



Team Torryburn Newsletter – 21.09.21



Our Values: Kindness ~ Honesty ~ Hardworking

Our Aims: to be Ready ~ Respectful ~ Safe

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope this newsletter finds you well. What a busy term it has been so far! The new term has seen some significant changes in restrictions and as new guidance has come out we have been able to welcome some visitors back into the school and remove our bubbles and zones. I've included a few updates for you below. Mr W

School Website

Please continue to visit our new school website – it is updated regularly and contains a range of helpful information –

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/fi/torryburnps/>



Bubbles and Zones

In line with Scottish Government Guidance we have removed our Bubbles and Zones. The children are all enjoying being able to play together in the playground and also work together on tasks across the school. Primary 6/7 are doing a fantastic job of being Buddies to our Primary 1 pupils. P5/6 and P2/3 are working together to support the enjoyment of reading through weekly paired reading sessions.

Bandlab Music Project

Primary 4/5, Primary 5/6 and Primary 6/7 are all currently involved in a fantastic music project delivered by Mr Knussen in school each Monday. This project is provided as part of Fife's Youth Music Initiative. The pupils are involved in creating backgrounds using Microsoft Paint, animations using PIVOT and creating music using the online platform Bandlab. This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to develop their technology and music skills within a creative context. The project will run until the end of Term 2. We look forward to seeing the finished creations.

Beyond the Panda

Primary 4/5, Primary 5/6 and Primary 6/7 are also involved in another exciting project. Sandie Robb from Edinburgh Zoo is currently delivering an 8-week virtual input teaching our children about Chinese language and culture through studying the giant panda. This programme covers a range of curricular areas including science, technologies, social studies, literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. Each week a different theme is introduced and explored, further supported and developed by our Mandarin teacher Miss Yang. This week's theme was 'Endangered Species'. We learned about the definition of endangered and looked at distribution and habitats using 4 Chinese species. To find out more or if you'd like to continue learning at home explore the following link:

<https://learning.rzss.org.uk/course/view.php?id=21>

Mindfulness

Primary 4/5 and Primary 5/6 are currently involved in a six-week programme delivered by Mrs La Trobe to support wellbeing through mindfulness. This is delivered through twice weekly sessions on a Monday and Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs Yang

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to Mrs Yang, our new Chinese Exchange teacher, who will be with us for the next two years. Mrs Yang is currently working across all classes in the school supporting with learning about Chinese culture and also Mandarin language. Mrs Yang is with us on a Tuesday.

Scottish Government Additional Funding

As part of our additional funding from the Scottish Government to support recovery from the pandemic we have some additionality in our staffing this session to allow us to support our learners in making progress in their learning. Mr Graham has a day per week to focus on supporting Literacy and Mrs Wilson has a day per week focusing on Numeracy learning in the upper stages.

Seesaw

Please ensure you are connected to your child's new class on Seesaw. If you are having difficulty doing this please contact the school office and we will support you in doing so. It is really helpful to have notifications turned on so you don't miss any posts or messages from the school.

Parent-Teacher Conversations

Our parent- teacher conversations will take place in the form of a phone call this term. A Microsoft Forms will be sent home to allow you to choose the most suitable date -

- Wednesday 6 October 3.30-5.30pm
- or
- Thursday 7 October 6.00-8.00pm

Homework

Homework has started in all classes. Please see your child's Seesaw account for more information.

PE Kits

Just a wee reminder that football tops should not be worn in school as part of a PE Kit. As we enter the colder months please ensure your child is suitably dressed for outdoor PE as we will continue to be outside as long as weather permits.

Water Bottles

Water bottles should be brought to school full each morning. Please only send water in these.

Absences

If your child(ren) are going to be absent from school please let the School Office know ASAP by leaving a message on the school answer phone (01383 602437) or by emailing torryburnps.enquires@fife.gov.uk – Please do not solely message the class teacher on Seesaw as teachers do not always have time to check for messages each morning. Similarly, please let the office know of any out of school appointments your child may have in advance.

Flu Immunisations

The immunisation team will be at Torryburn Primary School on Friday 29 October to administer the nasal flu vaccinations. If you have not already done so, please return the permission slip to the school office if you wish your child to receive this.

School Improvement Priorities

Each session, based on our self-evaluation from the previous session, we work together to identify key areas of improvement.

Here are the areas for 2021-2022...



Priority 1	Priority 2
<p><i>Improve the automaticity of all children in multiplication and division recall to support application in mental maths calculations.</i></p>	<p><i>Improve all children's knowledge of technical aspects of writing and to raise attainment in writing.</i></p>
<p><u>Key Actions</u> Professional learning and collegiate working to establish a progression of strategies across levels, ensuring effective teaching and learning of conceptual understanding of multiplication and division.</p> <p>Establish a consistent baseline, of children of their tables knowledge/recall and record each child's starting point.</p> <p>Teachers to set targets from baseline assessments.</p> <p>Professional learning of activities and resources to support children's success at home and school. Individual check-ins.</p> <p>Plan and implement family learning sessions to improve understanding of benefits of tables knowledge and ways to support at home.</p> <p>Establish and promote pupil leadership to support assessment</p>	<p><u>Key Actions</u> Professional learning to support implementation of effective and consistent approaches to teaching and learning of grammar, spelling and handwriting.</p> <p>Develop a skills progression for tools for writing from P1-7 (grammar, spelling, handwriting) linking current/new resources.</p> <p>Using approaches to track targeted groups through establish baseline levels, target setting and tracking progress.</p> <p>Consult with children, families, and staff regarding learning at home to increase the understanding of families on how to support writing at home.</p> <p>Regular moderation opportunities with a focus on the planning an assessment of technical aspects of writing.</p>

Your views and feedback are very important to us. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of the work of the School, please contact Scott Wilson (Headteacher) or Claire McCallum (Depute Headteacher) at any time or telephone 01383 602437.

Diary Dates

Parent/Teacher Conversations –

Wednesday 6 October 3.30-5.30pm & Thursday 7 October 6.00-8.00pm

October Holidays – Mon 11 October – Friday 22 October

Flu Immunisations – Friday 29 October

Inset Day – Friday 12 November

Christmas Holidays – Thursday 23 December – Wednesday 5 January

Inset Day – Wednesday 16 February

Holiday – Thursday 17 February – Friday 18 February

Easter Holidays – Monday 4 April – Friday 15 April

Holiday – Monday 2 May

Inset – Thursday 5 May

Holiday – Monday 6 June

Summer holidays – start on Friday 1st July

