



## Cumbernauld Primary School

January Newsletter 2020

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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.

### **HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE**

Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. The staff team are looking forward to another exciting school term ahead. A new term, brings new challenges and learning experiences for our children. Your child's class teacher will be working with the children to involve them in the planning of topics and aspects of their learning.

We aim to ensure our children and their families feel cared for, and that they have opportunities to contribute to the life and work of the school.

### **PAPERLESS COMMUNICATION**

We have embarked on a journey towards becoming more environmentally friendly and reducing costs to the school. We are using paperless communication whenever possible. This newsletter is an example of such communication. This newsletter is emailed directly to your email address and is available from our school website.

There will still be times when a paper letter will be sent home, such as when there is a tear-off slip to return to the school.

### **TRANSITION TO SECONDARY EDUCATION**

I have been advised of the following dates from our associated secondary school, Cumbernauld Academy:

- Monday 18 May – Wednesday 20 May (inclusive)

Greenfaulds High has set the following dates for transition:

- Thursday 28 May and Friday 29 May.

I hope this information is helpful to our P7 parents.

### **KILBOWIE**

Our Primary 7 pupils are looking forward to their residential trip at the start of next month. I will issue a letter to parents, detailing the arrangements for this excursion and the staff who will be accompanying the children.

### **LUNCH OPTIONS REMINDER**

We would like to remind everyone that chicken sandwiches are not available on Tuesdays and Fridays. Cheese and tuna are available every day as normal.

## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Doors open at 8.15am and Breakfast Club is free for children in P1-P3 (and P4-P7 children who are in receipt of a free school meal.) I would like to remind everyone that there is an expectation that children eat breakfast when they arrive. Pupils can choose from toast, cereal, fruit and drinks.

## **HOMEWORK PILOT**

As you will be aware, we decided to pilot a new approach to homework last term. There is some evidence to suggest that traditional homework tasks may have limited impact on children's learning. <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework-primary/> ).

We are also aware that some families may find 'homework time' a source of stress and we are keen to promote and support family time.

The class teacher will continue to provide parents with a Home Learning Information Sheet, along with suggestions on how best to support learning out of school.

## **NURTURING SCHOOL**

During this session and beyond, we are developing our understanding of, and approaches to nurture with the support of our Educational Psychologist, Elspeth Singleton.

Nurture is about creating a warm, caring and accepting environment which helps to develop positive relationships and resilience and aims to reduce stress and anxiety; thus creating the right conditions for our children to learn and develop.

The six principles of nurture are:

1. Children's learning is understood developmentally
2. The classroom offers a safe base
3. Nurture is important for the development of self-esteem
4. All behavior is communication
5. Language is understood as a vital means of communication
6. Transitions are significant in the lives of children

## **TRADING CARDS**

We advise that children **do not** bring trading cards to school. Although we appreciate children enjoy playing with them, they can cause distress when they go missing or children regret exchanging particular cards. It can be very difficult for staff to work out what has happened in such situations, therefore cannot get involved in settling disputes. Thank you for your support with this matter.

## **TRAFFIC AROUND THE CAMPUS**

We continue to remind everyone to follow parking restrictions when dropping off and collecting their children from school. We ask that all parents/carers and road users take the utmost care when driving and parking around the school grounds to ensure the safety of our pupils. Please **do not** double park at the drop off point or park in the turning circle, this area is for school buses only. These measures are very important and necessary to ensure the safety of all service users.

There are three designated disabled parking spaces in the car park. Please remember that parking in disabled parking bays is only permissible if you hold a blue badge.

It has been brought to my attention that some vehicles around the joint campus are engine idling. Please can I respectfully ask you to turn your engines off to reduce the effects of pollution to the environment and more importantly our children. Thank you for your support.

## **ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

There are 365 days in a year, but only 190 school days! We are always aiming for 100% attendance.

**190 days in school – Perfect Attendance (100%)**

**180 days in school – 2 weeks missed 95%**

**This level of attendance gives your child the best possible chance of making good progress and having success in their learning.**

**171 days in school – 4 weeks missed (90%)**

**161 days in school – 6 weeks missed (85%)**

**This level of attendance will make it more difficult for your child to make good progress in their learning.**

**152 days in school – 8 weeks missed (80%)**

**143 days in school- 10 weeks missed (75%)**

**This level of attendance is a cause for concern. It will be difficult for your child to make good progress in their learning.**

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 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019**.

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

In Primary 2 almost all children attended school. (91%)

In Primary 3 almost all children attended school. (96%)

In Primary 4 almost all children attended school. (98%)

In Primary 5 almost all children attended school. (99%)

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

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

Average attendance across the 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 and good time keeping.

## **CLUSTER PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**

Cumbernauld Academy is hosting a parent council meeting for our cluster.(Abronhill PS, Carbrain PS, Kildrum PS & Whitelees PS). This is planned for **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020** at 6.45pm. Please do come along and join us.

## **PRIMARY 1 – AUGUST 2020**

We have enrolled children who are due to start school in August 2020. If you have still to enroll your child, please contact the school as soon as possible. This is really important, as this affects our staffing levels for the new session.

We have organised an informal meeting for parents and carers of children who are due to start Primary 1 in August 2020. This is planned for **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 6pm.**

## **SCHOOL GATES**

The area around the school gates can become very busy at the beginning and end of the school day. We kindly ask that parents and carers who are dropping off or collecting their children, ensure that they leave a path for children to come in and out through the gate safely. **For the security of all children we ask that no unauthorised adults enter the playground.**

## **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.

## **KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **February 2020**

- P7 Kilbowie- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>- Friday 7<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Council Meeting- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>
- Local holiday – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>
- INSET days- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>
- House Morning- Friday 14<sup>th</sup>
- Snapshot Jotters issued- Friday 28<sup>th</sup>

### **March 2020**

- Parental Consultations- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>
- Daffodil Tea P1 & P4- 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>

### **April 2020**

- School closes at 230pm- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Spring break- Monday 6<sup>th</sup>- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> (inclusive)
- School starts back- Monday 20<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Council Meeting – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>

### **May 2020**

- Local holiday – Friday 8<sup>th</sup>
- INSET day- Monday 11<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Council Discos- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>
- Local holiday- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Monday 25<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Council Summer Fair- 30<sup>th</sup> (TBC)

### **June 2020**

- Reports to Parents- Friday 19<sup>th</sup>
- P7 Graduation- Friday 19<sup>th</sup>
- Leavers' Dance- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>
- School closes at 1pm- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>

## **HOW TO CONTACT US**

(t) 01236 632110 (e) [enquiries@cumbernauld-pri.n-lanark.sch.uk](mailto: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. **Can I remind everyone that all emails should be sent via this email address and not directly to any member of staff.**

If any matter gives you as a parent/carer cause for concern, please do let me, or a member of the staff team know.

**AND FINALLY...**

Thank you for your continued support of all that we do.

With renewed best wishes,

E CLINTON  
(Head Teacher)