Newsletter sections

**Welcome back!** Thank you so much for supporting your children to get back to school looking so smart in their uniforms and enthusiastic to learn. The children are all settling well into their new classes and routines, learning to work together well and getting to know their teachers and support staff. This is the most important thing for us at the start of a new school year. Building strong relationships to support effective learning is essential and the first two weeks of term are dedicated to this.

Please note that school hours are as follows: Open Entry 8.45am until 3pm daily.

Child’s Play, Out of School Care (Tel 07960570851) offer care from 7.30am – 6pm daily if anyone requires to access this service.

**Year Planner** – We have attached the Year Planner for this session – a handy size to print and stick on the fridge. It contains dates of learning conversations, events and activities planned so far this session. This will also be added to the school website with a host of other useful information, help and advice. As new items are added to the Planner, it will be refreshed on the website for your information.

Please Note: The Open Evening will be an ‘in person’ event from 5pm – 7pm on Wednesday 7th September this year. We hope you will allow your child to bring you and show you their work area, sample some of the activities they complete and access IT support. The Parent Council will be on hand if you are interested in working with them.

**Seesaw / Xpressions Apps**

Seesaw is the class teachers main way of communicating with you. This includes clips and photos of your child working in school, messages form class teachers, whole school updates and important letters so it is vital that you activate your Seesaw account. Homework will also be issued via Seesaw.

Xpressions app allows the school office to contact you and send out relevant administrative information – a flyer was sent home about the on Tuesday.

If you need any support with either of these, please contact the school office and we will arrange for someone to assist you in setting it up. We will offer a drop in at the Open Evening to help with this.

**School Meals**

Free school meals are available from EYC – P5 currently with tasty new menus. To access this service you must register for iPayimpact (this system will be used for all school activities too), even if you are entitled to a free school meal. The links can be found on the North Ayrshire Website or click here: <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-meals/school-lunches.aspx>.

The menu will be available on the school website, shared on Seesaw and Twitter and can be found here <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/Documents/EducationalServices/SchoolMeals/lunch-menu-mainland.pdf>

Please take some time to discuss the options with your child and select them each evening.

As we must now run a cashless system, iPayimpact will be used to pay for all school events and activities e.g. residential, pantomime etc. The office staff are happy to help if you have any difficulty with this.

We still hope to attend the pantomime at the Palace Theatre on November 25th 2022 but are aware that people may need extra time to pay this due to the on-going cost of living crisis. The cost will be £15 per child which includes return travel by coach. If we are able to raise funds this will be used to subsidise as many families as possible to enable all our children to attend. If you have any queries, please contact the school.

**Water/Healthy Snack**

Water bottles have been provided to all pupils and they will be encouraged to drink water throughout their school day. As you know, we have promoted this for many years alongside healthy snacks (please do not send crisps or sweets for snack) to ensure that children are fully hydrated and able to focus on their learning.

Please do not send lots of things for snack as pupils have lunch not long after this and often do not feel hungry if they have had too much snack.

**P.E. and Outdoor Learning**

Pupil will have 2 hours of PE per week. Their PE kit can be kept in a bag in the classroom and taken home at the end of the week/term to be washed. Earrings should be removed on gym days. Gym shoes can also be kept in school. The children will be notified of their gym and outdoor learning days by their class teacher.

Children are permitted to wear old clothes for outdoor learning, please ensure they can change into them easily at school. We noticed an increase in branded names and high quality clothes. Not only is it important that there is no additional pressure put on our children and families but these clothes will become muddy. **It is important children wear full school uniform daily and change for PE and outdoor learning.**

**Uniform – Session 2022/2023**

School uniform is important to us at Beith Primary as it promotes excellence and allows a sense of identity. This session there is an expectation that all pupils wear school uniform. Please note all items required are available in our Uniform Shop free should you need them.

* *Brown school sweatshirt or cardigan*
* *Gold/white polo shirt/shirt*
* *Brown trousers*
* *Brown skirt/pinafore*
* *Black shoes or trainers (avoid laces until they can tie)*
* *Indoor gym shoes for inside and PE*

**Please ensure that you put your child’s name on all items.**

If you have any items of uniform that are too small, not used or could go to a good home, please hand them into the school office before the end of term. If you require support with uniform then please let us know.

**Mobile Phones**

Pupils are not permitted to bring mobile phones to school. The reason for this is that we have to respect everyone’s privacy and we cannot police pupils filming, voice recording, accessing social media etc. during the school day. In exceptional circumstances, a pupil may be allowed to leave a mobile phone at the school office at 9am and collect it at home time. This must be agreed with a member of the leadership team in advance. Please support us in keeping everyone safe online and respecting privacy and ensure that your child does not bring a mobile device to school.

**Parent Helpers**

Now that we are allowed to have visitors into the school we are looking for parents / carers who would like to volunteer in school. This could be supporting learning, playing games with small groups of pupils, reading stories (we will provide boosting reading training for this) or supporting art, science or outdoor learning activities. We are keen to maximise parental engagement this year so if you can spare an hour…please let us know. Mr Lambert will issue a form for anyone to offer what they can. We look forward to working closely with you to promote the highest quality learning environment possible for our learners.

**Parking**

As a 6 times award winning Eco-school, we pride ourselves in promoting safe and eco-friendly travel to school. Where possible please encourage your child to walk, scoot or cycle to school.

If you are driving, please park safely, thoughtfully and sensibly around the school. PLEASE NOTE: **The school car park is not accessible for drop off / pick up. Bus bay must be left clear.**

Anyone requiring entry, due to a child’s disability or as a blue badge holder, should contact the school office for a pass.

**Lastly**, please visit the school website <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/beithprimary/> and follow us on Twitter @Beithps for information.

The website contains lots useful information to help you support your child in school, for reading tips to how to guides for numeracy.