



**Cumbernauld Primary School**  
**March Newsletter 2019**  
**01236 632110**



**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,

### **Head Teacher's Message**

As we continue to progress towards the spring break it has been good to notice that the mornings and evenings are getting lighter again. Last month, our primary 1 pupils organised a superb Valentine's tea for their parents and it was a great success.

Thank you to our Parent Council for organising another very successful joint family fun night with our campus partners- St Andrew's Primary. I hope you enjoy this latest update on our school developments.

### **SSNA- Scottish National Standardised Assessments**

Pupils in P1, P4 and P7 will be assessed in reading, writing and maths using a standardised assessment. This is the second year these particular assessments will be used in our school. 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 2019.



### **Snapshot Jotters- Keeping you involved and informed about learning**

I hope you enjoyed the opportunity of seeing your child's progress in their Snapshot Jotters prior to the parental consultations. The jotter included some more recent examples of your child's progress in language, mathematics and topic work. The class teacher provided you with an information letter outlining the purpose and content of the work. As always, we value your feedback, so please do let us know what you think of this method of keeping you involved in your child's learning.

### **School Improvement Plan**

In total we have three priorities in our Improvement Plan. Our priorities are driven by the National Improvement Framework (NIF) which sets out the vision and priorities for Scottish Education. The NIF priorities are:

1. Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy
2. Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children
3. Improvement in children and young people's health and well being
4. Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school-leaver destinations for all young people.

Our current school improvement plan focuses on the improvement of attainment and achievement in literacy and numeracy as well as improving the wellbeing of our pupils.

## Pupil Equity Update (PEF)

As you will know, Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) is money given directly to schools to use to improve attainment particularly for those children whom poverty may be considered a barrier to achievement.

All schools are allocated funding based on a calculation of how many children receive free schools meals. It is really important that all parents/carers who are entitled to this benefit do apply.

The school continues to work with staff, pupils and parents to spend this additional funding. We have been spending in line with our School Improvement Plan priorities of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. Three acting Principal Teachers were appointed to support our plans- Mrs Craig, Mrs Kerr and Mrs MacKenzie. We also appointed Mrs Brett to provide additional teaching cover to release Mrs Craig from her class commitment.

## Parental Consultations- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019

You will now have received an appointment from your child's class teacher(s). Meetings with the teachers will be held in the school hall but the class bays will be open to you to look round, and some examples of your child's learning will be out for you to view. In the final term, staff will prepare end of year reports. The format has been refreshed and streamlined following advice from the local authority. Your child's end of year report will be issued in June 2019.

## Good Work Wall



We have displayed work in the foyer of the school that reflects a good standard. We reckon this standard should be attainable by most pupils at each stage. You will find examples of literacy, numeracy and interdisciplinary learning across all stages of the school. Please take a few minutes to have a look at this board, the next time you visit the school.

## Health Update

We have a number of children with allergies to nuts. **It is essential that no nut products** including food like Nutella are brought into school. Some chocolate bars also contain nuts and I would be very grateful if you could check what you give your child for snacks and packed lunches.

If your child has a medically confirmed allergy to nuts or any other food type you must inform us immediately and provide us with an **Anaphylaxis or Allergy Action Plan** from your doctor / hospital and the appropriate medication.

Parents of children with food allergies who wish a school meal must contact the school office to request a medical diet form. This form should be completed by the child's dietician and sent to catering services who will arrange for special meals should they be required.

In addition, if your child has asthma we need an **Asthma Action Plan**.

## Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Care

Our enterprising P5a pupils decided to support this local charity as part of their learning and have gained vital skills related to life and work. They held a very successful whole school event on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March to fundraise for this community based charity. The class successfully raised £877 Well done. You can see some more action shots on our website.



## Internet Safety

This year, as part of Safer Internet Day 2019, we hosted an NSPCC information session for parents on keeping their children safe online. One of the easiest and most effective ways to keep your child safe online is to talk to your child about what they enjoy spending their time doing online.

If you are concerned about your child's safety online, please visit NSPCC Online for advice about how to start a conversation about online safety with your child. Here you can also find useful videos and tips on being, "Share Aware", parental controls and ideas to create your own family agreement.

## Mobile Phones

As you are aware, our policy for mobile phones is that children are allowed to have them as long as they are switched off and kept in school bags at all times during the school day. Pupils have been reminded of our expectations regarding the use of mobile phones. This also applies to children attending our Breakfast Club service.

## Jewellery

May I respectfully remind you that no jewellery should be worn during P.E lessons. this includes small stud earrings.

## Responsible Citizens

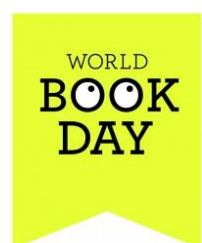
Cumbernauld Primary is uniting with schools across Scotland, the rest of the UK and the wider world by supporting Earth Hour 2019. Millions of people from across the world will come together and turn their lights off for one hour on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 8.30pm.** This is a great opportunity to show your support for our planet.

## Parent Council News

The date of the next meeting is Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7pm. Please do come along and join us. You can contact members of the Parent Council via email-[cumbernauldprimarypc@gmail.com](mailto:cumbernauldprimarypc@gmail.com)

## New Primary 1 - August 2019

Thank you to our House Captains who represented the school at a recent meeting for our new P1 pupils. They did a fantastic job and our prospective parents were suitably impressed by them. Well done! Mrs Hart, our Depute Head Teacher, will be hosting a series of storytelling sessions for our new primary 1 pupils during this month.



