

NEWS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Whitehirst Park Primary Bun-sgoil Pàirc Whitehirst



Responsibility Respect Resilience Equity Ambition
Dileasanais Urram Ath-leumachd Ceartas Euchd-mhiann

NEWSLETTER

September 2020

Read all about our
Achievements and
up and coming
events!

- ❖ Staffing Update
- ❖ Parent Council
Update and
much more!



WELCOME /FÀILTE FROM...

The Head Teacher



Welcome to the first Newsletter of Session 2020/2021.

Term 1 is well under way and is flying in! Everyone has adapted so well to the changes to school life and I am incredibly proud of our school community.

Here is an update about what has been happening at Whitehirst Park this term and a chance to look forward to what is happening in Term 2.

As always, hard copies of this newsletter are available from the school office.

Kind regards,

Lynn Robertson



Educating Today's Learner for Tomorrow's World



Staffing Update

We are delighted to officially welcome Miss Mairead MacNeil to our staff. Miss MacNeil is the class teacher in our Gaelic Medium Class and is also a Principal Teacher with leadership responsibilities across the school.



Many thanks to Mrs Seaman and Mrs Dickens who have been supporting the school in my absence. I am hopeful that I can be back in school soon and no longer be just a virtual presence!

Miss Johnstone is doing a tremendous job in my absence under difficult circumstances and I am incredibly grateful to her.



For more staffing information check the school website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/whitehirstparkprimary/>



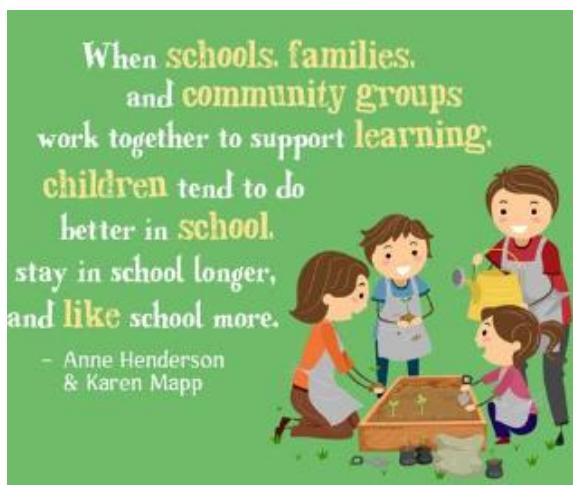
FAMILY LEARNING NEWS



We no longer have a school family learning worker, but we will still have Family Learning support from North Ayrshire Family Learning Team.

This term we will Target Primary 1 to offer some online support for parents about how we learn in school.

Check school bags and Groupcall for information coming soon!





Digital Communication



Check out our updated Website at:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/n/a/whitehirstparkprimary/>

@WhitehirstPs



Facebook.com/groups/whitehirstparkparents



Don't forget to check the class blogs for all the latest news.

P4-7 pupils can also share their individual profiles with you!

Mrs McKie is happy to support you to download and install the Groupcall Xpressions School app so pop in and see her if you would like some help.

The App is called 'Groupcall Xpressions' and can be downloaded from the App Store or from Google Play.



☺ Proud to be a Digital School ☺



Starting 21/9/20 and then fortnightly

WEEK ONE:

MONDAY

- Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
- Option 1 Scottish Mince and Mashed Potatoes
- Option 2 Baked Potato & Baked Beans
- Option 3 Tuna Mayo Sandwich
- Option 4 Turkey Sandwich
- Vegetable Freshly Sliced Carrots
- Sweet Fruity Monday

TUESDAY

- Soup Home-made Potato and Leek soup
- Option 1 Tomato & Basil Pasta & Home-made Potato Wedges
- Option 2 Margherita Pizza & Home-made Potato Wedges
- Option 3 Cheese Roll
- Option 4 Egg Mayo Sandwich
- Vegetable Sweetcorn
- Sweet Fruit Cookie & Yogurt

WEDNESDAY

- Soup Home-made Tomato Soup
- Option 1 Home-made Chicken Curry & Boiled Rice
- Option 2 Pork Meatball Sub Roll & New Potatoes and Salad
- Option 3 Turkey Roll
- Option 4 Egg Mayo Sandwich
- Vegetable Fresh Mixed Vegetables
- Sweet Fruity Wednesday

