



WALLACEWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Thursday 15th August 2024

Welcome Back

Dear Families,

I hope you have had a restful Summer Break. Our Staff Team are excited to welcome back our pupils and families and are looking forward to another fantastic year. We are equally excited to see so many new faces who have joined our school community this year. Very shortly you will receive our August Newsletter, via email, that will give you further information about the things we have planned in school for the year ahead.

In the meantime, we wanted to provide you all with some important reminders that will help everyone to stay safe across our school campus.

As always, I would like to thank you for your support.

Yours

Miss L Davidson

Miss Davidson

Head Teacher

Important School Information Update (August 2024)

School Car Park

For the safety of pedestrians including members of our school community, parent/carers are not permitted to enter the main school carpark during the school day. Our gates should remain closed throughout the school day and are locked at key transition times to ensure the safety of our pupils - 8.50am to 9.10am and 2.50pm to 3.10pm. Vehicles are not permitted to move within the carpark between these times.

Road Traffic

As you may be aware, the entry and exit road to our school and the overflow/drop off area have been a cause of concern for the school community for a number of years. Our increased role and the increased numbers of families travelling to school by car have added additional pressures to the existing problem.

We would like to reassure families that our school regularly liaise with Glasgow City Council and Police Scotland to raise our concerns about the road and overflow/drop off area. We have also raised our concerns with Local Councillors. Last session some parents independently contacted Local Councillors about concerns and our Parent Council also raised concerns last session on behalf of the parent/carer body. Additionally, you may observe an increased Police presence at the school, which occur when concerns about health and safety and instances of obstruction and dangerous parking are raised by our school community. The school and our Junior Road Safety Officers are also working with Glasgow City Council's Road Traffic Education Team to raise awareness of the issues.

The road and overflow/drop off space is raised as something that requires improvement in any form of consultation with families. As a school we will continue to raise our concerns with Glasgow City Council but would like to reiterate to that we have no control over the road space and are limited in terms of what we can do independently as a school. As such we would encourage families to raise concerns with their Local Councillors. Contact information for them can be found on Glasgow City Council's website. We would also like to encourage families to walk to school wherever possible and insist that cars are not parked on the zig zag lines. This is dangerous and causes an obstruction. Our school bus and taxis must be able to enter and exit the

school grounds. Additionally, cars should not be abandoned on grass verges and the entrance to our school should never be blocked for health and safety reasons.

Whilst we fully understand the challenges and frustrations our families are experiencing in relation to drop off and pickup, we would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that our expectation at Wallacewell Primary is that all visitors, parents and carers respect the staff and children of Wallacewell, adhere to the Nurturing Principles and respect the rights of everyone. We will not tolerate abuse of any kind towards staff members. Any anti-social behaviour of this nature will be reported to Police Scotland.

On Site Safety & Security

People visit our school for a range of reasons. Health professionals, counsellors, building contractors and parents/carers are just some of the people who play an important role in our school. In order to ensure the safety of everyone in our school it is important that all visitors, including parents/carers, adhere to our on-site safety and security procedures.

- To ensure the safety of pupils and school staff, parents/carers are not permitted to enter the playground, school building or portacabins unless accompanied by a member of school staff.
- Due to the age and stage of our Primary 1 pupils', we have one exception to the above rule - Primary 1 parents/careers can enter the playground to collect their Primary 1 child at 3pm. Parents/carers should then exit the playground and wait outside the school gates to collect any additional children.
- Pupils are not permitted to play on the playground equipment after 3pm for health and safety reasons.
- Parents/carers are not permitted to cut through the playground to exit at an alternative school gate.

Social Media & Bullying Behaviours

Last session we received an increased number of complaints regarding inappropriate use of social media. As these problems occur out with the school day and environment, there are limits to what we as a school can do. We would like to ask families to continue to closely monitor how children are using their phones, and check what applications

they are accessing. This will help alleviate some of the problems. It is worth bearing in mind that all social media apps have recommended age restrictions. We will continue to remind pupils about the safe use of social media and digital technology through our health and wellbeing programme. If you have any concerns about your child's online activity, the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) website contains a wealth of information: www.ceop.police.uk

Communication

At Wallacewell Primary School we operate an open-door policy and use a variety of ways to keep in touch with our families.

- Meetings – Parents and carers are welcome in the school to discuss any aspect of their child's development and progress. The Senior Leadership Team and, where appropriate, Class Teachers are available to meet with parents/carers providing they are not teaching, working with staff/pupils or in another meeting/appointment. To avoid disappointment, it is advisable to make an appointment. Due to the busy nature of a school we cannot always accommodate requests for meetings straightaway but will endeavour to arrange one as soon as possible.
- There are various opportunities throughout the year when parents can discuss their child's progress with the class teacher and view the child's work.
- Groupcall Xpressions - The majority of our communication will be via emails using Groupcall. Our office staff will be able to help you set this up if you require any support. Please ensure that you notify the office if any of your personal details change. Please note that due to teaching and other school commitments we are not always able to respond to email queries straightaway but will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.
- Newsletters – We send our newsletters on a monthly basis to keep families informed about the work of the school. Class newsletters are shared each term to highlight to parents/carers aspects of learning being focused on that term.
- Letters – Further information which requires a response may be sent out in letter form.
- Twitter & Website – Our Twitter page contains a great deal of information about the school. It is a good idea to follow us @WallacewellPS for updates. Our school

website is updated weekly with class blogs and other important information for families.

- Text messaging – You may also receive text reminders about events/school closures etc.
- Class Assemblies & Open-Door Events – We aim for each class to host a display of learning assembly for their parents and carers. You will be informed of these dates closer to the time. Parents and carers are welcome at other events throughout the school year e.g. workshops, information evenings, class performances, religious and other assemblies. The school newsletters and website will keep you informed.