



Cumbernauld Primary School December Newsletter 2017

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VISION- In our school we aim to provide a secure, stimulating environment where, each child feels included and their individual abilities, skills and talents are fully developed.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Well here we are at the last newsletter of 2017! The year has zipped past in a flash but it has been filled with many special moments with your children as they continue on their learning journey. December is always a very busy month in our school. This newsletter should bring you up to date with the latest school news.

Learning Matters- Snapshot Jotters

I hope you enjoyed seeing your child's most recent episodes of learning in their 'Snapshot Jotters'. We believe this is an excellent way to involve parents in their child's learning and we value your feedback on this initiative. Members of the management team will be involved in learning conversations with a number of children across the school about their progress and next steps in learning. Thank you for your continued support. Please return any jotters at home to the school as soon as possible.

SSNA- Scottish National Standardised Assessments

You may well have heard in the media that pupils in P1, P4 and P7 will be assessed in reading, writing and maths using a new standardised assessment. This is the first year these particular assessments will be used but our pupils are used to completing similar online assessments in the past. I have posted a link to more information about these assessments on the school website. In our school, these assessments will take place between April and June 2018.

Uniform and House Badges

Parental support is essential to ensure a high standard of uniform and presentation and your support is appreciated. Full uniform is encouraged. Pupils have been issued with a plain coloured badge to show their house. Please make every effort to ensure this badge is worn each day.

The Daily Mile

The main aim of the Daily Mile is to help all children improve their physical, emotional, social and mental health and wellbeing by doing 10-15 minutes of physical activity outdoors everyday. The children walk, run or jog in the safety of their own playground. You can access a profile of our school on The Daily Mile website at <https://thedailymile.co.uk/case-studies/cumbernauld-primary-school-cumbernauld/>

P5 Swimming

Pupils in Primary 5 started their swimming block on Thursday 7th December with the rest of that block running from January through to March. Pupils go to the Tryst Swimming Pool in Cumbernauld.

P.E Kit

P.E is a very important and valued part of our curriculum and children are expected to bring their indoor and outdoor P.E Kit on the appropriate days. Please support us by ensuring that your child has his/her kit. Your child's kit should include the following:

- Gym shoes- trainers (with a light sole) are acceptable, as long as they are limited to indoor use
- Gym top/t-shirt
- Shorts and/or tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers and tracksuit bottoms for outdoor P.E

Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Uniform Bank

As you may already know, Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Uniform Bank has been established in our community. This organisation collects uniforms and donates them to families who need them. You can email them directly at hello@cumbernauld-kilsythcare.org.uk for more information.

Kilbowie

Our primary 7 pupils had a fantastic time at Kilbowie. I want to let you know that they are a credit to both their school and families. I am sure, you will also want to join with me, in thanking the staff team for supporting the children throughout their week at Kilbowie. As communicated, the school office will issue you a refund for the appropriate amount in due course.

Star Pupils

The following children were awarded with a Head Teacher's certificate at our most recent monthly assembly P1a- Orlaith M and Tavia L P1b- Emma H and Harry B P1c- Eilidh W and Poppy G P2a- Poppy F and Cara E T P2b- William M and Harris W P3- Mark McK and Nathan K P3/4- Erin M and Adam Mc P4a- Eva C and Ross G P4b- Jack O and Thea K P5a- Matthew M and Demi S P5b- Blaine H and Zoe McT P6a- Euan L and Lucy C P6b- Minaal A and Ethan M P P7a- Elliot A and Kieran Mc and P7b Lucy Mc and Oliver W.

We are always very proud to showcase our pupils as:

- Successful learners
- Confident individuals
- Effective contributors and
- Responsible citizens



Social Media

Our children are using more sophisticated methods of communicating with each other. As educators and parents/carers, we have a duty to ensure that they use this technology in a safe and responsible way. CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) has a range of information and advice on their website. (www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) The school has also uploaded a range of social media information leaflets on our school website which provide helpful tips for keeping your child safe online.

