



Elderbank Primary, Early Years and Supported Learning April 2018 Newsletter



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We hope you and your family enjoyed the Spring Break and we are all looking forward to working with you and your child in the final term of session 2017-2018.

Review of Last Term - Key Highlights

- ★ Parents and carers enjoyed entertaining assemblies with Primary 1, Primary 2 and Primary 3.
- ★ Primary 2/3 and both Primary 3 classes visited Dundonald Castle as part of their castles topic and the cost was covered by the school and through a grant. Everyone enjoyed their day.
- ★ There were a number of visits by many classes into our local community which included visiting the library and local shops.
- ★ We welcomed staff from the Professional Learning Academy who worked alongside the children in Primary 6 to investigate Coding and with the Supported Learning staff and pupils in Numeracy.
- ★ We have offered a full After Schools Programme and have evaluated the allocation of places in response to feedback, which will be implemented this term.
- ★ We have expanded the Target Setting for Pupils and issued information to all families.
- ★ We have rolled out the Talk into Writing Homework across the school following the pilot in Primary 5M, Primary 4N, Primary 2S and Primary 6M.
- ★ We have issued Pupil Progress Reports in March which were modified to reflect the results of the Parent Consultation from September 2017
- ★ Primary 7K Parent and Teacher consultations took place following the change in class teacher to Mrs Bain.
- ★ We arranged an Additional Support Needs Roadshow which was very successful
- ★ We have provided training sessions for Makaton and PECs in addition to informal meetings for Supported Learning Parents
- ★ We have organised drop-in sessions for all parents from the National Autistic Society
- ★ The Early Years have hosted a number of Play and Stay sessions for parents and carers which have been very successful.
- ★ The Early Years team have supported a number of training sessions with parents and carers which have included, Book Bug, Incredible Years and Make and Taste Sessions.
- ★ Most classes have used the new Cooking Stations which were purchased through the Food for Thought Initiative supported by Education Scotland.
- ★ The Family Learning Worker has provided Book Bug Sessions for Primary 1-3, Supported Learning and Enhanced Deaf provision pupils and parents.
- ★ Holiday Family Day opportunities were arranged for the Spring Break for pupils who attend the Enhanced Deaf Provision or Supported Learning through the Pupil Equity Fund.

★ We have consulted with Parents and families on the development of the outdoor area and the plans are ready to progress to installation. Mr Bleakley and the janitors have worked tirelessly to enhance the Supported Learning Playground and we will be looking for volunteers to assist with the finishing touches.

★ Primary 7 have benefited from Numeracy input from staff from Greenwood Academy.

★ We hosted a very successful careers day for Primary 7 pupils

★ Classbase 11 with Mr Strang established a Friday hot breakfast service as an enterprise initiative. This has proved to be very popular with staff.

★ We hosted a fundraising Coffee Morning for Primary 1-3 pupils and raised over £300. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

★ Well done to all of the children who participated in the Annual Burns Verse Speaking Competition at the Wellwood Centre and to our age group winners!

★ Our Dance Group participated in the Greenwood Cluster Dance Showcase and were fantastic.

★ Pupils from Primary 3R, some pupils from Bases 8 and 11 and instrumentalists entertained the audience at the Easter Assembly along with the signing choir.

★ Eighteen staff completed their SQA BSL Level 1 qualification to add to the staff who are already qualified between Levels 1 and 6.

★ A group of pupils completed their formal SQA BSL Introduction to Level 1 qualification at an After School Club.

★ We welcomed new permanent members of teaching staff, Mrs Batey and Miss Drummond.

★ We were sad to say goodbye to Mrs Brady, one of our classroom assistants, who left due to ill health and to Mr Wilson who is moving onto a permanent position at Glebe Primary School early in Term 4. We are grateful for their input at Elderbank.

★ We wished Miss Fish every success in her new role at Garnock Campus as she pursues her desire to also teach science in the secondary sector.

★ We are delighted to have welcomed Mrs Paterson as a temporary Classroom Assistant.

School Uniform

We are delighted to see our pupils in their school uniform. This ensures equality and identity with our school. Our uniform is a white polo-shirt or white shirt and school tie, royal blue jumper or cardigan, black trousers or skirts and black shoes. Black tops and brightly coloured trainers **are not** part of the school uniform. We thank all parents and carers with their support in ensuring all pupils wear the correct uniform. Uniforms make it easy for us to identify our pupils on visits or in the community.

Please ensure **ALL** items including shoes are clearly marked with your child's name.

We will be placing orders for School Uniforms. If you wish to order via the school please complete the attached order form and return it to the school by Friday 4th May with the correct money in an envelope, clearly marked with your child's name and class and the order form also enclosed.

