



SKELMORLIE PRIMARY & EARLY YEARS CLASS

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 September 2023

Welcome back to our fantastic children, staff and families! I hope it has been a lovely summer holiday with fun-filled days and plenty of sunshine. Our pupils all looked incredibly smart as they stepped foot back inside school and EYC, it was wonderful seeing them all excited for their classes. It has been fantastic to welcome Mrs Peddie to our school and to have Mrs Docherty back with us from maternity leave! Our children are settling extremely well and are enjoying getting to know their new classmates and teachers.

Our Primary One pupils have settled well and are becoming accustomed to their new routines and environment. I would like to thank their buddies and all of our other pupils for how incredible they have been at supporting and nurturing our little ones.

PARENT COUNCIL

The Parent Council are a wonderful support to the school. We are so appreciative of the time and energy spent supporting our children in all aspects of their learning. We look forward to working closely with our Parent Council again this session. If you would like to become involved in the fabulous work the Parent Council do, please contact the school for more information.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

SESSION 2022/2023

The School Improvement Plan is a document which sets out the activities we will be undertaking as a school over the coming session. This document is created in collaboration with our pupils, staff and families. Our School Improvement Plan can be found on our school website. Click here to access the link:

[Skelmorlie School Website](#)



EARLY YEARS CLASS

We are working on ensuring the best possible communication so please, keep an eye on SeeSaw and remember if you have any questions, these can be sent through the message option on SeeSaw or email the school. We will continue to use this platform to communicate information including accident/incident forms.

OPEN AREA LEARNING ZONES & STEAM ROOM

We are continuing to develop 'Play Pedagogy' across Skelmorlie Primary School. Research highlights the importance of 'play' in developing critical thinking and problem solving skills which are essential to meeting the growing needs of our young people to help equip them with the skills to succeed in life. Through 'play' children are building a range of skills across the curriculum. The P1-P3 Learning Zone is an incredible area which promotes free 'play' for our little ones. P4-P7 will incorporate 'play' in a number of different ways which might include 'Tinker Trays' and other investigative and imaginative opportunities. During the session, you will be invited to come along and join us for a 'play' and learn more about the theory behind this pedagogy.

SEESAW

Again, please note that all classes are still using SeeSaw as a tool for effective communication with families.

X

We will continue to use our X account (formerly known as Twitter) to update you with regular school news.

Please remember to follow us on Twitter for weekly updates.

CHANGES

Please complete and return Data Check forms to the school office to ensure any changes to telephone numbers, address or emails are kept up to date. Email is the main means of communicating letters and documents. If your child requires medicine, please contact the school office for more information.



PE DAYS

P1/2 - Monday & Wednesday
P3/4 - Monday & Tuesday
P4/5 - Wednesday & Friday
P6/7 - Tuesday & Thursday

Please find above PE days for Session 23/24. Children should come to school on those days suitably dressed to take part wearing navy blue/grey or black shorts/leggings or joggers, plain white or blue t-shirt/polo shirt and bring indoor gym shoes without black soles to avoid marking the gym hall floor. Please ensure no jewellery is worn on PE days. If ear piercings cannot be removed, we require earrings are covered with medical tape to prevent injury. Long hair should also be tied back, or a bobble provided to do this prior to the PE session.

P6/7 MUSIC TUITION

A music specialist will attend every Monday to deliver woodwind lessons to P6/7 children as part of the North Ayrshire Music Tuition Service.

FLU IMMUNISATIONS

Flu immunisations will take place on 3rd October this year, children have been issued with consent forms which should be completed and returned to school.

ROAD SAFETY

Please continue to ensure we park in a safe manner around the road accessing the school. **Please note that dropping children off in the**



school car park from 8.45am - 9am and collecting children from the school car park at 3pm is not permitted and parking on the yellow zigzag lines is not permitted. This is to make the area as safe as possible for all of our children and families, we thank you for your continued support in this matter.

WE ARE A TRAILBLAZING SCHOOL!

Trailblazers are parents, pupils and school staff who want to improve children's health, wellbeing and safety helping them to walk, cycle or scoot to and from school and Nursery.