Book Week Scotland: Monday 27 November – Sunday 3 December

Book Week Scotland is a week-long celebration of books and reading. As part of Book Week, all P1 pupils have been gifted a Bookbug Primary 1 Family Bag which was produced by the Scottish Book Trust in partnership with Education Scotland and the Scottish Government as part of Read, Write and

Count. The bag contains three picture books, an activity book and other resources to promote literacy.

Primary 2 and 3 pupils also received a Read, Write and Bag containing books, fun counting games and materials for writing.

These bags are designed to inspire parents and children to read, write and count together. Please take some time to look at the website (www.scottishbooktrust.com/book-week-scotland) to see how you can support your child's literacy and numeracy development.

School Equipment

We would be very grateful for the following:



- Every item of clothing labelled clearly with your child's name and class. We are experiencing the difficult task of matching lost clothes with their owners.
- Money in purses, wallets or labelled envelopes.
- No items of jewellery on P.E days and earrings removed or covered with tape.
- Gym kit is essential and should be labelled and kept in a school bag.

A day at school can be a long one for children and getting outside for fresh air, exercise and fun with friends is vital. We therefore try to ensure that the children are only kept in on days where the conditions pose a risk to safety. We ask that all children come to school each day with a jacket appropriate for the weather and the time of year.

Could all parents please make sure that all books/resources are returned to the school as they are expensive and this is a cost that the school does not need to incur. Please return any books or resources to the school as soon as possible- **no questions asked!!**

Registration of Infant Beginners 2018/2019

Children who attain the age of 5 years between 1 March 2018 and 28 February 2019 should be registered for education during week commencing 15th January 2018. The designated times for registration are: **Monday-Friday 9.30-11.30am and 1.30-2.30pm. Please note that you must bring your child's birth certificate and current council tax notice with you.**

Information for parents about the enrolment of children in schools and details of any placing request procedures, including early entrant requests may be obtained from the school. Parents who wish to defer entry for their child to Primary School and wish to apply for an additional year of part time pre- school education should register their child for school as described above and complete the deferred entry application form. Parents may access a booklet entitled 'Choosing a School' from the Scottish Government's website: www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/11/10093528/0.

We need to know the number of children joining us as soon as possible so that the staffing levels for next year can be calculated. Please help us by spreading the word so that our numbers are accurate at this early stage.

Transfer of pupils to Secondary Education

Application forms for secondary education have been issued to all primary 7 pupils. Parents who decide to make a placing request should send form PC 1(a) direct to Michelle Mullen, Contracts Section, Education, Youth and Communities, Municipal Buildings, Kildonan Street, Coatbridge, ML5 3BT. Please return completed forms to the school as soon as possible.

Free Nursery Places Available Now

Will your child be 3 before 1 March 2019? If so, you should apply for a nursery place. All 3-5 year

olds are entitled to this service. Details of services and application forms can be obtained from any council nursery or council approved independent nursery or by contacting **01236 812281**.

Attendance Matters

Good attendance is vital to ensure continued progress in learning. Please ensure that your child attends school whenever possible and if your child does need to be absent, please let us know.

Our school recorded the following statistics for week ending 1st December 2017.

In Primary 1 almost all children attended school. (98%)

In Primary 2 almost all children attended school. (98%)

In Primary 3 almost all children attended school. (98%)

In Primary 4 almost all children attended school. (97%)

In Primary 5 almost all children attended school. (97%)

In Primary 6 almost all children attended school. (97%)

In Primary 7 almost all children attended school. (97%)



We continue to encourage children to attend school every day and to arrive on time. I would appeal to you to help your child to develop the habit of regular attendance.

Parking

Parking continues to remain a difficult issue in our school. I would urge you to put the safety of our children first. Please avoid parking in the turning circle or disabled spaces (unless you have a badge), and please do not double park around the campus. There should always be free access for emergency vehicles at all times. In anticipation of your full support and co-operation, thank you.

Medication

Any pupil who requires medication must have the appropriate paperwork completed before the medication can be administered in school. All medicines must be in date and properly labelled with the child's name and pharmacy instructions. Parents are reminded of the importance of ensuring their child's medication is in date and is made available to the school.

