



Eastfield Primary School & Nursery Newsletter



August '15 Newsletter



Eastfield Primary School and Nursery Class, 23 Cairntoul Court, Cumbernauld, G68 9JR

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome Back!

We hope that you all had a lovely summer break, and managed to make the most of the sunny weather!

It is great to see the children return looking so smart in full school uniform and excited about the new school year. Our new Nursery and Primary 1 children have already settled in very well.

We have also enrolled a number of new children over the summer holidays. We hope they, and their parents/carers, feel welcomed and happy at Eastfield.

'Meet the Teacher Event', Wednesday 16th September '15

You are invited to come and meet your child's new teacher and see your child(ren)'s classroom on **Wednesday 16th September '15**.

As you will be aware, in June parents/carers were informed of their child(ren)'s new teacher(s) for the new session and the pupils also had the opportunity to visit their new classroom and meet their new teacher for a welcome chat. These arrangements were aimed at ensuring that pupil transitions between groups, classes and teachers were successfully supported.

Now that your child(ren) has/have had the opportunity to now meet their teacher(s) and work with them during their first fortnight back at school, we are now delighted to welcome our parents/carers into the school. These informal 'Meet the Teacher' events will provide both the teachers and our parents/carers with the opportunity to establish effective partnerships, discuss the outline of the year's learning goals and share information on classroom routines and homework. This event will also provide parents/carers with the chance to review some of the resources that child(ren) will be using this session.

The 'Meet the Teacher' event this year will be informal and held as part of a 'drop in' session. Therefore you are welcome to pop into the school at anytime between 3.30pm and 4.00pm on **16th September '15** to take advantage of this opportunity.

We trust that you will find these sessions informative and we look forward to seeing you then.



Homework Bags & School Diaries

Following parental feedback last session we are continuing to utilise school homework bags and diaries for every child within the school this session. New bags have been purchased by the school for all new Primary one children in addition to new children who have joined the school this year. We hope these bags will help parents/carers to easily access school communication letters and also help us to extend the shelf life of school resources.

The home/ school diaries, are also in place to support home and school communication and develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.

Class & Individual Photography, Friday 4th September '15

Following the success of last year's class photographs which were taken outside in the first term, we have managed to confirm an early photography block for this month.

All class photographs throughout the school and nursery will be taken on **Friday 4th of September '15**. Individual pupil and family photographs will be taken on **2nd and 3rd of November '15**.

Dates for your Diary- Annual Calendar of Events

Following positive feedback from parents/carers last session regarding the annual calendar of events, we have put together a calendar for this year and attached it to this newsletter for your reference. Please note that this is an outline of our initial forecast and additional activities will be added throughout the session. We hope you find this a useful overview of events planned throughout the school year.

Please continue to keep an eye on the 'Dates for your Diary' section of our monthly newsletters for any updates and changes throughout each term. Copies of all newsletters together with attachments can be accessed via the school website throughout the year.

Class and Pupil News

As mentioned previously, our ability to report on class, group and pupil achievement for each stage of the school within this main news bulletin can be challenging. Therefore we plan to continue with class newsletters and class assemblies to help us share the wonderful news of our children's achievements. Printed class newsletters will be distributed to the parents/carers of each individual class and the wider parent forum can access them electronically through the school website.



Pupil Voice- Pupil Councils & Committees

Work is already underway electing pupils from each class to represent the various committees and councils within the school. Last session the children contributed to a wide variety of developments and played a fundamental role in school decision-making. We look forward to building upon this success this year and informing you of our new council and committee representatives, our new Primary 6 House Captains and Primary 7 Head Boy and Head Girl within our next newsletter.

Opportunities for Wider Achievement- Lunch/ Afterschool Clubs

Staff are currently in the process of finalising the calendar of lunch and after school clubs for this term and we look forward to informing you of these events soon. Due to the size of our school we hope to offer as wide a range of activities as possible to our children throughout the year. Since these clubs are organised and led by staff in their own time, please be aware that there may be occasions where classes need to be moved due to personal reasons etc. In the event of such circumstances full notice will be provided and we appreciate your support should this have to happen.

