# Kilmacolm Primary School

Getting ready for School Starting school is an exciting time for children and parents, but it can also be a worrying time. With some preparation and encouragement, hopefully the transition into school is a bit easier. Here are some hints, tips and activities to help. We hope you find this information useful….for you and your child as they prepare for starting school in August 2022.

## Hints and Tips

• Have a look at the tweets from the current P1 class (@P1KilmacolmPS), then discuss them with your child. You will see that the P1 children and their teachers have lots of fun…..learning is always fun in P1!!

• It's important to explain where they'll be going, what they'll be doing and for how long - there is a guide to dropping off/collecting on the school website, there is also a wee video to show you around the school by some of our P1s (who are now in P2!). Look on the school website…click on 'Primary 1 Induction Programme'.

• Click on 'KPS School Uniform' on the school website and discuss this with your child - you can practice together for a few months dressing/undressing and doing any fastenings. The KPS children change their shoes when they come into school, so please practice this with your child.

• Don't worry, children have varied abilities when they start school and their teacher will help them progress at their own level. They don't need to be able to read, write or do sums before they start.

• To prepare your child for school it is important to spend time with them and have fun together. Read to them, share stories, sing songs (nursery rhymes) talk about anything and everything.

•Try to familiarise your child with letters and numbers before starting school. If you can, read more often with your child. Try number-spotting, this can be done around the home. This will help their confidence when they go to school. Getting ready for School Starting school is an exciting time for children and parents, but it can also be a worrying time. With some preparation and encouragement, hopefully the transition into school is a bit easier. Here are some hints, tips and activities to help. We hope you find this information useful….for you and your child as they prepare for starting school in August 2020. Reducing Anxiety

• Talk to your child about starting school. What do they think it will be like? What are they looking forward to? Is there anything they're worried about?

• Find photos of you and other family members at school, and chat about happy times you spent at school.

• Practise the school morning routine, including getting dressed and eating breakfast in time to leave. Building Skills for School If children have had the chance to do some learning and practical skills at home this helps when they go to school and they are less likely to find the experience stressful. Playing games, doing role-play or dress up, and reading at home can help

a lot to get them ready for school and build their confidence and skills. Activities you can try could include:

• Playing games that involve taking turns.

• Using your child's favourite toys to role-play going to school.

• Painting and drawing, which involve sitting down for short periods of time. • Constantly talking to your child and listening to their answers is a really important activity and builds language skills and social skills.

• Sing nursery rhymes and songs that children like that have repetition in them as these will help them to remember new words.

• Telling or reading stories and poems to your child is an important part of developing an interest in reading. This should be an enjoyable experience for yourself and your child. When reading a story, encourage your child to talk about the pictures and identify characters.

• Let your child hold the book and turn the pages as you read the story.

•Children often ask for the same story over and over again. This should be encouraged, as it shows an interest in reading, and will assist in developing the language of writing, value your child's choice and encourages decision making. In preparation….please:

• Sign up to the school app - search for 'Apps for Parents' in your App Store, search for Kilmacolm Primary School (username: KPS and password: 2019).

• Sign up for Twitter and follow the school and P1 Twitter accounts (@KilmacolmPS and @MrsO'Donnell_KPS).

• Have a look on the school website (kilmacolm.inverclyde.uk) there is a wide range of information, including the school handbook.

• Have a look at the school YouTube Channel….you can access this via the school app….there are lots of playlists that will interest your child eg #KPSNursery, #KPSLovesReading, #KPSLovesCosmicYoga.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Simone McCredie HT gw10mccrediesimone@glow.sch.uk or Lynn McPherson DHT INLYM120@glow.sch.uk We know your child will have a fantastic time in KPS! We look forward to seeing you soon!