Sickness

Just a reminder that in accordance with the public health guidelines, children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms should be excluded until they have NO symptoms for 48 hours after an episode of diarrhoea/and/or vomiting.

We recognise that children can often feel well within themselves long before they are symptom free for 48 hours, however they can remain infectious to others. We would be extremely grateful for your support to try and reduce the number of instances of infection / re-infection and best protect the health and wellbeing of all children and staff by observing the appropriate exclusion period if your child is unwell.

Head lice: Please remember to check your child's head on a regular basis for any signs of infection. It is no longer the role of the school nurse to do this. The school can no longer inform parents of any outbreaks of head lice. Advice given by the school nurse is that checks should be made on a weekly/fortnightly basis. If a child has head lice, they should be treated before returning to school. Please seek advice from your local Pharmacist or G.P about which treatments are most effective. Further information is available from www.onceaweektakeapeek.com.

Water bottles

Pupils are encouraged to bring water bottles to school. Pupils are permitted to take these into class, provided they are filled with plain, still water and do not become a distraction to learning. There is a

water machine located on both floors of the building where pupils can refill their bottles throughout the day.

Parent Council Matters

Our joint campus Christmas Fayre held on Sunday 27th November was a major success and raised over £1000 for school funds. I would like to thank members of our parent council for organising this event and to everyone concerned for supporting our school community. As always, we plan to use this money to the benefit of the children.

The date of the next Parent Council meeting is **Wednesday 7th February 2018 at 7pm** in the staff room.

Adverse Weather Conditions

You will be aware that severe adverse weather conditions can cause major disruption throughout North Lanarkshire. In the event of such conditions, parents are advised to check www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk for the latest information and news about school closures. **Please ensure that we have the latest telephone number of your emergency contacts so that we can keep in touch with you.** Parents should make their arrangements taking account of the following responsibilities:

- Travel to and from school may be difficult. Parents should check that their children can get to and from school safely before they set out.
- Some transport may not operate normally. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that children are uplifted from school. Parental arrangements should take into account notified and unexpected cancellations.

We recognise that the continuity of learning for your child is of extreme importance. The school has planned a range of learning activities and experiences for the core subject areas of Curriculum for Excellence using the experiences and outcomes. In the event of a school closure this work can be accessed from the school website.

Winter Access Routes to the School Building - The janitor(s) will prioritise the clearing/gritting of paths and access routes to the school building.

1. The main school gate to the front entrance of the school.
2. The pupil access gate for Cumbernauld Primary to the first door entrance.
3. All other pupil access doors from the school playground.

Please note the school mobile number is **07903939190**.

Changes to Grape Provision

Recently we have received a number of enquiries from parents regarding the provision of whole grapes to our pupils, in particular our Primary 1 pupils. This seems to have been highlighted during our transition days.

We have conducted a thorough consultation regarding this issue and have taken advice from our inspectors. Although there is no legislative guidance within the School Implementation Guide regarding cutting grapes before they are served, there is advice within the early years' guidance- Setting the Table that grapes should be vertically halved when served to this year group. Although the guidance is only applicable to Primary 1, we appreciate that during service some of the P1s can also

come in to the canteen with other year groups. (P2 & P3). Accordingly the rule will be to provide cut grapes for P1-P3.

Some schools may not be able to provide this due to staffing constraints and therefore the service of grapes may be limited or removed.

We appreciate that we have not had any incidences with grapes in the past, but given the media attention and potential risk grapes can pose, this is the safest move. These measures are now effective as of Monday 4 December 2017.

End of term

School closes for the holidays on Friday 22nd December at 230pm and re-opens on Monday 8th January 2018 at 9am.



And Finally...

I would like to thank everyone for another successful year at Cumbernauld Primary. Thank you to the staff I have in the school for their hard work and dedication to the children. Thanks to all of you, our pupils, families and friends for your ongoing care and support.

Thank you for your continued support of the school. As always, if any matter gives you as a parent/carer cause for concern, please do not hesitate to let me, or a member of the staff team know. We operate an 'open door' policy in our school for our parents.

With renewed best wishes,

E CLINTON

(Head Teacher)