

NEWS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Whitehirst Park Primary Bun-sgoil Pàirc Whitehirst



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

NEWSLETTER

March 2022

Read all about our
Achievements and
up and coming
events!

❖ School Grounds
Update and
much more!



**WELCOME /FÀILTE
FROM...**

The Head Teacher



Welcome to the third Newsletter of Session 2021/2022. Here is an update about what has been happening at Whitehirst Park this term and a chance to look forward to what is happening for the rest of Term 3 and Term 4. As always, hard copies of this newsletter are available from the school office.

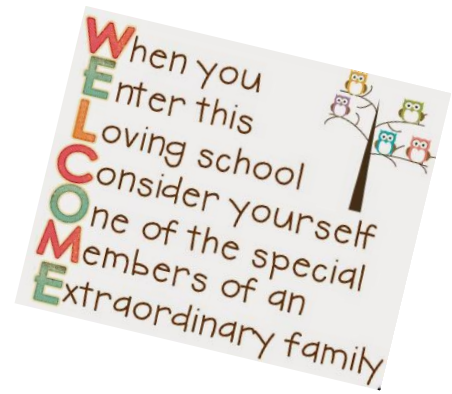
Kind regards,

Lynn Robertson



Educating Today's Learner for Tomorrow's World

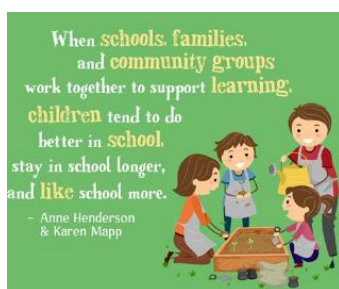
FAMILY LEARNING NEWS



Evan, our Family Learning Worker, has been supporting P5 Young STEM leaders. The children have been working towards achieving 4 badges. So far, they have achieved their Discovery, Create and Inspire badges.

The children have enjoyed creating their own Lava Lamps and built boats using recyclable materials to understand how they can float or sink. The children have one more Leader Badge to achieve. Well done!

As restrictions ease in Term 4, we are looking forward to welcoming families to take part in a Family Outdoor Learning project. Look out for further information coming soon via Xpressions or email.





Digital Communication



Check out our updated Website at:

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

@sgoilPW

@WhitehirstPs

@WhitehirstPPSPC



Facebook.com/groups/whitehirstparkparents



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

Mrs Phillips 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 😊

FREE SCHOOL MEALS
for Primaries 1, 2, 3, 4 and now
Primary 5

New Menu from 21.2.22

On 2.3.22 we held a taster session for a pupil focus group. Staff from the North Ayrshire Catering Team spoke to pupils and gathered their feedback about school meals.

NORTH AYRSHIRE SCHOOL MENU 2021/22

PRiMaRY

WEEK ONE
21/02/22 21/03/22 21/03/22 18/04/22 02/05/22 16/05/22 30/05/22 13/06/22 27/06/22

MONDAY
Option 1 Scottish Mince or Quorn Mince, Seasonal Potatoes & Cabbage
Option 2 Chicken & Vegetable Chow Mein & Sweetcorn
Option 3 Jacket Potato, Grated Cheese & Seasonal Salad
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter or Yogurt
Option 4 Chicken Sandwich & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter

TUESDAY
Option 1 Home-made Macaroni Cheese, Garlic Bread, Baked Beans & Broccoli
Option 2 Quorn Goujon Wrap, Seasonal Salad & Broccoli
Option 3 Baked Beans & Toast, Seasonal Salad
Sweet Yogurt Loaf or Selection of Fresh Fruit
Option 4 Egg Mayonnaise Sandwich & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Vegetable Soup
Sweet Selection of Fresh Fruit

WEDNESDAY
Option 1 Home-made Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice & Sweetcorn
Option 2 Pasta Roma, Home-made Potato Wedges, Seasonal Salad & Peas
Option 3 Jacket Potato, Baked Beans & Seasonal Salad
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter or Yogurt
Option 4 Cheese Roll & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Tomato & Lentil Soup
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter

THURSDAY
Option 1 Fresh Pork Sausages, Seasonal Potatoes & Fresh Mixed Vegetables
Option 2 Lentil & Vegetable Pasta Bolognese & Seasonal Salad
Option 3 Brown Fresh Chicken Sub Roll & Seasonal Salad
Sweet Vanilla & Pear Sponge & Custard or Selection of Fresh Fruit
Option 4 Egg Mayonnaise Sandwich & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Chicken Noodle Soup
Sweet Selection of Fresh Fruit

