, all pupils in **Primary 1 to 4** will receive free school meals. The lunch menu is available [here](#). Please note that the first day back after a holiday is always the Monday menu for that week. For younger children, it would be helpful if you could look at the menu in advance and discuss choices, so the children are prepared in the morning. Lunches are ordered in class via the interactive board as soon as the children arrive, to allow the catering staff time to prepare everything by lunchtime. All children are, of course, welcome to bring a packed lunch to school if they prefer.

Please note that we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL** and you should not send your child into school with any snacks or lunch items that contain nuts e.g. Nutella. Thank you.

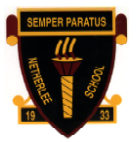
School Bags and Equipment

All pupils should bring a filled water bottle to school each day please, which they can refill at points throughout the day. We continue to ask that pupils do not bring unnecessary toys or other items from home.

If you feel your child has to bring their mobile phone to school, it should be switched off on entering the playground and placed in their school bag throughout the school day.



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COVID-Safety Procedures

Stage	Entry Door and Gate	Exit Door and Gate	Collection Time	Collecting Siblings
P1	Primary 1 door Clarkston Road Gate	Primary 1 door Clarkston Road Gate	3pm	If you also have siblings in P2 or P3, please collect your P1 child at 3pm from the P1 area and then wait at the 'Smiley face' area for your P2 child who will be brought here for you. Your P3 child will come out of the Clarkston Road Door at 3.15pm.
P2 pupils without siblings in P1 or P3	Clarkston Road Door and Gate	Cage Door Centre Gate at front of school- opposite school reception stairs	3pm	
P2 with siblings in P1 or P3	Clarkston Road Door and Gate	Clarkston Road Door, 'Smiley face' in playground	3pm	If you have siblings in either P1 or P3, please collect your P1 child at 3pm from the P1 area, then your P2 child from 3pm at the 'Smiley face'. Your P3 child will come out of the Clarkston Road Door at 3.15pm.
P3	Clarkston Road Door and Gate	Clarkston Road Door and Gate	3.15pm	If you have siblings in P1, please collect your P1 child from the P1 area at 3pm, then your P2 child at the 'Smiley face' from 3pm. Your P3 child will come out of the Clarkston Road Door at 3.15pm. If you have no siblings in P1 or P2, please do not arrive at the school before 3.10pm- thank you.
P4	Cage Door and Centre Gate opposite school reception stairs	Cage Door and Saplings Gate- Next to Saplings Nursery building	3.15pm	Any children with siblings in P1-3 should make their way to the 'Smiley face' unless they have parental permission to walk home.
P5	Cage Door and Centre Gate opposite school reception stairs	Cage Door and Centre Gate opposite school reception stairs	3.15pm	Any children with siblings in P1-3 should make their way to the 'Smiley face' unless they have parental permission to walk home.
P6	Side door and Gate next to Acorns Nursery	Side door and Gate next to Acorns Nursery	3.15pm	Any children with siblings in P1-3 should make their way to the 'Smiley face' unless they have parental permission to walk home.
P7	Side door and Gate next to Acorns Nursery	Side door and Gate next to Acorns Nursery	3.15pm	Any children with siblings in P1-3 should make their way to the 'Smiley face' unless they have parental permission to walk home.

As you will be aware, there have been recent changes to restrictions in relation to COVID-safety. However, a number of restrictions remain in place as we start the new term.

NHS Scotland has issued a letter with updated arrangements for contact tracing. You can access the letter [here](#).

ON DAY 1 ONLY, PRIMARY 1 PARENTS SHOULD PLEASE FOLLOW BELOW.

We would like to ensure that your child's first day will be as smooth as possible and, in order to avoid the initial 'rush', we would ask that all Primary 1 children come to school at a slightly later time and are collected slightly earlier on **Wednesday 18th August**. This arrangement will be for **Wednesday 18th August only**.



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- Primaries **1A and 1C** should arrive in school at **9.10am** and be collected at **2.45pm**.
- Primaries **1B and 1D** should arrive in school at **9.20am** and be collected at **2.55pm**.

Road Safety Around Our School

The safety of our children and families is of the utmost importance to us, and we would ask that you ensure the safety of yourselves and others by adhering to the parking restrictions in place around our school. If you are driving your child to school, we ask that you park slightly further away and walk the last part of the journey. This will ease congestion around the school and ensure that the pavements remain a safe space for pedestrians. Where possible, we encourage families to walk, cycle or scoot to school. Bikes and scooters can be secured in the bike shed during the school day.

Communication

We ask that you contact the school by telephone (0141 570 7260) or email schoolmail@netherlee.e-renfrew.sch.uk. Depending on your query, our office staff may be able to help, or you can of course request to speak to your child's class teacher, myself, or any member of the Leadership Team (please see below). We are here to help with any matter, small or large, so please do get in touch with us.

P1 Lynn Sweeney DHT

P2 Lynn Sweeney DHT

P3 Lorna Wharton (PT)

P4 Jilly Bell (PT)

P5 Stuart Bryce (PT)

P6 Julie Roberts (DHT)

P7 Julie Roberts (DHT)

Please let your children know that we can't wait to see them all on Wednesday, refreshed and ready for an exciting and busy, but hopefully more settled, school year ahead.

Best wishes

Yvonne Donaldson (Head Teacher)



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