



# Lawthorn Primary School & Early Years Class Newsletter



## September 2024

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

It is lovely to see all our new and returning children. Our P1 pupils have settled really well and I am really proud of the conduct and behaviour of all pupils across the school. They have modelled our values of **kindness, honesty, respect and responsibility**. I would like to extend a big thank you to all parents for supporting our uniform policy. The children are looking extremely smart and we believe that our school uniform promotes high standards and a clear sense of community across the school. Our Primary 7 pupils always look forward to getting their leavers' hoodies. These will be given out at Christmas and we are working closely with our Parent Council to look at P7 and Parent Council fundraising opportunities to support the cost of these.



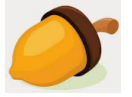
### **Annual Data and Photograph Consent**

Thank you to those parents who have completed the annual data check and photograph consent form. If you have not already done so, please ensure this is handed into the school office as soon as possible. It is essential that we have up-to-date information for your child on our system in case of emergency.

Please note that ***we are unable to accept photograph consent forms with specific requests***. In line with North Ayrshire guidance, we can only accept forms in which parents/ carers have selected yes or no.

## Allergies

We have some children with severe nut allergies in our school and would be grateful if parents/ carers could refrain from giving children nuts or nut products for snack or lunch. Thank you.



## School Carpark

Please remember to drive safely within our school carpark. The safety of all children must remain paramount and if it is essential for you to come to school by car, we ask that you do not park or stop on zig zag lines or zebra crossings. We also ask that parents and carers do not park in our drop and go zone at the front of the school. Thank you for your support.

## Playground

The school provides supervision in the playground from 8.45am. We ask that children do not arrive before this time as they would be unsupervised.

A gentle reminder that dogs are not permitted within school grounds.



## Bikes and Scooters

We are always delighted to see children cycle or scoot to school, however please remember that, to maintain the safety of everyone, cycling or scooting is not permitted within school grounds. Please ensure that children dismount on entering the school grounds and walk their bike or scooter to the gates when leaving at the end of the day. Thank you!

## School Lunches

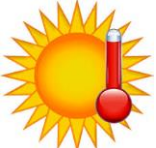


We no longer have a cooking kitchen at Lawthorn and instead school lunches will be prepared at Montgomerie Park Primary School and transported to Lawthorn. Our catering supervisor and team remain the same however



and we continue to work closely together to ensure all children receive a quality meal provision. Should you have any questions about the provision, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Outdoor Learning

Our children will have a number of opportunities to learn outdoors throughout the year. We therefore ask that children come prepared each day for the weather. Suggestions include:

		
Sunhat Sun cream	Waterproof jacket Wellies	Hat Gloves Scarf

## PE Days

Gym days for each class are detailed in the table below:

	P1	P2A	P2B	P3A	P3B	P4A	P4B	P5	P6/5	P6	P7A	P7B
MONDAY				X	X						X	X
TUESDAY						X	X	X	X	X		
WEDNESDAY	X	X	X	X	X					X		
THURSDAY							X	X			X	X
FRIDAY	X	X	X			X			X			



We would be grateful if all children could bring their PE kit into school. This should include shorts, t-shirt and gym/indoor shoes.

To make changing more manageable for our younger children, we suggest children come to school dressed in a skirt or trousers and school polo shirt on PE days. We adhere strictly to health and safety guidelines and pupils must remove any item that may cause danger such as metal buckles and jewellery. These items are the responsibility of the pupil. Long hair should be tied back.

## EY Stay and Play

We invite parents and carers of our Early Years children to join us for a Stay and Play opportunity on the following dates and times:

**Squares & Triangles: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 9am – 10am**

**Circles and Rectangles: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September, 9am – 10am**



To minimise overcrowding, we ask that only one adult per child attends. Please note that we plan to go outdoors for part of the session and encourage adults to wear appropriate clothing and footwear.

## Sharing the Learning

Over the year we would like to invite parents and carers to join us in school to allow your child to share their learning with you. We know how busy everyone can be however and have therefore created a calendar of dates for your diary. Please note however, to avoid overcrowding, only one adult will be permitted to attend Stay and Play sessions.

	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	TERM 4
<b>PRIMARY 1</b>	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September Stay & Play: 11.00 - 11.45	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December Stay & Play: 9.15 - 10.00	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March Stay & Play: 1.45 - 2.30	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May Stay & Play: 11.00 - 11.45
<b>PRIMARY 2</b>	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September Stay & Play: 11.00 - 11.45	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December Stay & Play: 9.15 - 10.00	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March Stay & Play: 1.45 - 2.30	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May Stay & Play: 11.00 - 11.45
<b>PRIMARY 3</b>	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September Stay & Play: 9.30-10.15	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November Stay & Play: 2.00 – 2.45	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January Stay & Play: 9.30- 10.15	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April Stay & Play: 2.00-2.45
<b>PRIMARY 4</b>	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October Harvest Service: 9.15am	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 1.30 – 2.30		
<b>PRIMARY 5</b>	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October Harvest Service: 9.15am	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November P5: 2.00 – 2.45		
<b>PRIMARY 6/5</b>	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October Harvest Service: 9.15am (P5 only)	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November P6/5: 11.30 – 12.15	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February Burns Supper: 1.30pm (P6 only)	
<b>PRIMARY 6</b>		Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November P6: 9.50 – 10.30	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February Burns Supper: 1.30pm	
<b>PRIMARY 7</b>		Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November Project Showcase 2 - 3pm		Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June Celebration of Primary Journey 2 – 3pm

## Extra Curricular Activities

We have amazing staff at Lawthorn who give up their time afterschool to run Extra Curricular Clubs. This term we will be offering the following clubs:

	Stage	Club
Monday	P4-7	Outdoor/Gardener
Tuesday	P4-7 P2-3	Sign and Sing BSL Art Club
Friday	P4-7	Chess

Please look out for a letter each term inviting your child to take part in one of our clubs. Please note that should the club be oversubscribed, a ballot will take place. Our clubs are run by members of staff, Greenwood Sports Leaders and Students from local Colleges and Universities. If any parents would be interested in taking a club, please contact Mrs. Hyndman to discuss. Thank you!