FRIDAY
Option 1 Fresh Breaded Haddock, Chips, Garden Peas & Coleslaw
Option 2 Beefburger or Veggie Burger Roll, Chips, Garden Peas & Seasonal Salad
Option 3 Jacket Potato, Baked Beans & Seasonal Salad
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter or Yogurt
Option 4 Tuna Mayonnaise Roll & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter

WEEK TWO
28/02/22 14/03/22 28/03/22 14/04/22 28/04/22 14/05/22 28/05/22 14/06/22 28/06/22

MONDAY
Option 1 Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce in a Brown Sub Roll, Fresh Carrots & Seasonal Salad
Option 2 Home-made Macaroni Cheese, Garlic Bread & Seasonal Salad
Option 3 Jacket Potato, Tuna Mayonnaise & Seasonal Salad
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter or Yogurt
Option 4 Chicken Roll & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Carrot & Sweet Potato Soup
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter

TUESDAY
Option 1 Home-made Margarita Pizza, Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn & Seasonal Salad
Option 2 Home-made Tomato & Basil Pasta with Seasonal Salad
Option 3 Baked Beans & Toast with Seasonal Side Salad
Sweet Chocolate & Banana Sponge with Custard or Selection of Fresh Fruit
Option 4 Egg Mayonnaise Sandwich & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Vegetable Soup
Sweet Selection of Fresh Fruit

WEDNESDAY
Option 1 Fresh Chicken Goujons & Dip, Seasonal Potatoes, Broccoli & Seasonal Salad
Option 2 Roasted Vegetable & Lentil Curry, Boiled Rice & Seasonal Side Salad
Option 3 Cheese Baguette, Mixed Salad, Brown Rice & Pepper Salad
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter or Yogurt
Option 4 Chicken Sandwich & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter

THURSDAY
Option 1 Home-made Steak Pie, Seasonal Potatoes, Fresh Carrots & Garden Peas
Option 2 Salmon Fish Fingers or Veggie Fingers, Seasonal Potatoes, Fresh Carrots & Seasonal Side Salad
Option 3 Jacket Potato Baked Beans & Seasonal Side Salad
Sweet Fruit Jelly or Selection of Fresh Fruit
Option 4 Egg Mayonnaise Sandwich & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Potato & Leek Soup
Sweet Selection of Fresh Fruit

FRIDAY
Option 1 Fresh Breaded Haddock, Chips, Garden Peas & Seasonal Side Salad
Option 2 Chicken Burger in a Bun, Chips, Garden Peas & Mixed Salad
Option 3 Quorn Goujon Wrap, Baby Jacket Potatoes & Seasonal Salad
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter or Yogurt
Option 4 Tuna Mayonnaise Roll & Seasonal Side Salad
Soup Home-made Lentil Soup
Sweet Fresh Fruit Platter

Our meals are freshly prepared with local, seasonal ingredients.

We purchase local free range hen eggs, msc fresh fish, QMS and farm assured meats.



Please remember to pre-order meals on [iPayimpact](#) at home. This helps the kitchen plan in advance and saves interrupting teaching time in the morning.

COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS UPDATE:

As a school, we follow national and local guidance from North Ayrshire Council. In school we are making the following changes:

- Bubbles can be relaxed outdoors and indoors**
- Staggered starts/stops have been stopped**
- Assemblies are starting**
- In person P1 Transition visits are being planned**

Outdoor News



We have started work to improve our outdoor environment. Staff and parent helpers have laid the foundations for our polytunnel, the P1 outdoor area had a spring clean and our willow structures have had a much needed trim! Watch this space...if you Would like to lend a hand contact the school office!



Special Thanks to GT Ground Care Ltd for their donation of slabs and type 1 aggregate!

