



Cumbernauld Primary School

August Newsletter 2019

Telephone: 01236 632110

Email: enquiries@cumbernauld-pri.n-lanark.sch.uk

Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/cumbernauldprimary/>

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.

Welcome to all of our new and returning families. I hope you have had a great holiday and return to school refreshed and enthused about the year ahead. We are looking forward to new opportunities and experiences to further develop our love of learning, skills and knowledge. It has been a pleasure to welcome our new P1 children into our school community, and I look forward to getting to know them. Your child's class teacher will be working with the children to involve them in the planning of topics and aspects of their learning.

Our first newsletter always contains some important reminders of procedures, which are necessary to comply with health and safety regulations and to ensure the smooth running in the administration of the school.

You will receive a consent form that will be used as an overall permission slip for all educational trips and outings throughout this session. You will continue to be provided with information about trips out of school but a set of consent forms will be kept to avoid having to produce, complete and collect a new set every time children leave the school grounds. It is therefore very important that you keep us updated if any details change.

Last session, all parents (P2-P7) completed an 'ICT Acceptable Use Policy and Permission' form indicating whether you gave permission for your child's photograph to appear on the school website. We have a note of your returns. If you have changed your permission please contact the school office.

SCHOOL STAFF AND CLASSES (August 2019)

Head Teacher- Mr E Clinton

Depute Head Teacher- Mrs J Hart

Principal Teacher- Mrs E Gillespie

Principal Teacher- Mrs J Kinnear

P1a- Mrs H Kerr

P1b- Mrs R Canning and Mrs K Steven

P1c- Mrs L Wares

P2a- Miss E Richmond

P2b- Mrs J Kinnear (PT)

P3a- Mrs N Simmonette

P3b- Mrs C Allison

P4- Mrs D Cardle and Mrs F Gillooly

P4/5- Mrs R Curran

P5- Mrs S MacKenzie

P6a- Mrs D Brett

P6b- Mrs E Gillespie (PT)

P7a- Mrs L Coutts and Miss L White

P7b- Mrs A Ogilvie

Mrs C Craig

Teacher's non class contact cover- Miss M Rafferty and Miss L Connelly

* As you may remember, all teachers are allocated time out of class – up to 2 ½ hours per week for preparation and marking

Senior Clerical Assistant- Mrs E Marshall

Clerical Assistant- Mrs SA Cassidy

Classroom Assistant- Mrs M Kiernan

Support Assistants- Mrs S Cooper, Mrs L Lynas, Mrs C Nightingale and Mrs A Nimmo

Janitor- Mr P Gibb

Janitor/Cleaner- Ms S Glasgow

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2019/20

In line with local and national priorities, the school has set the following improvement priorities for this session:

1. Continue to improve pupils' attainment and achievements in reading and writing.
2. Continue to improve attainment and achievements in numeracy and mathematics.
3. Continue to improve children and young people's health and wellbeing, with a particular focus on whole school nurture, emotional, psychological and social wellbeing and parental engagement.

Our improvement plan also outlines details of how we intend to spend the Pupil Equity Fund to raise attainment and narrow the poverty-related attainment gap. Further details of our improvement plan will be sent out to parents, following approval from Education and Families.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

We are always looking for ways to improve our school and welcome your views at any time during the course of the year. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the ways in which you can communicate these:

- Open Door Policy- We are always pleased to speak to anyone who calls at the school.
- Drop In Learning Festival- Is an opportunity for you to meet with our wonderful staff and learn about the curriculum, teaching methods, additional support interventions and lots more.
- Primary 1 Workshop- Is an opportunity for new parents to learn about ways to support their child's learning at home. You will also gain insight into how your child learns to read, write, spell and add.
- Homework- Regular information is provided by the class teacher.
- Parents' Meetings- Are usually held in October and March of each session.
- Reports- An annual report is written by your child's teachers and is issued at the end of the session. There is always a comments sheet provided to enable you to provide us with feedback.
- Parent Council- Are looking for new members and are always keen to hear your views. They meet on a monthly basis. They organise social and fundraising events for the school.
- Newsletters- You will receive regular newsletters from the school to keep you informed of the latest news and developments.
- What we are Learning- Your child will bring home a sheet to outline plans for his/her learning each term.
- SMS text messaging/email- We use this to communicate with you. Please ensure that the school has your latest mobile number and email address.
- School website and blogs.
- Periodic questionnaires and ideas for the school improvement plan.
- Telephone and email.

If you have any further ideas for ways you think we could communicate with yourselves please do not hesitate to let us know.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

It is really important that you let us know if your child is going to be off school, the reason, and the expected length of absence. We are aiming for 98% attendance for each child in line with national expectations set by Scottish Government. We are always working hard to improve our attendance and late coming statistics.

DID YOU KNOW?

