



## Elderbank Primary, Early Years and Supported Learning



### August 2018 Newsletter

We are delighted to see all children back at school and to welcome our new Primary 1 pupils. Our Early Years class have also welcomed new children to both the morning and the afternoon sessions and everyone is settled in well. Our Pre school pupils have been very helpful with settling the younger children. We are also delighted to welcome new staff to Elderbank. The full staff list can be found on our website. <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/elderbankprimaryandearlyyears/>

#### **Clothing and Lost Property**

Please ensure all property is clearly marked with your child's name and class. All lost property will be taken to the area outside the Janitors office.

We constantly encourage the children to take good care of their belongings and to store them in the correct place. This includes not leaving jackets, jumpers and packed lunch boxes and bags in the dining hall or playground. Sometimes pupils get so engrossed in having fun they forget to look after their own belongings. Please remember this is not the responsibility of the staff, but every child's responsibility to follow the very clear instructions which are issued. We would appreciate it if you could reinforce this with your child.

#### **Meet the Teacher**

There will be an opportunity to meet the Early Years Team and all Teachers across the school on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September from 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm.

For Primary 1 parents, there will be an opportunity to learn more about how to support your child in Primary 1 (P1R, P1J, P1/2 and Classbase 11) from 6.30 pm - 7.15 pm. We hope you are able to come along.

#### **Breakfast Club**

Our breakfast club is a Healthy Start facility to provide positive play and a breakfast for children in P1-7 if they require this. Please note that this can be withdrawn at any time as we do not have a budget to cover staff absence and therefore, **MUST NOT** be relied on as a childcare facility.

If a child struggles with aspects at school, including behaviour challenges, the Breakfast Club may not be the best start. They may not settle in class as they sometimes struggle to manage in a more relaxed setting.

#### **School Meals**

We are keen to encourage as many children as possible to use the school meals service. Our catering team are able to provide a packed lunch choice. We would also encourage all pupils who are entitled to free meals from P1 - P7 to apply for them even if your child does not use this service. There are other benefits attached to this and it is important that all eligible families apply. The process is simple. Claims can be made by calling **01294 310000**.

#### **Parent Pay**

Please ensure you have set up a Parent Pay Account for your child. Currently we have a number of debts over £40. Please clear these as a matter of urgency. Following the confirmation of procedures, all outstanding debts will now be pursued formally by North Ayrshire Council. If for any reason there is an issue with the account or your ability to clear it please make an appointment to see Miss Robertson immediately, to discuss.

### Captains and Vice Captains

We are looking forward to the Primary 6 and 7 pupils applying for and being elected as House Captains and Vice Captains. Mrs Macfarlane will issue more information at the P6 and 7 Assembly on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

### Outdoor Area

We are all delighted with the Outdoor Area Developments. We look forward to showing you the developments as part of the Meet the Teacher evening on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

### Parent Council AGM

The Parent Council AGM will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 7p.m. in Elderbank Primary School. We would encourage as many parent and carers to come along and support the excellent work of the Parent Council. There will be nibbles and refreshments available.

Pupil Council Meetings usually take place eight times per year and last for approximately 1.5 hours maximum. Our Parent Council Chairperson is Elaine Stevenson, who can be contacted via the school.

### New Improvement Priorities

Every year we review the work we do at the school and set new improvements priorities. Our improvement priorities for 2018-2019 for the Mainstream School and Early Years are:

- Review the Pedagogy and introduce Key to Learning in Early Years to Primary 2 to improve attainment in literacy and numeracy
- Improve Attainment in Numeracy through a Coaching Approach to Numeracy and targeted intervention
- Improve Attainment in Writing through a whole school approach to grammar skills progression and Talk into Writing
- Enhance our nurturing schools ethos and develop Inclusion opportunities across the whole school.

To introduce the Visible Learning School Approach with the aim that:

- Practitioners will increase their knowledge, understanding and skills in highly effective pedagogical practice including differentiation and visible learning
- The Leadership Team will have increased confidence and be highly skilled in ensuring clear and consistent pedagogical practice across their establishment through robust approaches to quality assurance

In addition the priorities for Supported learning and Enhanced Deaf Provision are:

- To strengthen and enhance inclusion practices within Supported Learning and across the whole school community
- To strengthen and enhance Supported Learning's quality assurance practices
- To strengthen and enhance learner outcomes through effective communication and family learning.