## Pupil Parliament

We are really excited to be running our Pupil Parliament for the second year. This will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> September and leadership groups across the school will meet to define their duties and set a plan for the year ahead. This year our leadership groups include:

- House Captains & Vice Captains
- Ambassadors
- Digital Leaders
- Eco Schools
- Pupil Council
- Rights Respecting Schools
- Junior Librarians
- Dyslexia Friendly Schools
- Sports Leaders
- Bee You Ambassadors

Recruitment for these leadership roles is currently underway and we look forward to sharing their plans in our next newsletter.

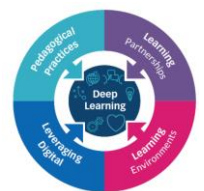
## Standards & Quality Report:

Our Standards & Quality Report provides information to Parents & Carers on the strengths of our school, our recent improvements and what we need to further develop. The report for session 2023-2024 can be accessed on our school website.

## School Improvement:

This year our key priority for School Improvement is high quality learning and teaching. Following the huge success of our Play Based Learning in Primary 1 and the positive feedback from our school review last session, we are extending the Play Based approach into Primary 1 – Primary 3. Our P1 & P2 classes have collaborated to develop a learning community where children have opportunities to mix across all three classes and work with all members of staff who work closely together to plan high quality learning to meet the needs of all. We are delighted with how well this is going and the children are working and mixing well together.

In Primary 4 – Primary 7 we are excited to be developing a 'Deep Learning' approach to teaching and learning. This focuses on developing six key competencies: character, citizenship, communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. In Primary 7, we are taking this forward through a P7 learning community, where the children across Primary 7 will have opportunities to learn in smaller, mixed ability groups in different aspects of the curriculum. Class teachers across Primary 7 work closely together to plan high quality learning experiences to meet the needs of all children. In Primary 5 and Primary 6, classes will have weekly opportunities to mix and work together as a stage.



Our School Improvement Plan can be viewed in full on our school website.

## Parent Council News

Our Parent Council AGM will take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm in Lawthorn Primary School. If you would like to be a member of our Parent Council, please feel free to join us on the night.

This year, our Parent Council plan to work closely with the school to promote road safety. Look out for further information over the year.

Our Parent Council have signed up for a cash back scheme through the Asda App. They would like to encourage all parents and carers to support the school by signing up for this via the app. Thank you!



## Communication & Updates

I appreciate that it can be difficult for parents to know which method of communication should be used when receiving information from, or contacting the school. We have therefore provided the following table as a guide:

Method of Communication	What to expect from school	Suggested use for parents/ carers
Letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Letters requiring consent or parent signatures</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Communication regarding pupil holidays/ appointments</li></ul>
Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monthly newsletters</li><li>School/ EY information</li><li>Information from other bodies e.g. Active Schools/ Greenwood Academy/ Music Services</li><li>Termly homework grids and parent information leaflets</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Communication regarding pupil holidays/ appointments</li></ul>
Telephone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Informing parents of accidents or incidents</li><li>Sharing of information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Informing the school of absence</li><li>In the instance parents/carers require to speak with a member of staff</li></ul>
Safer Schools App	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Weekly announcements and reminders of upcoming events</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reporting sickness absence</li></ul>
School gates/ EY doors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Brief sharing of information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Brief sharing of information</li></ul>
Face to face appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>More detailed information sharing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>More detailed information sharing</li></ul>

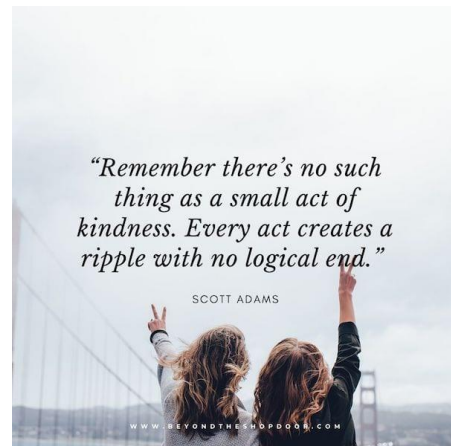
If you need to speak with someone urgently, please contact the school on 01294 224548. Our phone lines for the school are open between 8.30am and 4pm.

### **Dates for your Calendar**

We are aware that we have very busy parents and it can be helpful to have advanced notice of school events. I therefore attach an annual calendar of our planned event for this session. Should there be any changes to these or additional dates added, we will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible.

Thank you for your continued support!

Best Wishes,  
*Miss Grossart*  
Head Teacher



**Kindness**

**Honesty**

**Respect**

**Responsibility**