

Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



Parent Council Meeting – 25th May, 2022

A PLACE OF ENTHUSIASTIC LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT

responsi**B**ility

gr**A**atitude

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

hu**M**ility and forgiveness

persever**A**nce

Love

ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS

h**O**nesty and generosity

Compassion and respe**C**t

friends**H**ip

Parent Council Agenda

- Padlet
- Sexual Health Education - questions and concerns
- School changes post Covid - when are we fully back to "normal" regarding entrances, tuck shop, uniform etc
- Homework - improvements seen in some classes and not in others.
- PE KIT - clarity on changing in class.

Padlet - Wider Achievements and Community Values

Since introducing the Community Values Award given by our Primary 7 Representatives, we have celebrated the success of many of our children's achievements in the school community. Emails, the padlet, telephone calls and the children themselves make sure their achievements are recognised and shared, contributing to the overall Citizen of the Year Award. Awards being counted on Tuesday 31st May, 2022 providing us with our Citizen of the Year - Infants/Juniors/Seniors which will be announced in June. Good luck to all of our children!

Sexual Health Education - Questions and Concerns

RSHP.scot

“In the instance of a parent wishing to withdraw a school aged child from sexual health education lessons, schools must remind parents of the child's right to an education and to participate, bearing in mind their age and maturity. Where, after due consideration ... the parent or carer decides to withdraw a school aged child from sexual health education lessons, arrangements should be made for the child to have alternative positive educational provision, which meets the Health and Wellbeing outcomes.”

“Aspects of RSHP education may be discussed in many areas of the curriculum and it would not be possible for a child or young person to be withdrawn from lessons across the curriculum as this would prevent the child or young person from receiving an adequate and holistic education.”

It should be recognised that other children will participate in Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood education in Term 4 of the school year, with a focus on the content appropriate to their age and stage of development. It is important, therefore, that there is an understanding that children will talk to each other, which may include discussing what had been taught as part of the RSHP programme and it cannot be guaranteed that a child not taking part will not be involved in such conversations when socially engaging with their peers.

Post COVID

- Any entrance can be used
- Drop-off and pick up only in the roundabout area of the school and nursery grounds
- Disabled badge holders only in the car park
- Tuck shop can be reintroduced in August - important that children do not spend their money for lunch at the tuck shop as any outstanding amounts will need to be paid before any further items can be purchased. This will ensure the catering staff can place orders in the appropriate timeframe.
- It is essential that we continue to encourage pupils to wear full school uniform associated with Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class, being proud representatives of our school and nursery community. The P7 Pupil Representatives and the HT have discussed the issues of changing and have agreed that children can come to school with their PE uniform on their PE days but they must wear their school jumper or cardigan which should be red. Pupils are not permitted to wear 'hoodies or brands' to school apart from on 'dress down/fundraising' days.

School uniform consists of black/grey trousers, white shirt or polo shirt, tie, red jumper or cardigan.

PE uniform - Black/grey jogging trousers, white polo shirt. Red jumper or cardigan should be worn on PE days when participating in activities in other areas of the curriculum.

Homework/Newsletters

- All newsletters highlighting planning for the term are sent home to families to ensure effective home/school partnership working. Homework grids are issued with newsletters and link to the areas being taught over that term.

Classes for Session 22-23

We are currently working on classes for the session 22-23, with P1 class teachers being confirmed for transition. The provisional format is:

P1a - Mrs Davidson

P1b - Miss Guliani

P2a - TEACHER A

P2b - Mrs Duff (3 days) and Miss Martin (3 days)

P3a - Mrs Emslie (3 days) and Miss McNeil (3 days)

P3b - Ms McGill (4 days)

P4a - TEACHER B

P4b - TEACHER C

P5a - TEACHER D

P5b - Mrs Grant

P6a - Miss D. Wright

P6b - Miss Hay

P7/6 - Mrs Murphy

P7 - Miss A. Wright

NCCT - Mr Clark

Nurture/Learning Support - Mrs Patrick

NCCT/Learning Support - TEACHER

These will not be finalised until June when our staffing has been confirmed for next session.