### World Book Day 2019- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Every child in the school was issued with their World Book Day book token. These should be taken to a bookseller and swapped for a **BRILLIANT £1** book or used to get £1 off any book or audio book worth £2.99 or more. Thank you to our Primary 2/3 class who organised this very successful day in school.

Here are some websites you might find useful to encourage your child with reading:



**Booktrusted:** [www.booktrusted.co.uk/education](http://www.booktrusted.co.uk/education) has a list of recommended books.

**UK Children's Books:** [www.childrensbooks.co.uk](http://www.childrensbooks.co.uk) you will find links to authors, illustrators and publishers websites.

**Scottish Book Trust:** [www.scottishbooktrust.com](http://www.scottishbooktrust.com) has a books section where you can search the books database and find out the latest new books.

**Oxford Owl:** [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk) help your child's reading, includes over 250 e-books suitable for children aged 3-11, with a variety of activities and advice.

### Polite Reminder

Please note that **pupils are not** permitted to exit the building at **lunchtime or at home time** unless they are accompanied by a responsible adult. This procedure is essential to ensure all children are collected safely from our school building. Thank you for your support.

### Car Parking

Parking in and around the joint campus continues to cause some concern. As a school we send regular reminders to parents about the importance of safe and responsible driving behaviours. However, recently and more worryingly, some children are being dropped off and then running across the car park unattended. Although staff cautiously enter/exit the car park, this situation is extremely dangerous and there could be a serious accident. Please can I ask for everyone's support to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our pupils.



### North Lanarkshire Cross Country Events

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the recent cross country event. The children showed good sportsmanship, resilience and commitment and we are very proud of everyone who took part. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported the children. You'll find some action shots and an update from the event on the school website.

### Recognising and Celebrating Achievement

Gaining recognition for the wide range of achievements can increase pupil confidence, raise their aspirations, improve motivation for learning and keep them engaged in education. In our school we recognise and celebrate achievements in all contexts for learning, through:

- The ethos and life of the school
- Curriculum areas and subjects
- Interdisciplinary learning
- Opportunities for personal achievement

### Star Pupils



The following children were awarded with a Head Teacher's certificate at our monthly assembly for February: **P1A-** Rosie F and Hanna H **P1B-** Aaron B and Fallyn M **P2A-** Alex McT and Aria McG **P2B-** Rebekah McD and Tavia L **P2/3-** Abbie F and Danica T **P3-** Eilidh B and Oliver S **P3/4-** Ella G and

Rahul K P4- Katie I and Benjamin S P5A- Rio M and Ava T P5B- Lauren A and Sophia A P6A- Adam D and Rohan K P6B- Elizabeth M and Mackenzie R P7A- Shahed C and Kai S and P7B- Alasdair W and Marlie J.

### Lost Property

Lost property can be an ongoing problem for most schools. Each day pupils misplace or lose items of school uniform and clothing. Please be assured that our staff make every effort to ensure that your child comes home with his/her belongings and that, if things are lost, we try to find them. The most recently found items are kept by the janitor. Our office staff are always happy to be of assistance. Please continue to encourage your child(ren) to look after their belongings.

### Attendance Matters

As you are aware Scottish Government has set **98%** attendance as a target for all children in Scottish Schools. Our school recorded the following statistics for week ending 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Regular attendance at school is vital to ensure continued progress in learning.

In Primary 1 almost all children attended school. (99%)

In Primary 2 most children attended school. (89%)

In Primary 3 almost all children attended school. (94%)

In Primary 4 **all** children attended school. (100%)

In Primary 5 almost all children attended school. (95%)

In Primary 6 almost all children attended school. (96%)

In Primary 7 almost all children attended school. (96%)

Overall school average: 96%- almost all pupils attended school.



In developing their role as responsible citizens all children are encouraged to arrive at school punctually, both in the morning and after the lunch break. There are an increasing number of children who do not arrive at school in time to line up and enter the building with their class. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that late attendance is minimised where possible. Any children who are late and have to enter school through reception, will be recorded as late on the register.

Parents/carers are reminded that if a child is to be absent from school for any reason to let the office know, promptly each day, and preferably before registration at 9am. If the school cannot account for your child's absence, the office staff will, in the first instance contact parents/carers. If no answer, staff will then try to reach your nominated emergency contacts.

### Key dates for your Diary

Parental Consultations: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019. (Letter issued with the arrangements)

Daffodil Tea: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019. (Letter issued with the arrangements for P1 and P4 parents.)

Spring holiday: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019 inclusive. Please note that the school closes on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 2.30pm.

Good Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and Easter Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. (school closed)

House Morning: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Parent Council Meeting: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7pm.

Local holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019

In-service day: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019 (school closed)

Parent Council Summer Discos: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Local holiday: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Parent Council Meeting: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7pm

Primary 7 Graduation: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019 (am)

Primary 7 Leavers Dance: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 (Dullatur Golf Club) 7-930pm

Summer holiday: School closes on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any worries or concerns about your child. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

E CLINTON

(Head Teacher)