The Trailblazer scheme involves signs that are placed along routes to school highlighting the time it takes to walk to school from that point. This will be either 5 or 10 minutes. If you live a long distance from the school, you can still drive to a safe location near a sign and walk, cycle or scoot from there.

Along the route, parents/carers can scan the Trailblazer QR codes on lampposts that will take you to a daily message, question or challenge from the pony, Blaze. You only need to scan one code per day.

Please note: The website will never ask you for personal details or to enter any information.

Please get involved and scan the QR codes and support your child to become a Trailblazer!

ECO FLAG!

A huge congratulations to our Eco Community Group for achieving Eco School Status! We will fly our flag with pride!



SCHOOL COMMUNITY GROUPS

In Skelmorlie Primary School, our children have an important part to play in making decisions about the life and work of the school. Every child in our school are involved in one of our Committees - The Pupil Council, Eco Committee and our Rights Respecting Schools Committee. Committee meetings are scheduled to be held at the end of this month. If you would like to be involved in any of our community groups, please contact the school for more information - we would love you to be involved! Here is a little bit more information on each committee:

Skelmorlie Pupil Council

One of the ways in which children can have their say and make sure that their views and ideas are listened to is through the **Pupil Council**.

What is a Pupil Council?

A pupil council:

- gives our children the chance to tell teachers, staff parents and other children their ideas and views
- represents each class in the school
- meets regularly to talk about important school issues and projects
- puts forward the class views at council meetings
- take forward the views of the very young classes, who may find it difficult to put forward their opinions.

Eco Committee

What does the Eco Committee do?

The Eco Committee meet regularly to think of ways to care for the environment and the world around us. Pupils in the Eco Committee are passionate about ways in which they can make a difference. The Eco Team has helped us to achieve the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. As a team we have three main areas that we are developing in school litter, waste and school grounds. The Eco group explore the importance of sustainability and will develop our raised beds to provide food for our community.

Rights Respecting Schools Committee

What is a Rights Respecting School?

The UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) is based on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation. The RRSA seeks to put the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of a school's ethos and culture to improve well-being and develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential.

A rights-respecting school is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted. Young people and the school community learn about children's rights by putting them into practice every day.

GLORIOUS GREENS!

Thank you so much to Mrs Eltringham and her volunteers who assisted all summer to maintain our raised beds to produce the most fantastic harvest! Our children bagged our harvest and sold their produce to help us buy more seeds to plant. We are so grateful to Mrs Eltringham and our volunteers!



LARGS FLOWER SHOW 2022

We won 2nd Place at the Largs Flower Show! A fantastic achievement! A huge thank you to our pupils, Mrs Eltringham



and our volunteers for supporting us to achieve this!

LARGS SEAWALL COASTAL PROTECTION

RJ McLeod kindly visited us at assembly to share information on their works at Largs Promenade. They shared some fascinating information on Civil Engineering and I am sure they have inspired many children to think about this as a career choice!



They also highlighted the importance of Health & Safety at the site and the dangers of trespassing. We are so thankful for their time and they were so impressed by our children, they have offered to deliver STEM session with classes - we look forward to welcoming them back!



SESSION 2023-2024

MRS LYNNE CATHCART - HT
MISS AMANDA ARMSTRONG - P1/2
MRS DOCHERTY - P1/2 Mon/Tues/Wed
MRS JUSTINE CAMPBELL - PT and P3/4
MRS NIKKI FINLAYSON - P1/2 Wed
MRS JENNIFER PEDDIE - P4/5
MISS JULIA LINDSAY - P4/5 Wed & Pupil Support
MISS LORNA FORBES - P6/7
MR PHILIP MORTON -P3/4 Tues & Pupil Support P3-
P7 Mon/Wed/Thur
MRS HUTCHINSON - Senior Early Years Practitioner
MISS PLOTT - Early Years Practitioner (Maternity Leave)
MRS MCDONALD - Early Years Practitioner
MISS McMILLAN - Early Years Assistant
MR LAFFERTY - Janitor