90% attendance = $\frac{1}{2}$ day missed every week

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons missed!

Late coming can also have a negative impact on your child's learning and progress.

If in a school year your child is late every day by....	Your child will have lost approximately ...	They will have approximately missed...
5 minutes	3.5 days from school	20 lessons
10 minutes	7 days from school	40 lessons
15 minutes	10 days from school	55 lessons
20 minutes	14.5 days from school	80 lessons
30 minutes	22 days from school	120 lessons

PARENT COUNCIL MATTERS

Our Parent Council met on 21st August for the first meeting of the term and have already been planning some exciting activities for the remainder of the year. Check out their Facebook page (Cumbernauld PS Official Parent Forum) for all of the event details and information on how to get involved in supporting our school.

HOMEWORK

Your child will be issued with a 'Homework Sheet' outlining their tasks for an agreed period of time. Homework tasks will reflect the ongoing class work of the class and personalisation and choice tasks are provided to enable the children to be more involved in their own learning. I have outlined below some general guidance about how long the teacher expects **most** children at the various stages to complete homework tasks.

Stage	Approximate time	Given out/returned
P1-P2	1 hour per week	Details of tasks will be outlined on the Homework Sheet. The class teacher will notify parents about the arrangements for when homework is to be returned.
P3-P5	1.5 hours per week	
P6-P7	2 hours per week	

Some general tips for supporting learning at home

- Listen, talk and encourage- this can have a big influence on children's learning.
- Encourage your child to talk to you about their learning and what learning is happening at school.
- Talk to your child about their strengths and interests and how they are progressing.
- Encourage your child to talk to you about their next steps in learning.
- Ask for help if you think your child needs it for any reason.
- Praise your child if he/she is working hard at something or has achieved something within or out of school.
- Encourage your child to read widely for enjoyment.
- Encourage your child to participate in activities, for example hobbies or clubs which will provide opportunities to develop a range of skills.
- Help them work on tasks on their own and then talk about it with you afterwards.

(Source: www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone/learningathome/whatcanidoasaparent/index.asp)

RESPECT PROGRAMME

As part of our strategy to encourage positive attitudes to learning we operate “**RESPECT**” to ensure a consistent approach across the school. This programme aims to raise the self-esteem of our children. The main components of the programme are:

- ✓ I respect my learning
- ✓ I respect my potential
- ✓ I respect myself
- ✓ I respect others
- ✓ I respect my community
- ✓ I respect my environment

All children in our school are encouraged to earn a block of “**ME**” time. The children are able to choose a special activity each Friday afternoon and will take part for the amount of time they have earned.

FOURS HOUSES- ONE FAMILY!

Rewarding positive behaviour is an integral part of our life and work. The house system is just one of the ways we do this but it involves our whole school community.

Every child in the school is assigned to a house and remains a member of that house throughout their time with us. Each house has members of staff allocated to them. Through nomination and voting the children adopt leadership roles to serve as captains or vice captains for each house. For your information the houses are:

- **OAK**- all children in this house wear a **RED** badge
- **HAWTHORN**- all children in this house wear a **GREEN** badge
- **BEECH**- all children in this house wear a **BLUE** badge
- **SYCAMORE**- all children in this house wear a **YELLOW** badge.

The date of our first house morning is **Friday 4th October 2019.**

UNIFORM

We encourage our pupils to wear the following school uniform:

- Grey trousers/skirt
- Grey cardigan or V-neck pullover
- White shirt and school tie
- Black blazer and school badge (optional)
- Red waterproof fleece lined jacket (optional)

HEAD LICE

Please remember to check your child’s head on a regular basis for any signs of infection. 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.

P.E KIT

Please make sure your child comes prepared for Physical Education with their gym kit. (shorts, t-shirt and soft shoes). All jewellery must be removed during lessons, as there are health and safety implications. Pupils may only be withdrawn from physical education if they bring a letter to school, signed by you explaining why they should be withdrawn. Thank you in advance for your full support. Physical Education is delivered through indoor and outdoor sessions. We sometimes receive coaching from outside agencies to enhance our experiences and improve our skills. For your information, I have outlined below the day that your child will have their P.E lessons.

Primary 1a	(indoor)- Wednesday (outdoor)- Friday	Primary 4	(indoor)- Tuesday (outdoor)- Thursday
Primary 1b	(indoor)- Wednesday (outdoor)- Friday	Primary 4/5	(indoor)- Thursday (outdoor)- Tuesday
Primary 1c	(indoor)- Tuesday (outdoor)- Wednesday	Primary 5	(indoor)- Monday (outdoor)- Thursday
Primary 2a	(indoor)- Friday (outdoor)- Tuesday	Primary 6a	(indoor)- Monday (outdoor)- Friday
Primary 2b	(indoor)- Tuesday (outdoor)- Tuesday	Primary 6b	(indoor)- Wednesday (outdoor)- Friday
Primary 3a	(indoor)- Tuesday (outdoor)- Thursday	Primary 7a	(indoor)- Wednesday (outdoor)- Friday
Primary 3b	(indoor)- Monday (outdoor)- Friday	Primary 7b	(indoor)- Tuesday (outdoor)- Monday

SCHOOL SECURITY

Our aim is to ensure that our school is safe, happy, welcoming and secure for everyone.

