



Gateside Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

**August 2020**

## **A note from Mrs Logan**



I hope everyone had a super summer holiday and can't wait for the kids to return to school. We are looking forward to welcoming all our pupils back on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August. Staff have in-service days on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August to prepare for the 100% return.

Based on advice and guidelines from the Scottish Government and North Ayrshire Council, the following advice and guidelines have been created to ensure our children return to a welcoming and safe environment.

## **Returning to School on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

### **P1 Phased Return**

To enable P1 children to have a positive start to their school year, on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August they will attend school from 9.30am - 12pm and take a packed lunch home with them on these days.

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August they will be in school from 9.30am – 2.30pm to allow them to experience lunch time and a safe exit from school. P1 Parents will be allowed in the playground on these days and we ask that you observe physical distancing.

From Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August P1 will follow the timetable like everyone else. Mrs Reid will meet the P1s at the school gate in the mornings until they become familiar with the routines.

### **Classes**

The school reopens for all pupils on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August and the children will be in the classes they were told about before the holidays. We are pleased to confirm that Miss Wilson will be responsible for the P67 class whilst Mrs Poole works from home until her maternity leave starts.



Early Years Class – Miss Howie, Mrs Clark & Mrs Carson  
P123 – Mrs Reid  
P345 – Mrs Cassidy  
P67 – Miss Wilson



### **Morning Drop-off Procedure**

To enable children to enter the playground safely and reduce traffic congestion outside the school, we will be staggering entry times. Please arrive as close to your child's time as possible. Those who have more than one child, come at the earliest slot and the siblings will be monitored closely in the playground. We also ask you not to come through the school gates. No adults are permitted into the building.

**8.15 - 8.40am** EYC children – a member of staff will meet you at a designated area in the playground and take your child to the Early Years room.

**8.50am** P67 line up at designated area and enter through the **main entrance**.

**9am** P345 line up at designated area and enter through the **front door**.

**9.05am** P123 line up along the wall and enter through the **side door**. Mrs Reid will assist new P1s until they are familiar with the routine.

N.B. Staff will show classes where the designated areas are on the first morning back.

### **School Uniform**

As uniform helps to create a sense of community and equity, we would still encourage pupils to come to school in a uniform. Outdoor learning is going to play an important role on our return to school and we would like the children to be prepared for both environments. This means that pupils can wear a pale blue polo (with or without logo) and a navy jumper or cardigan (with or without logo). Pupils can wear track suit bottoms or leggings with waterproof shoes / trainers. We also ask that pupils do not wear branded labels and football clothes. A waterproof jacket with a hood should also be worn.

### **Resources**

Children are allowed school bags in order to carry their water bottle, snack, packed lunch, pencil case and class reading book to and from school. Children are allowed to bring in their own pencil cases from home but must not share any items from these with their peers. We ask that no other items from home are brought into school at present.

### **Gym Kit**

Children can come dressed in their gym kit on the days they have gym if they wish. Gym will commence the week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> August and your child will be told their specific days. Alternatively, gym shoes/shorts can be placed in a drawstring bag and kept in school.



### **Playtime**

Playtime will be 10.30-10.45am and the playground will be split into class zones. The field will also be used. A safe path has been created so children can enter the field at the bottom of the playground whilst building works are taking place.

Children should bring a filled water bottle (labelled) to school every morning. The water cooler can now be used to top up during the day. A healthy snack for playtime is also advised e.g. piece of fruit, half a sandwich. This must not be shared with other children.

### **Lunchtime**

Under the new guidelines, all children will be able to eat their lunch in the dinner hall. This arrangement will be monitored closely and may be subject to change. Children will sit with their class.

### **Procedure at Home Time**

Like drop off in the morning, picking up will follow a similar format and will be staggered. The class teacher and Mrs Cairns will bring one class out at a time to meet parents at the gates or at cars. Can you please refrain from gathering at the school gate so children can safely walk to their adult. Only come to the gate at your child's specified pick up time and respect physical distancing at all times please.

**11.30am - EYC parents to wait in playground adhering to 2m physical distancing and EYC staff will bring the children out to meet parent/carer.**

**2.50pm - P67**

**3pm - P345**

**3.05pm - P123**

### **Transport to/from school**

As bus travel is an essential service children can travel in the bus as normal. It is up to the parent/carer if they wish their child to wear a mask.

### **Hygiene Measures**



Anyone entering the school will wash their hands immediately. Everyone will wash their hands before and after every interval and before they leave the building at the end of the day. Antibacterial hand gel will be available in all classes and at specific points around the school. Teaching staff will also have disposable antibacterial wipes and will use these as required in the rooms. Masks are not required to be worn in school by children but can be worn if that is your preference. Staff will only wear masks when they are working for



15mins or longer in close proximity to the children and wear additional PPE if administering first aid to a child i.e. apron, gloves and mask.

Surfaces, door handles, sinks etc. will be cleaned regularly and windows/doors will be left open to allow better ventilation. Adults will physically distance 2m apart at all times and keep 2m apart from all children.

### **Termly Review meetings**

We will be unable to hold face to face Review meetings in the first term but will endeavour to either use Microsoft Teams for a meeting or a phone call with the class teacher to agree targets. You will then receive minutes from this meeting as normal.

### **Visitors to the School**

Only organised visitors such as delivery drivers and peripatetic teachers will be permitted entry to the school. If you require to speak to someone then please call the school office or drop us an email. We will get back to you as soon as possible.



### **If your child becomes unwell at school**

Adults will not be permitted inside the school without prior notice. If your child becomes unwell then you will be contacted and asked to put arrangements in place to collect your child. Please be reassured that we will ensure they are looked after until they are able to be collected. If your child displays symptoms at home then please do not send them to school.

### **How to contact the School & How the School will contact parents/carers**

The methods that we would like parents/carers to use when contacting the school are by email, twitter or phone. All letters will be sent out electronically so please make sure you have shared your most up to date email address with us. All letters will be uploaded on the school website to enable access.



I hope you have found this information useful. Staff are excited to welcome the children back and can't wait to get started with their new classes. Thank you to you all for your continued support in these unprecedented times. We look forward to working with you to promote a safe and nurturing environment for our young people.

I will be available to answer any questions or queries on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August. Please call the school on 01505 502776.

Take care

Mrs C Logan  
Acting Headteacher