THURSDAY

- Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
- Option 1 Home-made Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread
- Option 2 Steak Pie & New Potatoes
- Option 3 Tuna Mayo Roll
- Option 4 Turkey Sandwich
- Vegetable Broccoli
- Sweet Chocolate & Banana Muffin

FRIDAY

- Soup Home-made Vegetable Soup
- Option 1 Salmon Fish Fingers & Chips
- Option 2 Beef Burger in a Bun & Seasonal Salad
- Option 3 Turkey Sandwich
- Option 4 Egg Mayo Sandwich
- Vegetable Garden peas
- Sweet Fruity Friday

Starting 28/9/20 and then fortnightly

WEEK TWO:

MONDAY

- Soup Home-made Carrot & Coriander Soup
- Option 1 Pork Sausages & Mashed Potatoes
- Option 2 French Bread Pizza & Home-made Potato Wedges
- Option 3 Tuna Mayo Sandwich
- Option 4 Turkey Roll
- Vegetable Baked Beans
- Sweet Fruity Monday

TUESDAY

- Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
- Option 1 Home-made Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread
- Option 2 Omelette & Baked Beans or Home-made Frittata
- Option 3 Cheese Roll
- Option 4 Egg Mayo Sandwich
- Vegetable Green Beans
- Sweet Oaty biscuit/Yogurt Loaf

WEDNESDAY

- Soup Potato & Leek Soup
- Option 1 Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce served with Pasta
- Option 2 Mince Pie & New Potatoes
- Option 3 Egg Mayo Sandwich
- Option 4 Tuna Mayo Wrap
- Vegetable Freshly Sliced Carrots
- Sweet Fruity Wednesday

THURSDAY

- Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
- Option 1 Chicken Korma or Chicken Tikka & Boiled Rice
- Option 2 Baked Potato with Tuna Mayo
- Option 3 Turkey Roll
- Option 4 Egg Mayo Sandwich
- Vegetable Broccoli & Cauliflower
- Sweet Fairy cake topped with Fresh Cream and Mandarin Oranges

FRIDAY

- Soup Home-made Vegetable Soup
- Option 1 Freshly Breaded Fish & Chips
- Option 2 BBQ Chicken in a Flat Bread served with Chips & Seasonal Salad
- Option 3 Turkey Sandwich
- Option 4 Egg Mayo Roll
- Vegetable Garden Peas
- Sweet Ice Cream & Fruit

Parents' Night Target Talks



From 28th September by phone



From the week beginning 28th September until 8th October class teachers will call you to discuss your child's progress and targets. Prior to this your child and their teacher will have met to discuss targets for Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing.

On 25th September you will receive your child's target record sheet and an appointment slip detailing the date and time for your phone call. Days and times will vary from class to class, as teachers will call you from their homes at a time that is convenient for them. If you do not reply when the teacher calls they will re-schedule another appointment time. Should the time you receive be unsuitable please contact the class teacher to re-schedule.

After the phone call we would like you and your child to comment on the targets set and then return the Target record sheet (and Staged Intervention plan if you have one) to school as soon as possible. We will make a copy for your child to keep in school and return the original to you after

Remember: Do not wait until the next Parents' Night if you have anything you want to discuss. Just call the office and make an appointment with the class teacher or a member of the leadership team.



Next Parents' Night
Target Talks:
Week beginning 7th
December.

We are delighted to welcome Gaelic Medium Education to Whitehirst Park Primary. You may be wondering what this means so here is some information:

North Ayrshire Council is committed to the promotion and support of Gaelic Medium Education. Whitehirst Park Primary is the base for North Ayrshire Gaelic Provision and started in August 2020 with a Primary 1/2 class.

The pupils in our Gaelic Medium Class have 'total immersion' in Gaelic for the first three years of Primary. The next stage of learning in Gaelic Medium Education is the 'immersion phase' where the curriculum in its entirety continues to be taught through the medium of Gaelic. Children should then have a secure base in Gaelic language to transfer to developing reading and writing skills in English Language and to learn at a quicker pace across the curricular areas and contexts. Gaelic Medium pupils will leave Whitehirst Park Primary School with the advantage of having become proficient in two languages, Gaelic and English.

For further information please have a look on our school website.



Active Schools Update



My name is Gary Moore and I am the Active Schools Coordinator for the Kilwinning Cluster and have been in post for the last 4 years. I am based within Kilwinning Academy PE Department but oversee five Cluster Primaries, Abbey, Blacklands, Corsehill, Pennyburn & Whitehirst Park.