Current permanent teaching staff are as follows:

Mrs Davidson

Miss Guliani

Mrs Duff (3 days)

Miss Martin (3 days)

Mrs Murphy

Mrs Emslie (3 days)

Miss McNeil (3 days)

Mr Paterson

Ms McGill (4 days)

Miss Paterson

Mrs Grant

Miss A. Wright
Mr Clark
Mrs Patrick
Mrs Vernet

Staffing News:

- Mrs McHugh - Dining Hall Assistant will be moving away and finished in her post on Friday 20th May 2022. We wish Jean well in her new post in her new environment. The dinner hall will be covered by the Senior Leadership and Management Team until the post is filled which may result in phone calls/emails being answered in our normal timescales. The advert for the position is on My Job Scotland - see information below:

REF NO:

NLA07131

PUBLISHED:

20/5/2022

CLOSES:

3/6/2022

LOCATION:

Balmalloch Primary & Nursery School, Kingsway, Kilsyth, G65 9UJ

SALARY:

£18,558 - £19,005 per year pro rata

CONTRACT TYPE:

Permanent

POSITION TYPE:

Term Time Part Time

HOURS:

12.5 hours per week

- Mrs Vernet is taking a year out in the session 22-23, we wish her all the best in all she chooses to do during that time.
- Mrs Chambers will also be leaving at the end of term to begin a new venture and again, we wish her all the best.
- Mr Paterson and Miss Paterson were successful today in the Acting Principal Teacher dialogues and will take up their position next session: August 2022 to June 2023

Next session, the management structure will consist of the following:

Head Teacher - Miss McCarthy

Principal Teacher - Mrs Convery

Acting Principal Teacher - Mr Paterson

Acting Principal Teacher - Miss Paterson

Awards/Achievements

This year we have worked extremely hard as a school community and have received the following awards we are all very proud of:

- Scottish School of Character (First school to be awarded this in Scotland - See Report - See attached) Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class has been asked to be a Regional Hub in Scotland for Character Education.
- Fairtrade Active Status
- Digital Schools Award (See Attached)
- Reading Schools Award

We also have the following awards:

- ECO schools status - 8th Flag
- School Sports Scotland Award - Gold
- Rights Respecting Schools Award
- STEM Delivery Centre

Our Nursery Class have also celebrated successes over the session which we are also very proud to share:

- Breastfeeding Friendly Award
- Makaton Training completed by all staff to Level 2 - on our journey towards becoming a Communication Friendly Nursery.
- Hosts - Deirdre Grogan, Principal Knowledge Exchange Fellow, Leading the Development of Play, specialising in Early Years at the University of Strathclyde. Deirdre noted our children's high levels of engagement in play and our Creative Learning as well as our use of documenting children's learning and thinking.
- Nursery Principal Leads will be joining Deirdre Grogan on Saturday the 29th of October to lead a workshop on creative play and documentation at the University of Strathclyde.
- Our nursery will also be hosting international delegates from the European Early Childhood Education Research Association (EECERA) on Tuesday 23rd of April, as requested by Professor Kate Wall, Professor of Education at the University of Strathclyde. The delegates will be focusing on our approach 'Nurturing Emotional Wellbeing to support children to lead and have ownership over their learning and environment.

Next session we aim to continue this success through identified school and nursery improvement priorities.

Priority 1 - Health and Wellbeing - Nurture UK Award/School Sports Scotland Award/Partnership working with the Port Gallery to support mental health and wellbeing, including outdoor learning projects. We will also continue our journey as a School of Character towards Kitemark Plus.

Priority 2 - Digital Schools - Stage 2/Developing the Young Workforce/STEM

Priority 3 - Literacy - Reading Schools - Silver - Focus on specific year groups

Self-Evaluation

We currently put out a policy of the month to ensure staff and families have the opportunity to review these and share thoughts and ideas.

Next session, we intend to put out a survey per month which will rotate - Staff/Pupils/Families. For example, in September staff views would be sought on a particular theme, in October pupils views will be sought and in November parents views will be sought. This will allow us to continue to build on our strengths and work on our next steps. Your support with this will be greatly appreciated.

Parent Council Meetings for Session 22-23

Virtual/School

Lets are due in June so these dates must be agreed and submitted.

Ruth McCarthy

Head Teacher

25th May, 2022