Cuairt-litir na sgoile/ Gaelic Medium News



#SayaGaelicPhraseDay	#laAbairtNaGaidhlig
<p>On the 18th February it was say a Gaelic phrase day and our staff at Whitehirst Park took on the challenge to create a video full of useful Gaelic phrases that can be heard within the Gàidhlig department. Check out twitter!</p>	<p>' S e la abairt na Gàidhlig a bh' ann air an 18mh den Ghearran. Ghabh an sgioba gu leir ann am Bun-sgoil Pàirc Whitehirst pàirt anns an latha a dol thairis air na h-abairtean feumail a bhios sinn a' cluinntinn anns an sgoil.</p>

Aileag Radio Programme	Aileag air BBC Rèidio nan Gàidheal.
<p>The children in our Gàidhlig department are going to be talking on a radio programme called Aileag on BBC Radio nan Gàidheal on Friday 4th March. They will be chatting and telling everyone about what they enjoy about their school and what they have been learning about.</p>	<p>Bidh a' chlann a' bruidhinn air Aileag air Dihaoine 4mh den Màrt. Bidh iad ag innse dhuinn mu dheidhinn an sgoil aca agus na rudan a tha math mu dheidhinn a bhi ann am Bun-sgoil Pàirc Whitehirst.</p>



Parents' Night Target Talks



From 14th March by phone



From the week beginning 14th March 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 11th March 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 may 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 to school as soon as possible. We will make a copy for your child to keep in school and return the original to you. These will then be collated along with a final report in June.

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.



School Improvement Plan

Here is an update on our progress to date:

- ❖ **Focus on school recovery through approaches to assessing and supporting wellbeing and attainment – Numeracy Recovery and Wellbeing support has been established. Early indications show pupils making good progress. Significant staff absence in Term 2 and 3 has impacted on this.**
- ❖ **Develop Gaelic Medium Education for Primary 1, 2 and 3 pupils – A curriculum rationale has been created as well as curriculum plans for each stage. We communicated with all schools to promote the provision and we are hopeful we will be expanding the provision next session.**
- ❖ **Develop a culture of leadership at all levels – All teaching staff are in improvement working parties and we have established pupil leadership groups in class bubbles. In Term 4, now we can mix bubbles indoors, we will look to start more pupil voice committees.**
- ❖ **Focus on ensuring high quality learning experiences for all children incorporating the effective use of assessment by staff and learners with a particular focus on Writing, Listening and Talking and Sustainability – All teaching staff have taken part in professional learning on PM Writing and approaches to writing, all classes have undertaken topics linked to sustainability. We applied for a grant to allow us to develop the outdoors to support our work on sustainability and we were successful! Staff have started to lay the foundations for our poly tunnel and to tidy up the outdoor spaces. Staff at Early, First and Second level have taken part in professional learning on Outdoor Learning in Literacy and Numeracy. Miss Dobson is piloting Oracy work with her class and this will be shared to create a whole school approach. Mrs Munro and Miss Taylor have been taking part in Olevi Outstanding Teachers Programme this term and are piloting approaches to lesson starter and feedback. We are looking forward to them sharing their practice to our teaching staff.**



Parent Council Update....

Christmas seems like a distant memory, however, we hope the children enjoyed the online panto, sweet cones, slushy drinks and selection boxes provided by the Parent Council.

We've also paid for the P7 leavers hoodies which should arrive soon and we're looking to support a transition event for the new Primary 1 children.

Looking further ahead we've submitted an application for funding to put on a celebration event for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. We hope this would be a full school and community event - further details to follow nearer the time.

If you require any school uniform items please contact the office to see if they have the size you require, there are polo shirts, sweatshirts, trousers, skirts and pinafores in a range of sizes.

The school could also benefit from donations of new pants, socks and tights so they have a supply in case of any accidents. Please drop off to the school office if you can support with this.

Finally our next meeting is on Zoom on Tuesday 29th March at 7pm, all are welcome to attend. Login details will be posted on the Facebook and Twitter pages the week before.



Jordan McManus
Chair



Vicky Black
Vice-Chair



Louise Clark
Treasurer

If you would like to find out more please contact Mrs Robertson or the Parent Council at: whitehirstparkparents@gmail.com



@ WhitehirstPPSPC

Next Meeting:

**Tuesday 29th
March**

**7pm on
Zoom...possibly
in person! TBC**



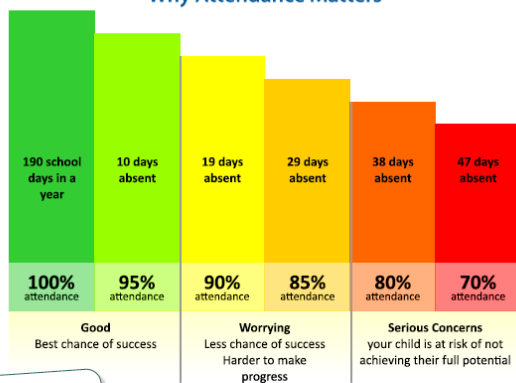
Attendance Matters!

