

Making Friends	Eco Friendly	Responsible	Respect	Yes we can!	Learning Outdoors	Enjoy a healthy lifestyle	Exciting Opportunities
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24 January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of January and the holidays are a distant memory! At least we can look forward to the evenings becoming a bit lighter.

Covid Update

We continue to follow all government and public health guidance in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our school community. This includes making sure all the classrooms are well ventilated, regular handwashing routines and getting the children outdoors as much as possible. Since returning to school we have experienced a higher level of pupil and staff Covid-related absence so it is important that we remain cautious and follow all protocols as rigorously as possible. I will keep you informed of any changes to the rules for school.

Staff News

Mrs Provan enjoyed a fabulous send off to kick start her retirement before the holidays. She passes on her thanks to all the children and families of Merrylee for making the last few days so memorable and enjoyable and also for the very generous retirement gift. Thank you to all of you for your contributions and we wish Mrs Provan a very healthy and happy retirement. We hope to welcome a replacement for Mrs Provan very soon. Grateful thanks to Mrs McGrory and Mrs Khan who are keeping the office running smoothly despite being short-staffed.

One of our school chaplains, Mrs Pearson, is retiring at the end of May. Mrs Pearson has a very long association with Merrylee Primary. Pre-Covid, she was a regular visitor and enjoyed spending time with the children and staff. Although she hasn't been able to visit the school and classes in the same way, she has continued to pop in when she can and has been a wonderful support for me and staff through these challenging times.

School Clubs and Activities

I am delighted that we have a full programme of clubs and activities up and running. Mrs Mort has organised a wide variety of clubs for all ages and stages to get involved in and, as always, I am extremely grateful to the staff who give up their time to provide our pupils with so many opportunities. We also have several sports coaches in school delivering handball, dance, basketball, rugby to name a few.

Many thanks also to the parent volunteers who run the Saturday morning football club. This has always been very popular and a great way for our pupils to make new friends and enjoy some football fun out of school.

Please be assured that all clubs etc are in line with up to date Covid safety guidance.

Seesaw Communication

We have taken a school decision to remove the incoming message facility through Seesaw. Teachers will still be able to communicate class information and evidence children's learning and experiences but you will not be able to message the class teacher through Seesaw. This is in line with practice across the other schools in our learning community and beyond. While we very much value our home and school partnerships, there have been occasions when important communication, particularly about changes to pick up arrangements,

has not been seen due to teaching commitments which could potentially result in safeguarding concerns for our pupils.

Any information about absences or appointments should be directed to the absence line or school office as appropriate. If you have concerns about an aspect of your child's learning, progress or wellbeing, please contact myself, Miss Kirk or Miss McElhone for advice. If you do need to speak to the class teacher, please contact the school office who will arrange a suitable appointment. Any school procedural enquiries should be directed to me.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Colette Haddock

Dates for your diary

Monday 24 January	Parent Council Meeting – 6.30pm (Zoom) *
Tuesday 25 January	P7 Burns Supper (pm) Burns' Day - Pupils are invited to wear a tartan accessory or clothing
Wednesday 26 January	Parent Association Meeting – 7pm (Zoom) *
* Please contact the PC/PA if you would like to attend	
Friday 28 January	Fit and Fruity Friday
Friday 4 February	P5 Celtic Connections Scottish Dance Workshop (pm)
7-13 February	Place2Be – Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 14 February	Holiday
Tuesday 15 February	Holiday
Wednesday 16 February	In-Service
21 February-6 March	Fairtrade Fortnight
23-25 February	P6 Residential Visit to Lockerbie Manor
Friday 25 February	Fit and Fruity Friday
Thursday 10 March	P6 visit to Dynamic Earth (details to follow)
Week beginning 14 & 21 March	Parent Consultations (details to follow)
Friday 25 March	Fit and Fruity Friday
Friday 1 April	School closes at 2.30pm for holidays
Tuesday 19 April	Pupils return to school

Useful contacts

Parent Council

merryleepc@gmail.com <http://www.merryleeprimarypc.org/>

<https://m.facebook.com/MerryleeParentCouncilG43>

Parent Association

merryleepa@hotmail.com

You can also follow us on Twitter @MerryleePS

School Contacts

School office : 0141 637 6798 (office hours Mon-Thurs, 8am-4pm & Friday 8.30am-3.30pm)

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning or wellbeing, please don't hesitate to get in touch with a member of the school leadership team.

For P1-4 enquiries, please contact Miss Kirk: Gw15kirkcatriona@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

For P5-7 enquiries, please contact Miss McElhone: Gw14mcelhonejulianne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Please direct all other or general enquiries to me.