Outdoor Learning

We are committed to develop the outdoor learning experiences of our pupils. To allow for spontaneous learning, please ensure your child is equipped every day for learning outdoors. Suitable shoes and jacket for the weather are essential. We appreciate your support with this. Outdoor Learning is not an optional extra and our pupils gain a wealth of experience from these opportunities.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club opens at **8:15a.m.** Pupils should not be dropped off before **8:15a.m.** Please note that the Breakfast Club **is not** a child care service and parents are respectfully reminded of this.

School Meals

Every child in Primary 1-3 is entitled to a free school meal. Pupils in Primary 4-7 are charged £2.05 per day. We are not permitted to provide free meals unless this has been granted by North Ayrshire Council. Our systems are updated automatically when the free meals application from parents and carers is approved. Please ensure the Parent Pay Account is credited in advance. If your child wishes to purchase snack then they must have money credited to their account. This cannot be taken from their Free School Meals entitlement.



Packed Lunches

To allow parents to monitor what their children are eating at school we will now send home any unfinished items in your child's packed lunch box/bag. Please ensure your child's packed lunch bag or box is clearly marked with their name **and** class.



Facebook and Social Media

We respectfully request that parents and carers use Facebook appropriately. No pictures taken inside the school should appear on any social media sites. In addition there should be no direct reference to any child or member of staff in a post which relates to Elderbank or anything connected with any incident within the school day. We trust that this request will be respected.

Scooters and Bikes

We are sure more children will be coming to school on their bicycles or scooters. Please ensure your child has a bicycle lock to secure it in the shelter. There are dedicated scooter racks with chains which require a padlock to secure them. Please be aware that the school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage as they are left at the owner's risk. Please encourage your child to wear a cycle helmet as this is vital for their safety. We are encouraging all children to participate in the Big Pedal Initiative which starts on Monday 23rd April 2018 - Friday 4th May 2018, where children are encouraged to cycle or scooter to school and every journey is logged in a National Competition.

Nuts

Due to some pupils having serious allergies, in the interest of pupil safety **no nut products** should be brought to school at any time.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs Douglas and her husband on the birth of their baby girl Lacey who was born in March. Both mum and baby are doing well.

This term is extremely busy and we would like you to take careful note of the dates for your diary page. Information on individual class visits will be distributed in due course to provide lunch and travel arrangements.

We are also hoping to host an 'Elderbank's Got Talent' Show and we will provide more details early this term. We know there is a lot of talent in our school community!

Kind regards,

Miss J Robertson

Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary

19 th April	Homebaking donations for the coffee morning can be handed into the school office and will be gratefully received.
20 th April	Primary 4-7 Coffee Morning No charge, but all donations welcome including a Raffle
24 th April	From 8:15a.m. Breakfast Family Blether with complimentary hot filled rolls and traditional breakfast cereals
26 th April	From 8:15a.m. Breakfast Family Blether with complimentary hot filled rolls and traditional breakfast cereals
1 st May	Primary 7 Family Learning Family Transition Breakfast at Elderbank
1 st May	Science Centre Visit Primary 5C, primary 5M and Primary 5/6
4 th May	Class Open Day and Assembly for P4 at 9:15a.m.
11 th May	Science Centre Visit Primary 1C, P1J, P1/2
11 th May	Early Years- Fullarton Woods Troon
14 th May	Vikings - Largs Primary 4S and Primary 4N + P4 of P3/4
14 th May	Culzean Castle - Primary 6M and Primary 6T
16 th May	Parent and Teacher Consultations - Individual Appointments Electronic Booking System (separate information to be forwarded)
18 th May	Science Centre Visit - Primary 2S, P2W
18 th May	National Deaf Children Society - Taster Day for Families
21 st May	Science Centre Visit - Primary 7B, primary 7K and Primary 7M
22 nd May	New Primary 1 Induction 1:30p.m. - 3:00p.m.
22 nd May	Parent Council Meeting at 7:00p.m.
25 th May	Holiday
28 th May	In-Service day for Staff School Closed for Pupils
30 th May	Parent Council Family Prize Bingo Fundraiser - 6:30p.m.
5 th June	New Primary 1 Induction and Lunch 10:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.
12 th June	Early Years induction for new entrants Morning session. - 10:00a.m. and afternoon session - 1:30p.m.
19 th June	Early Years Moving Up Ceremony 11:00 a.m. (Morning Session) Early Years Moving Up Ceremony 2:15p.m. (Afternoon Session)
21 st June	Dundonald Golf Club Golf Taster Session Primary 5 - 7 Pupils who have opted to attend and submitted permission slips
22 nd June	Primary 7 Leavers' Assembly at 9:30a.m. (1 hour plus tea and coffee served afterwards)
26 th June	Fun Day at Elderbank supported by Parent Council Funding All classes Early Years - Primary 6
26 th June	Primary 7 Leavers Visit (Exact details of event to be finalised with pupils through consultation)
28 th June	Early Years Final Party
29 th June	School Finishes at 1:00p.m.
Monday 20 th August 2018	School and Early Years re-open for pupils