Firstly, I would like to welcome all new Primary 1's who have joined a wonderful school, and I hope you've all settled in so far and look forward to meeting you in person sometime soon.

Active Schools aims to provide more and higher quality opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity:

- before school
- during lunchtime
- after school

It also looks to develop effective pathways between schools and sports clubs in the local community.

Due to Covid-19 and the Government Guidelines my role has changed to accommodate the current situation. My key role is to build relationships, reconnect and support my schools.

Our current focus at this time will be as follows:

- Leadership
- School & Inter House Events
- Class Consultation i.e. Extra-Curricular, New Clubs & New Opportunities

I will continue to work closely with the school following any updated guidelines with regards to Extra-Curricular Clubs and look forward to working with the young people soon.

Please see below my contact details if wish to get in touch for any further information.

Mobile: 07966912096

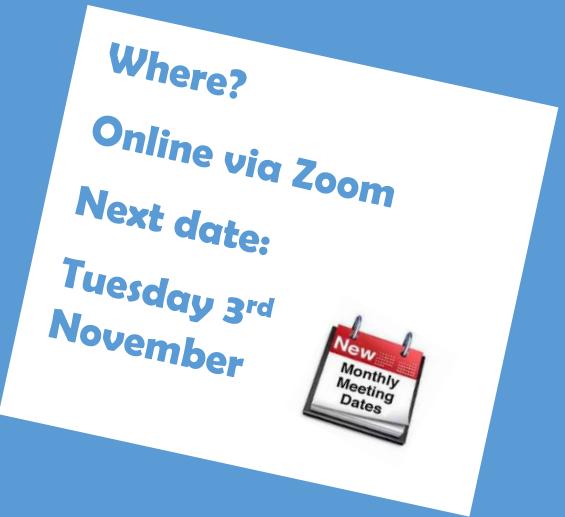
Email: gmoore@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Twitter: @ActiveSchoolsGM

Thanks Gary



Parent Council News



Check out the minutes of our meetings and more at:
<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/whitehirstparkprimary/test-2/>

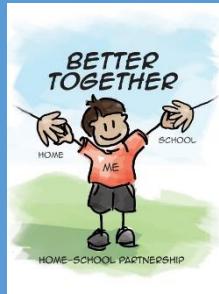
What is the role of the Parent Council?

- Support the school in its work with pupils
 - Represent the views of all parents
- Encourage links between the school, parents, pupils and the wider community
 - Report back to parents
 - Support school and pupils during school inspections
- Play an active role in the appointment of Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teachers

We had our first meeting of the session on 8th September via Zoom.

In Session 2020-21 we hope to:

- Strengthen and raise the profile of the Parent Council
- Further community links through school based and wider community events
- Investigate availability of grant funding for school based activities



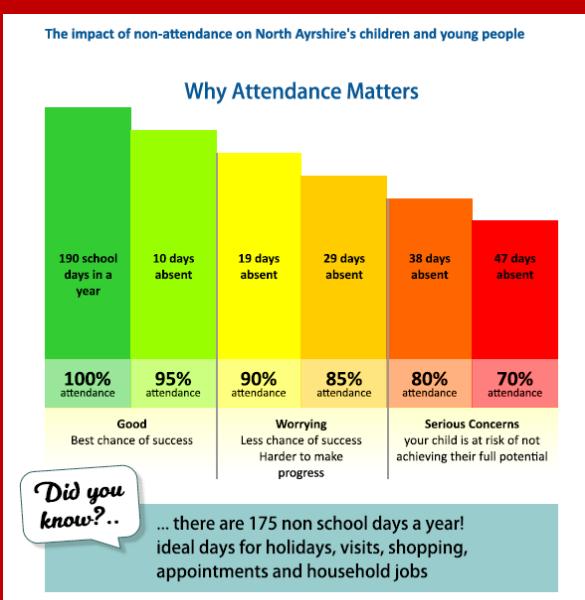
If you would like to join us please contact Mrs Robertson or the Parent Council Chair Ann Scott at: whitehirstparkparents@gmail.com



Attendance Matters!

As a school, in line with North Ayrshire's Policy we monitor attendance monthly and will contact you when we see attendance drop below 90% to offer support and guidance.

Our average attendance from August to September is 97.57%. In the interests of your child's education please avoid unnecessary absences where at all possible, as the impact on your child socially and in terms of their attainment can be hugely detrimental.