Physical Education

All classes have physical education for a minimum of 2 hours per week. Class teachers will share information about scheduled PE days via your child's school diary. Any further questions you have about PE can be discussed with teachers during the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions.

To support us with the effective and safe delivery of physical education please ensure that your child(ren) bring(s) their gym kit: shorts, polo shirt, and indoor gym shoes or trainers on PE days. Children must have gym shoes/trainers which are **not worn outside** as they can damage the hall floor. As part of school policy football strips are not acceptable for PE, or at any other time.

Please note that it is advisable that jewellery isn't worn at all by pupils on gym days. This supports our children with changing routines and prevents items from being lost. As part of school and local authority policy, should your child(ren) come to school with earrings in then they will be requested to remove them prior to taking part in the lesson.

If your child has recently had their ears pierced then tape/ plasters should be supplied by parents to enable pupils to cover their ears and participate in lessons. Due to the possibility of skin allergies and the risk of injury (which can be caused as a result of applying and removing tape/plasters to pierced ears) pupils will be supported to carry out this task independently with supervision and support from a member of staff. This is for your own child's health and safety.

Thank you for your support with this matter.

Swimming, Primary 5 & Primary 7

Last session we raised concerns to the authority regarding our ability to deliver the 2 hours physical education entitlement to all class throughout the school. Despite creative use of indoor and outdoor space the authority agreed that the availability of PE facilities within the school was creating a challenge.

The outcome to this evaluation, has meant that the authority have agreed to provide gym/swim external fitness sessions for both Primary 5 and Primary 7 pupils this year. This provision will remain in place whilst further possibilities are explored by the school and the authority this year.

Marking Clothing

Children start the new term with an array of smart new outfits. To avoid loss and confusion, please label all of your child(ren)'s clothing and other belongings like lunch boxes. We already have a few items of lost property and due to the sheer volume of items that are left unclaimed, we will regularly have to clear out.

Parents and Carers will be able to review lost property items at open days and reporting evenings. Following these events, and at the start of each new session items that are not claimed are sent to charity shops.

If your child has lost property then please contact the school or pop by to have a look.

Attendance

Please call the school office if your child is unwell or unable to attend school followed with a letter to their class teacher. If no prior notice of an absence is received a text alert message will be sent to parents/carers. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Medicine

If your child requires regular medication we would be grateful if parents/carers could hand in the medicine to reception at the start of the session and complete a medication form.

Please note that we are not permitted to administer medication unless these procedures are followed. Also, should your



child(ren) require access to an inhaler throughout the day then please ensure that these are replaced regularly.

Parent Council AGM, 8th September '15

Our Parent Council AGM will be held on Tuesday 8th September '15 and the parent council and I look forward to welcoming you to this event.

Following the AGM, the first Parent Council meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday 6th September '15. Please keep an eye on school newsletters for dates of further meetings. Information and minutes from all previous events and meetings can be accessed via our school website.

Our Parent Council is always looking for new members - please come along as a member of our parent forum to what is a very informal meeting to look at ways to support and enhance our school ☺.

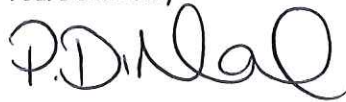
Monthly Newsletter Comments Slip

Attached to this newsletter is a blank monthly comments slip that can be used to record ideas or suggestions for further school improvement.

Your views and feedback play an essential part in shaping our school improvement agenda and improving the service that we provide to our pupils, parents/carers and wider community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Pamela Di Nardo
Head Teacher



August 2015

Parent/Carer Comment Slip

Feedback Questionnaire

What aspects of this newsletter have you found useful?
Additional Comments/ feedback

Thank you for filling in the questionnaire. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Name of Parent/Carer _____

Name of Pupil _____

Please return completed forms to the school office.