



Anderston Primary School

August 2022

Safe

Honesty

Respect

Healthy

Teamwork



Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome back to everyone, old and new!!! I hope you all had a lovely, well-deserved break during the summer. The weather definitely helped! It was lovely to see the children in the playground, all looking so smart in their new uniform - lots of lovely smiles as well!!!! Being happy in school is so important as research has shown when children are happy, 'they are better able to problem solve, they are more open to critical thought and reasoning, their focus is more in tune, their ability to retain and recall information is increased.' This is why I always reiterate that it is so important that our children are happy in school.

The staff and I are looking forward to another exciting year of learning at Anderston Primary. It is so good to be able to have a calendar of events planned at the beginning of term. For the last two years we have been unable to have any joint family and community events so this year it has been great to be able to bring these back - they are already in my school calendar!! I will look to send out a monthly calendar of events so that you have notice of what is coming up.

NEW FAMILIES TO ANDERSTON

We would like to extend a particular welcome to all our new children and their families. We have an open-door policy so if you do have any worries or changes that may impact on your child at school, please do not hesitate to contact me as concerns discussed promptly can often restore matters quickly and allow us to provide prompt support.



I would also like to extend a welcome to our new staff members.

Miss Hanley - Primary 3

Miss Warren - Primary 4/3

Miss Johnston - Primary 4

Mrs McCafferty - Class teacher supporting learners

M/s Defelice-May - Support for Learning Worker.

At the beginning of term there is so much administrative work to be completed. There will be teething problems as there always is with technology but please bear with us and we will try to get these sorted as soon as possible. This year we created an Anderston Primary Thinglink for our new children, however, it is a great information tool that everyone can access where all information, can be found. The link is:

<https://www.thinglink.com/scene/1583237649584357379>

There have been a lot of questions so I have put together a brief update of the current situation below.:



We need as many parents set up on this as possible, we have sent it out across group call and the majority of P1s should have the printed letter. Those that don't have one as of yet will receive this next week. This is where annual data forms, consent forms etc. will take place to encourage a paperless environment. We ask that you sign up to this as soon as possible.



As all new children are just getting set up on SEEMIS this week, an overnight update needs to take place to receive usernames and passwords to allow you to get set up and signed in. All new children will receive their letters next week for this as some children are still only being put on to the system so this will not show on Parent Pay till Monday.



It is important that all parents download the Xpressions app to your phone as this is the key communication between the school and home.



Mrs McGloughlin, our DLOL (Digital Leader of Learning), has put together an update on the current situation with Seesaw. Hopefully this will answer many of the questions being asked. I have attached this in a separate sheet.

School Uniform

We really appreciate your support in sending your child to school in school uniform. Children are strongly encouraged to wear school uniform as it promotes a feeling of belonging to the school and pride in being a member of the school community. Our 'hoodies' are very popular and they are very smart too. We still have a number of orders that were placed before the summer break that have still to be collected.

Can I ask you to come to the office to collect this as I have to pay the supplier for this next week. Uniform can be ordered at any time during the year. Chloe in the office is looking to set up the uniform shop on **Parent Pay** so any further orders can be ordered and paid for online. I will let you know when this is available.



Our uniform includes:

Black/Grey skirt/trousers

White shirt / Anderston Tie

Anderston Polo Shirt

Anderston School Cardigan or Sweatshirt or Hoodie

PLEASE, PLEASE PUT YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON EVERY BIT OF UNIFORM, P.E. KIT, INCLUDING SHOES, BAGS, PACKED LUNCH BOXES



P.E. days and times will be sent out as soon as the timetable has been agreed between staff.

P.E Kit:

polo shirt /t-shirt

shorts

Indoor shoes **must** be worn in school.



School success starts
with attendance

It has been a difficult few years for schools, with lockdowns, quarantining and self-isolating having had a massive impact on pupils' education across the country. With the effects that Covid-19 has had on children's education and mental health over the last 12 months it is more important than ever that children are in school in order to close any gaps that children may have developed as a result of the pandemic. I am aware that there are occasions

when children are too ill to come to school. If your child is absent from school, you **MUST** contact the **attendance line on 0141-287-0039** before 9am. They will then update this on the system and we are then able to see why your child is absent. However, I understand that there are occasions when you feel you need to discuss a sensitive issue with the school. In these circumstances, please contact the school direct.



'Fuel Zone' is the catering service provided in all Glasgow Primary and Secondary Schools. The service is provided by Cordia who are part of Glasgow City Council. All primary 1-5 children can enjoy a free lunch, while primaries 6-7 can receive a three course meal with a drink for £1.90. All pupils are entitled to free milk. **PLEASE SELECT** your child's meal through Parent Pay - refer to Anderston Primary Thinglink to find out how to do this.