- We ask staff and children to think carefully about their own safety.
- We lock children's entrances after the start of the school day.
- We ask all visitors to sign in and out and to wear a 'visitor' badge in the school or school grounds.
- We ask all staff to wear identification badges.
- We ask all visitors to follow carefully the directional signs both inside and outside the building.
- We ask you to let us know if you see anyone acting suspiciously near our school.
- We ask you to share with us any ideas you may have to make our school safer.

And in particular we ask everyone to be patient – good security can be frustrating!

To ensure good security, I would ask all parents to report to the school office if they wish to speak to their child during the school day. All visitors must report to the school office in the first instance. Parents or carers should not enter any of the teaching bays without prior permission from a member of the management team.

North Lanarkshire Council also has clear guidance in relation to dogs on school property. The only dogs permitted to be in the school playground at any time are guide dogs.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about our school procedures for collecting your child/ren during the school day. If a child needs to be taken out of school, a parent or guardian must phone or provide a letter explaining the reason for the child being removed from the school, the date and time at which the child will be collected and the name and relationship of the person who will collect the child. Please note without the aforementioned phone call or letter, staff in the school may not release the child until the parent or guardian is contacted. In the event that it is not the parent/guardian with whom the child resides with on a day-to-day basis who is collecting the child, we will require prior notice. This is in line with North Lanarkshire guidelines and the school's duty of care to children and their parents. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to keep their contact details, and their emergency contact details, up to date. When children are collected you, or the adult you have nominated will be required to sign your child out of school. Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation in this matter.

END OF DAY ROUTINE

Could you please stress to your child that if you, at any time, and for any reason, you do not manage to the school gate for them at 3pm they must return to the school office. Staff will then wait for a little while before trying contact a parent or your designated emergency contact. If you are running late or for any reason that you are unable to collect your child, please contact the school office before 2.45pm as it is extremely difficult to find children after the bell has rung.

SCHOOL BUSES

“It is essential that you encourage your child to behave properly and safely when boarding, travelling on the transport and alighting from it. Misbehaviour could result in your child losing the right to transport. The responsibility of ensuring safe and acceptable behavior remains yours while your child is travelling in the vehicle provided.

For all school contracts within North Lanarkshire Council, where a seat belt is provided there is a requirement for the pupil(s) to use the restraint and to remain seated during the journey.”

PRIMARY 1 WORKSHOP

We have planned a workshop for **Primary 1 parents only**. This will take place on **Wednesday 18th September at 6pm**. This will provide an opportunity for you to meet the teacher and find out more about teaching methods to support learning at this stage of your child’s development.

PRIMARY 5 SWIMMING

Primary 5 pupils are about to start a block of swimming lessons at the Tryst. A huge thank you must go to our Parent Council who have supported our efforts to ensure our pupils continue to have the opportunity to learn to swim- an essential life-saving skill. Thank you for your very generous contribution towards the cost of the buses.

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.

MOBILE PHONES

Pupils have been reminded that all mobile phones should be switched off at the school gates on entering the premises and switched on after exiting the school grounds. They must not be used to photograph or film anyone in school. Please be aware that children who do not follow these rules may have their phones taken from them and returned to their parents by a member of the management team. The school office phone should be used if a child requires to make contact with a parent or carer during the school day.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Parents will have received a letter from Mrs Hart, about our arrangements for this service. If you have any questions about our breakfast service, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

LOST PROPERTY

There continues to be a huge amount of lost property in the school. Teachers will continue to remind children to gather all their belongings at the end of each day, but parents and carers can assist by ensuring that names are on all items of clothing/property and by encouraging your child to take responsibility for his or her belongings. There is also a lost property area at the front of the school. Parents are welcome to come and reclaim any of the items from there. Unclaimed and items without names will be cleared out periodically and donated to charity. Our aim is to keep our school as tidy as possible and create a safe and pleasant learning environment.

SPARE CLOTHES

We try to keep a supply of underwear, skirts, trousers, shirts and socks in school in case any of our younger children have accidents. Should you have any unused school clothing which is in good condition, we would appreciate if you would consider sending these to school to help stock up our supply for emergencies!

