**Weekly Update – Term 1 – 15 August 2023**





We hope that you have all had a safe and relaxing summer break and we are looking forward to welcoming everyone to school and nursery on Wednesday morning.

Children returning to school on Wednesday should line up at their classroom door/infant door for P2/3 at 9am as usual where they will be met by their class teacher for this session.

Primary 1 children will be met by their class teacher at their classroom door at 9:10am. This will allow our returning children to settle in and leave the cloakroom area free for our new entrants.

The end of the school day is 3pm. Children will leave the school building through the same door.



**Staffing**

Welcome to our new members of staff.

Mrs Mason – EYO

Mr Kenny – Primary 1/2 class teacher

Miss Crombie – Primary 3 class teacher

Mrs Brennan – Primary 4 class teacher

There will be a ‘Meet the Teacher’ session on Wednesday 30 August from 3:15 until 4:00 where parents and carers can visit your child’s classroom and meet their teacher for this session.

Mr Kenny and Miss Crombie are undertaking their probationary year. Part of this year involves a day out of class for professional learning. Mrs Seaborne will be working with Primary 1/2 and Mrs McEvoy will be working with Primary 3 every Tuesday this term.

**Intervals**

We have reviewed health and safety and security in school during intervals and have taken the decision to have only two doors available for children to access toilets – the main door in the infant part of the school and Primary 7 classroom door. These doors will be monitored by Primary 7 children as part of their responsibilities. Class teachers will share this information with the children on Wednesday.

**PE**

There will be no PE during the first week of term. From Monday 21 August PE will take place on the following days:-

Tuesday – Primary 1, Primary 2/3, Primary 4, Primary 5, Primary 6 and Primary 7

Wednesday – Primary 1, Primary 1/2, Primary 2/3, Primary 3, Primary 4 and Primary 5

Thursday – Primary 1/2, Primary 3, Primary 6 and Primary 7

Indoor gym kit – navy or black shorts, plain white t-shirt, gym shoes.

Outdoor gym kit – navy or black tracksuit bottoms, plain white t-shirt, dark coloured fleece, trainers.

No football strips please.

**Dropping off and picking up times**

Whenever possible we encourage children and families to walk to school. This is good for our health and eases congestion around the school grounds at these busy times of day. It also makes walking safer if there are less vehicles around the school grounds. If you do need to drive children to school please consider parking away from the school gates and be mindful of children crossing the road particularly as you approach the school gates. Thank you for your support with this.

**Attend to Achieve!**

Regular attendance at school is an important part of a child’s academic journey. Children who attend school regularly are less likely to fall behind.

**Regular attendance gives your child the opportunity to:**

* Learn new things daily
* Develop and practise skills
* Make friends and feel included
* Increase their confidence and self esteem
* Improve their social skills
* Increase their attainment and achievement
* Achieve their potential and fulfil their aspirations and ambitions
* Have a good daily routine

**Every Day Matters!**

In an average school year there are 190 school days.

So, at the end of the school year –

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **If your child’s attendance is** | **Days of school missed** | **Weeks of school missed** |
| **95%** | **9 ½ days**  | **Almost 2 weeks of learning missed** |
| **90%** | **19 days**  | **Almost 4 weeks of learning missed** |
| **85%** | **28 ½ days**  | **Almost 6 weeks of learning missed** |
| **80%** | **38 days**  | **Almost 8 weeks of learning missed** |
| **75%** | **47 ½ days**  | **9 ½ weeks of learning missed** |
| **70%** | **57 days**  | **Over 11 weeks of learning missed** |
| **65%** | **66 ½ days**  | **Over 13 weeks of learning missed**  |
| **60%** | **76 days**  | **Over 15 weeks of learning missed**  |

Help your child get the most out of their education by helping them come to school every day.

**Learning’s great…so don’t be late!**

Children who arrive on time settle quickly and feel included in the routines of the school day and get the full benefit of all the teaching and learning in their classroom environment.

* A child who is 10 minutes late every day has lost nearly an hour of school a week. Over a year this adds up to losing over a week of school time.
* Late children miss the introduction of their day and the first part of teaching of the morning.
* Lateness causes disruption to the whole class as well as the child who is late.
* Arriving late can often be embarrassing or stressful to the child involved.

**We’re here to help.**

If there is anything we can do as a school to support you with your child’s attendance please contact us through Seesaw, crossfordps.enquiries@fife.gov.uk or by phoning 01383 602451

**Term time holidays**

We are unable to authorise term time holidays. Please think carefully before arranging holidays. Up to date school holiday dates can be found on our website or by searching for *Fife School holidays* online.

**Child Protection & Safeguarding**

**Our current child protection co-ordinators are:-**

**Mrs Lorna Bernard –** lorna.bernard@fife.gov.uk

**Mrs Sharon Logie –** sharon.logie-qh@fife.gov.uk

**If you are ever concerned about the immediate safety of a child then do not hesitate to contact Police Scotland on 999.**

**If you need to share any concerns outwith school working hours, please contact Fife Social Work using the contact details below:-**

**Social Work Contact Centre – 03451 551503**

**Out of hours Social Work (evenings and weekends only) – 03451 550099**

**Dates for this term**



Please see below for important dates for this term.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 14 August  | In-service |
| 15 August | In- service |
| 16 August | School reopens to pupils |
| 25 August | Tempest Photos |
| 30 August | 3.15 – 4.00 Meet the teacher |
| 11 – 15 September | Primary 7 to Ardroy |
| 18 September | Learning Journey Jotters Home |
| 22 September  | 9:10 – 10:00 – Primary 7 sharing session (Ardroy) |
| 29 September | Parent Council Disco |
| 2 October  | Shared Start (9:10 – 10:00) mental maths focus |
| 6 October  | Primary 3 & Primary 4 Harvest Assembly |
| 6 October | End of term |

Please also find attached an overview of dates for this session. Please contact the school office if you would like a paper copy.

**Please note that dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances. If dates do change we will aim to provide as much notice as possible.**