Cordia also run the Breakfast Club from 8am until 8.45am. The cost of the breakfast is £2.00. Please refer to our handbook to find out how you can access forms to submit to Glasgow Council if you are entitled to additional support including free breakfast.

Playtime Snacks

Please provide your child with a healthy playtime snack to eat at interval time. **Chewing gum, chewy sweets, fizzy juice and glass bottles are not allowed in school.** Children are encouraged to drink plain water in class throughout the day, so please provide a labelled water bottle for this purpose. School water bottles can be purchased from the school office at a cost of £2.00. **We would also request that children do not bring nut products into school to take account of pupils who have nut allergies.**



Car Parks

We are now returning to normal with regards to entry/exit to the school. Can I remind you that children should **NOT** be brought into school through either the lower or upper car parks? Due to the school having a nurture training room as well as increase in staff, the car parks can be



extremely busy with cars coming in and out at all times during the day. Children should enter through the gate in Houldsworth Street.



Parking outside school

Can I also remind you that no cars should park immediately outside the school on the double yellow lines? This is illegal and there are regular wardens in the area that will be doing spot checks. It is also very dangerous and could put our children's lives in danger. If you are dropping off your child by car, park in Port Street - you are allowed 10 minutes before a warden can give you a ticket. We have been in discussion with the council for a calming traffic system to be installed at Houldsworth Street

and we are hopeful this should go ahead this year.

School Blog and Website

The school blog can be accessed by following the link below where you can keep up to date with current events in the school and community. Thank you to Daisy Abbot who keeps this blog up to date.

<https://anderstonprimary.wordpress.com/>



Teachers are currently creating their own class blog and the links will be sent out when these are ready. Please remember to go on and view your child's blog as it is a great place to see what the children have been doing both in class and around the school.

We also have a twitter account where regular updates are posted. Please follow us @AnderstonPS



We are in the process of developing our School Website and as soon as this is available I will send you the link.

School Shelter



Over the summer period, we had a school shelter installed at the infant end of the school. Unfortunately, the drain pipes have been damaged already. Children /youths have been in during the summer and have been climbing onto the roof. They used the drain pipe to climb up and this has now come away from the post. I will be in contact with the community police to see if they can support us in coming up with deterrents to stop this from happening.

However, I am sure you will agree that the shelter looks amazing and we are extremely pleased with it. This has allowed for our indoor play to be extended outdoors and even if it is raining, the children will be able to develop skills at this area. For Primary 1 and Primary 2's, we would ask that the children bring waterproofs, wellingtons and strong outdoor shoes that can be left in the school. They will be going outdoors every day, participating in a range of progressive and creative outdoor learning experiences linked to different areas of the curriculum.

Meet the Teacher!

I am sure you will be really keen to meet your child's new teacher and we are in the process of arranging dates when you will be able to come into the school to meet the teacher, see the classroom and view some of the resources they will be using this year. We look forward to seeing you at this informal event. There will be a formal Parents' Evening in October after the holiday break. Individual appointments will be given out and you will be able to speak to the teacher on a one to one basis. We look forward to seeing you.



We are delighted to announce that our Childrens' Festival will once again take place in the School grounds on Saturday 10th September from 11am to 2pm. We hope that you will come along and support us bringing with you lots of your friends and family. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents in the Community. On Friday 2nd September, we are having a non-uniform day in return for children bringing in sweets/biscuits or a small environmentally friendly gift to be donated to the children's festival for the different stalls. More information will be sent out.

Parent Council

Maria.Gutierrez-Mecinas is the chair of our Parent Council and she will be sending out further communication shortly.



If at any time you wish to speak to myself, please contact the office to make an appointment. Whatever the query, please do not worry quietly about it, as I am sure we can quickly resolve any concerns.

School Calendar

A calendar will be sent out each month with forthcoming events. I will try very hard to give you as much notice as possible of events in the school; however, unfortunately this is not always possible.



The following dates are up the September holiday weekend.

| Day and Date | Event | Venue | Information |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Friday 2 nd September | Non Uniform Day | School | Children wear non-uniform in return for bringing in biscuits/sweets/environmentally friendly gift for our Fun Day |
| w/b 5 th September | Meet the teacher | School | Dates/Times to be confirmed |
| Friday 9 th September | Dandelion Project - Potato Festival | School | More information to follow |
| Saturday 10 th September | Fun Day | School Grounds | More information to follow |
| Friday 23 rd September | Holiday | | |
| Monday 26 th September | Holiday | | |