GENERAL REMINDERS

- Please consider others and follow parking restrictions when dropping off and collecting your child from school. The main car park is for staff, visitors and nursery parking only. You may wish to consider using the parking spaces at Craighalbert Church when dropping off or collecting your child from school
- In the morning the school gates will be opened and supervised by the janitor until 9.10am and children should enter the school in this way. Any child who arrives beyond this time should report directly to the school office. At 3pm please collect your child from the main gate or an agreed meeting point.
- Pupils are encouraged to cycle or scoot safely to school. There is a rack in the playground where bikes and scooters should be stored throughout the day. Pupils are advised to have a lockable chain. Bikes and scooters must not be ridden inside the school playground at anytime
- Cumbernauld Primary is a Nut Free Zone. We have a number of children who have nut allergy and as you know, this can be very serious for them. Please do not send nuts or food items containing nuts for snacks or packed lunch with your child.

HOW TO CONTACT US

(t) 01236 632110 (e) enquiries@cumbernauld-pri.n-lanark.sch.uk

The email account will be checked daily in the morning before registers are completed and again in the afternoon. We aim to reply to enquiries/requests on the same day, but this may not always be possible.

I enclose with this newsletter:

- Key dates for your diary
- School Holiday Arrangements for Session 2019/20

We are always grateful to our parents and partners who support the school in a range of ways, helping us to provide such a rich learning experience for our young people. I thank you on behalf of the children for your continued support.

Please feel free to get in touch should you need clarification on any item included in our newsletter.

With renewed best wishes,

E CLINTON

Head Teacher

Date(s)	Event(s)
18 th September 2019	Meeting for P1 Parents (only) at 6pm
25 th September 2019	Parent Council AGM at 7pm
3 rd October 2019	Parental Consultations
4 th October 2019	House Morning- children to dress in house colours (£1 for school funds)
30 th October 2019	Parent Council Hallow'een Discos
20 th November 2019	Parent Council Meeting at 7pm
22 nd November 2019	House Morning- children to dress in house colours (£1 for school funds) Snapshot jotters issued to parents
24 th November 2019	Parent Council Christmas Fair (Joint)
10 th & 11 th December 2019	P1-P3 Joint Campus Performances for Christmas
12 th December 2019	Christmas Lunch (P1-P3 pupils)
13 th December 2019	Christmas Lunch (P4 & P5 pupils)
16 th December 2019	Christmas Lunch (P6 & P7 pupils)
3 rd -7 th February 2020	P7 pupils to Kilbowie
5 th February 2020	Parent Council Meeting at 7pm
14 th February 2020	House Morning- children to dress in house colours (£1 for school funds)
21 st February 2020	Snapshot jotters issued to parents Parent Council Family Fun Night
26 th February 2020	New P1 parents Q and A Event
5 th March 2020	World Book Day Celebrations
19 th March 2020	Parental Consultations
30 th & 31 st March 2020	Joint Daffodil Tea (pm) – P1 & P4 parents
24 th April 2020	House Morning- children to dress in house colours (£1 for school funds)
29 th April 2020	New P1 intake tour of school Parent Council Meeting at 7pm
21 st May 2020	Sports Day P4-P7 am Sports Day P1-P3 pm
30 th May 2020	Parent Council Summer Event
19 th June 2020	P7 Graduation (am) Annual Reports to Parents issued
22 nd June 2020	P7 Leavers Dance at Dullatur Golf Club 7-9.30pm)

*** Please note that dates are confirmed at the time of printing and may still be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Regular updates will be provided in our monthly newsletters.**

Cumbernauld Primary School Holiday Dates 2019/20

August 2019

In-service day: Monday 12 August 2019

In-service day: Tuesday 13 August 2019

Pupils return to school: Wednesday 14 August 2019

September 2019

September weekend holidays: Friday 27 September 2019 and Monday 30 September 2019

October 2019

October break: Monday 14 October 2019 to Friday 18 October 2019

November 2019

In-service day: Monday 18 November 2019

In-service day: Tuesday 19 November 2019

December 2019 - January 2020

Christmas and New Year holidays: Friday 20 December 2019 to Friday 3 January 2020 (inclusive)

Please note that the school will close at 2.30pm on Thursday 19th December 2019.

February 2020

Mid-term break: Monday 10 February 2020 and Tuesday 11 February 2020

In-service day: Wednesday 12 February 2020

In-service day: Thursday 13 February 2020

March - April 2020

Spring break: Monday 6 April 2020 to Friday 17 April 2020 (inclusive) *^[13]_[SEP] Good Friday 10 April 2020 and Easter Monday 13 April 2020. **Please note that the school will close at 2.30pm on Friday 3rd April 2020**

May 2020

May day holiday: Friday 8 May 2020

In-service day: Monday 11 May 2020

May weekend holiday: Friday 22 and Monday 25 May 2020.

June 2019

School closes Wednesday 24 June 2020 **Please note that the school will close at 1pm.**