### School Uniform

We are delighted that almost all pupils are wearing full school uniform. We are all proud of our uniform and we are committed to keeping all costs as low as possible. Can we please remind parents and carers that the jumper/cardigan is royal blue and not black or navy. Thank you to all parents and carers who ensured all footwear is black or dark coloured and avoided the bright trainers which are not part of our uniform.

### Soft Start

We offer a soft start from 8.45 am in the mainstream provision. Pupils are supervised by Classroom Assistants but individual support for pupils who require it is not provided until 9:00a.m.

### Head Lice

Head Lice can transfer easily to any head. Please be very vigilant when checking your child's head each week and if you find any lice please follow the treatment directions to eliminate these 'visitors'.

### Parking

We appreciate the challenges of parking around the school grounds, but can we please ask any drivers who wish to park then escort their child into school, to do this safely and stride to school. Please do not park in St Kilda Bank directly opposite the school, St Kilda Place or St Kilda Court. Unfortunately some motorists have parked inconsiderately and are causing significant inconvenience to the residents. It is important that all parking is considerate as motorists would be upset if other motorists parked inconsiderately outside their home.

#### Reminder

Before 9:00a.m. we offer a drop off facility, whereby the children are dropped off in the drop off area and drivers should then drive off. (Not driving parallel to your child who is walking into school)

All Early Years Parents should park out with the school grounds as there is no parking within the school grounds. There is no access for parents before 3p.m. Only approved transport for children within the Supported Learning and Enhanced Deaf Provision will have access before 3p.m.

We appreciate your support with these arrangements, which are in place for pupil safety.

### Pupil Collection at 3:00p.m.

P1 and P1/2 will be dismissed via the Early Years Door

P2 will be dismissed via the door at the opposite end of the building (next to the path which leads to Greenwood)

P3, P4 and P5 will be dismissed via the door next to the Main Office.

P6 and P7 will be dismissed via the door near the Bike Shelter.

We encourage all parents from Primary 4-7 to arrange a point out with the school grounds where you will meet your child after school. This may be an external gate or another familiar place. The number of pupils exiting through the P3-5 door and the number of parents standing at this exit is making it overwhelming for the younger pupils.

Thank you to all the parents who have already made these arrangements and we look forward to all other parents supporting this. We do require a familiar adult to collect all P1 and 2 pupils.

### Outdoor Learning

Our children will be learning outdoors every week. Please ensure your child has wellingtons or old shoes in school and a suitable outdoor jacket. Clothes may get dirty as your child explores and learns.

We are really looking forward to working with you this year. If you need to speak to anyone please don't hesitate to contact us through the school office.

Kind Regards



Miss Robertson

Dates for the Diary - More dates will be added and made available on the Elderbank Website.

Term 1 and Term 2 2018-2019

Date	Event
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Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September at 7p.m.	Parent Council AGM at Elderbank PS
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 – 1:00p.m. – 2:45p.m.	National Autistic Society – Parent Event More details to follow from Mrs Miller
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September 6:30p.m. – 8:00p.m.	Meet the Teacher Open Evening
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	National Deaf Children Society Event for Parents 10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m.
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	In-Service Day – School and Early Years Closed for Pupils
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	9:30a.m. – 11:30a.m. MacMillan Coffee Morning
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 9:15a.m.	Class Assembly and Sharing the Learning Primary 5D, Primary 5G, Primary 5R
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	School closes for October Holiday
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2018	School and Early Years re-open
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	Primary 4-7 School Fundraising Coffee Morning 9:30-11:30a.m.
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 9:15a.m.	Class Assembly and Sharing the Learning Primary 3G, Primary 3S
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2018 3:30p.m. – 9:00p.m.	Parent and Teacher Individual Consultations. P5-7 pupils are encouraged to be part of the meetings with Parents and Teachers.
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Flu Immunisations
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Dress Down Day – Bring a Bottle for the Parent Council Tombola
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Elderbank Parent Council Christmas Fayre 2:30p.m. – 5:00p.m.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Early Years, P1 and P2 Christmas Show 1:45p.m.
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Early Years, P1 and P2 Christmas Show 10:00a.m.
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Pantomime at Palace Theatre Kilmarnock. More details to follow.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 9:15a.m.	Class Assembly and Sharing the Learning Primary 6B, Primary 6M, Primary 6T
Week beginning 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Christmas Parties. Finalised dates to be issued in Term 2.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Early Years Christmas Parties
	Christmas Jumper Day – No need to buy a jumper – children can just wear something sparkly or some tinsel☺
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2018	School and Early Years close at 2:30p.m.