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. We will consider periods of isolation as this cannot be avoided.

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.

The impact of non-attendance on North Ayrshire's children and young people

Why Attendance Matters



Did you know?..

... there are 175 non school days a year! ideal days for holidays, visits, shopping, appointments and household jobs

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



Some highlights from Term 3 so far...



Starting work on our polytunnel and school grounds...



Some of our Burns Competition class finalists and winners...

Lots of lovely pictures of pupils and staff Dropping Everything and Moving in January...





Our February Kindness Challenge is going well...

We've had some great fun and learned lots of new skills in STEM Fortnight...



We launched the Safer Schools app in STEM Fortnight... Enter Whitehirst Park Primary and 7440 to join!





This talented P7 won a national competition for Simon Howie!

We've been trying our best to have clean plates in the dinner hall...



P7 are enjoying their transition activities...



We have so much individual talent. Here are two such pupils representing North Ayrshire Athletics Club and Kilmarnock Football Club!





Extra-Curricular Clubs



Term 3 so far...

	After School
Monday	P1G Reading
Tuesday	P2b Multisports, P4 Coding
Wednesday	P7 Football,
Thursday	P5 Rugby, P3/4 Gardening

Coming soon...

Term 4

Dance

Rubgy

Football

Girls Football

Netball

Baking



LOOKING AHEAD...



MARCH	
Target Talks Phonecalls	Monday 14 th March
Last week of homework	Monday 14 th March
P7 Social Subjects Transition Activity in WPPS	Thursday 17 th March
P7 Virtual Parents Evening 7pm	Thursday 17 th March
P5 Sports Activity at Kilwinning Academy - PM	Thursday 17 th March
P7 Enhanced Transition Group Day 1	Thursday 24 th March
P7 Parents Walk and Talk at McGavin Park 9.15am	Monday 28 th March
New P1 Virtual Parents Evening 7pm	Monday 28 th March
Parent Council 7pm	Tuesday 29 th March
Class Photographs and Individual/Family Catch up	Wednesday 30 th March
APRIL	
Easter Service	Friday 1 st April
School Closes 2.30pm	Friday 1 st April
School Opens	Tuesday 19 th April
Term 4 Homework Starts	Monday 25 th April
P1 Transition Outdoor Play Group A 3.15pm	Tuesday 26 th April
Parent Council 7pm	Tuesday 26 th April
P1 Transition Outdoor Play Group B 3.15pm	Thursday 28 th April



LOOKING AHEAD...

MAY	
Holiday	Monday 2nd May
P1 Transition Teddy Bear Picnic Group A 3.15pm	Tuesday 3rd May
P1 Transition Teddy Bear Picnic Group B 3.15pm	Thursday 5th May
Health Week/Walk to School Week	Monday 16th May
Sports Day	Wednesday 18th May
P1 Transition Sports Day - All Groups	Thursday 19th May
P7 STEM Transition Event at WPPS	Friday 20th May
P7 Virtual Assembly 11.45am	Friday 20th May
Last week of homework	Monday 23rd May
P7 Enhanced Transition Group Day 2	Monday 23rd May
P1 Transition Meet the teacher Class 1	Tuesday 24th May
Parent Council 7pm	Tuesday 24th May
P1 Transition Meet the teacher Class 2	Thursday 26th May
P7 Health and Wellbeing Event Kilwinning Academy 9.30am -12.30pm	Thursday 26th May
P7 Virtual Parents Evening	Thursday 26th May
In-Service Day- school closed to pupils	Friday 27th May
JUNE	
Holiday	Thursday 2nd June
Holiday	Friday 3rd June
Final Reports sent home	Monday 6th June
P1 Transition Lunch (dependent on COVID restrictions)	Tuesday 7th June
P7 Virtual Parents Evening 7pm	Tuesday 7th June
P7 Transition Quiz at Kilwinning Academy	Monday 13th June
P7 Leavers Assembly	Wednesday 15th June
P7 Bump up to Kilwinning Academy	Thursday 16th June
P7 Bump up to Kilwinning Academy	Friday 17th June
WPPS Bump Up Afternoon	Friday 17th June
Parent Council 7pm	Tuesday 21st June
Summer Service	Friday 24th June
Close for Summer 1pm	Wednesday 29th June
In-service Day	Wednesday 17th August
Re-open for Session 2022-23	Thursday 18th August

FOR UPDATES CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

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