MINUTES LATE / MINUTES MISSED	IMPACT ON ATTENDANCE IN A YEAR
5 minutes a day =	3.4 days absent = 98.4% attendance
10 minutes a day =	6.9 days absent = 97.6% attendance
15 minutes a day =	10.3 days absent = 94.6% attendance
20 minutes a day =	13.8 days absent = 92.9% attendance
30 minutes a day =	20.7 days absent = 89.2% attendance

Social Distancing

Please give me space.



A gentle reminder to please adhere to social distancing around the school grounds at drop off and pick up times.

Some parents and children are voicing concerns about the number of parents who are not adhering to this.

We can appreciate that even with staggered starts and different entry points the area around the school inevitably gets busy so please consider the following:

For Drop Off (especially for older pupils i.e. P3-7):

- ❖ Drop off your child away from the school gates and watch them enter from a distance if you feel you have to
- ❖ As soon as you have dropped your child off leave the area around the school. If you wish to chat to another parent make sure this is away from the immediate area surrounding the school

For Pick Up (especially for older pupils i.e. P3-7):

- ❖ Don't arrive too early
- ❖ Arrange a meeting point away from the immediate area near the school to meet your child



LOOKING AHEAD...

Dates for
the Diary:

SEPTEMBER	
Maths Week Scotland - activities in class	Monday 28 th September
Target Talk Phone calls start	Monday 28 th September
Last week of homework	Monday 28 th September
OCTOBER	
Dyslexia Awareness Week - activities in class	Monday 5 th October
Virtual Harvest Service	Friday 9 th October
Close for holidays 3.15pm	Friday 9 th October
In-service Day for Staff	Monday 19 th October
School Opens	Tuesday 20 th October
Term 2 Homework Starts	Monday 26 th October
Halloween Activities in School <i>information to follow</i>	Friday 30 th October
NOVEMBER	
Virtual Parent Council Meeting 7pm	Tuesday 3 rd November
Outdoor Classroom Day	Tuesday 5 th November
Annual Flu Immunisation	Monday 9 th November
Anti Bullying Week- activities in class	Monday 16 th November
Scottish Book Week	Monday 16 th November
Close for holidays 3.15pm	Thursday 19 th November
School Opens	Tuesday 24 th November
Last week of homework	Monday 30 th November
DECEMBER	
Virtual Parent Council	Tuesday 1 st December
Target Talk Phone calls start	Monday 7 th December
P6 Christmas party <i>information to follow</i>	Monday 14 th December
P5 Christmas Party <i>information to follow</i>	Tuesday 15 th December
P4 Christmas party <i>information to follow</i>	Wednesday 16 th December
P3 Christmas party <i>information to follow</i>	Thursday 17 th December
P2 Christmas party <i>information to follow</i>	Friday 18 th December
P1 Christmas party <i>information to follow</i>	Monday 21 st December
P7 Christmas party <i>information to follow</i>	Tuesday 22 nd December
Christmas Service	Wednesday 23 rd December
Close for holidays 2.30pm	Wednesday 23 rd December

LOOKING AHEAD...



JANUARY

School Opens	Wednesday 6th January
Term 3 Homework Starts	Monday 11 th January
Scotland Theme Month - activities in class	Throughout January

FEBRUARY

Safer Internet Day	Thursday 11 th February
Close for holidays 3.15pm	Thursday 11 th February
In-service Day	Monday 15 th February
School Opens	Tuesday 16 th February
Fairtrade Fortnight - activities in class	Monday 22nd February

MARCH

World Book Day - activities in class	Thursday 4 th March
Target Talks Phonecalls	Monday 15th March
Last week of homework	Monday 22nd March

APRIL

Easter Service	Thursday 1 st April
School Closes 2.30pm	Thursday 1 st April
School Opens	Monday 19 th April
Term 4 Homework Starts	Monday 26 th April

MAY

Holiday	Monday 3rd May
Health Week/Walk to School Week	Monday 17 th May
Sports Day	Wednesday 19 th May
Last week of homework	Monday 24 th May
In-Service Day	Friday 28 th May
Holiday	Monday 31 st May

JUNE

Final Reports sent home	Monday 7 th June
Summer Service	Wednesday 16 th June
Close for Summer 1pm	Friday 18 th June
In-service Day	Tuesday 17 th August
Re-open for Session 2021-22	Wednesday 18 th August

FOR UPDATES CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/whitehirstparkprimary/>