MRS WALLACE - Education Business Assistant

MRS CAMERON - Classroom Assistant

MISS LINDSAY - Classroom Assistant (PEF Funded)

MRS COUPAR - Classroom Assistant

MISS POLEA - Catering Assistant

MRS KENNERLEY - Catering Assistant

MRS LEFEBVRE - Catering Assistant

MRS BARRON - Facilities Assistant

MISS JACKSON - Facilities Assistant

Diary Dates:

Monday 25th September 2023 - Class **Welcome Sessions** - you are invited to visit your child's classroom and meet their teacher. We are aware that some parent/carers will be unable to attend, however if another family member wishes to come instead, they are more than welcome, e.g. a grandparent

Tea/coffee for parents/carers will be available in the dining hall ☺

EYC - 12.55pm - 1.20pm Come Along and Play - Early Years Class

P1/2 - 1:20pm to 1:45pm

P4/5 - 1:45pm to 2:10pm

P6/7 - 2:10pm to 2:35pm

P3/4 - 2:35pm to 3:00pm

Please note: Pupils are welcome to leave their class earlier as long as they have an adult to accompany them. Please inform the teacher that you wish to do so. Please note that parents/carers can only take their own child/children.

Wednesday 27th September 2023- P6/7
9.45am MacMillan Coffee Morning - ALL WELCOME! £2.50 entry (all proceeds go to MacMillan Cancer Support)

Friday 29th September 2023 2pm - 3pm
P6/7 Family Internet Safety run by Family Learning Team (Please look out for the flyer to sign up)



Tuesday 3rd October 2023 - Seasonal Flu Immunisations

Friday 6th October 2023 - Tempest Photographer

Friday 6th October 2023 2pm - 3pm P4/5 Family Internet Safety run by Family Learning Team (Please look out for the flyer to sign up)

Saturday 7th October 2023 - Skelmorlie Primary School Fundraising at Morrisons Supermarket, Largs (please call the office if you are able to donate half an hour between 10am - 5pm) Children must be 10 years or older to assist

Wednesday 11th October 2023 - Skelmorlie Primary School Sponsored 6 Hour Dance-a-thon! Information and sponsor sheet to follow at the end of the week

Friday 13th October 2023 9.30am Harvest Assembly - All Welcome!

Friday 13th October 2023 2pm - 3pm P3/4 Family Internet Safety run by Family Learning Team (Please look out for the flyer to sign up)

Monday 16th October 2023- Friday 20th October 2023 - Holidays

Friday 27th October 2023 2pm - 3pm Young STEM Leader run by Family Learning Team (Please look out for the flyer to sign up)

Tuesday 31st October 2023 - P1-3 Halloween Party 1pm - 2pm & P4-7 Halloween Party 2pm - 3pm

Wednesday 1st November 2023 Learning Conversations with Parents/Carers

Friday 17th November 2023 - Holiday

Monday 20th November 2023 - Holiday

Friday 1st December 2023 - 'Sparkle Day' Wear something Christmassy to School

Thursday 21st December 2023 - 10am Christmas Service

Friday 22nd December 2023- School Closes at 2.30pm, EYC closes at 3pm

Monday 25th December 2023 - Friday 5th January 2024 - Christmas Holidays

Monday 8th January 2024 - 9am Children return to school & EYC

Friday 9th February 2024 - Holiday

Monday 12th February 2024 - Holiday

Tuesday 13th February 2024 - In-Service

Thursday 28th March 2024 - 10am Easter Service

Friday 29th March 2024 - Friday 12th April 2024 - Easter Holidays

Monday 6th May 2024 - Holiday

Friday 24th May 2024 - In- Service

Monday 27th May 2024 - Holiday

Wednesday 29th May 2024 - Sports Day (Weather permitting)

Thursday 20th June 2024 - EYC Graduation Garden Party

Friday 21st June 2024 - P7 Leavers Assembly

Friday 28th June 2024 - School Closes for summer holidays at 1pm, EYC closes at 3pm

