



Primary 1B Meet the Teacher 2024



A little bit about me

My name is Miss McCool and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Primary One. I have been a class teacher at Gartcosh Primary for 9 years now. Starting school is a big event for both parents and children. I would like to take the time to assure you that in class your child is happy, settled but most of all having FUN!!

Outside of school I enjoy spending my time outdoors exploring Scotland's beautiful scenery. At the weekend I love going hillwalking with my dog.



Values and classroom ethos

It is important to really get to know the children and to give them valuable time to adapt to their new surroundings. Having a 'soft start' to the school year in Primary 1, allows opportunities for children to transfer skills taught prior to school and ensures a smooth transition as they settle into school life. We encourage the children to show respect and kindness to others, learn to take turns, share fairly, and think about the feelings of other children.

Active Learning

In primary 1, we want the children to find out about things and explore. We want them to play with what they know and be willing to 'have a go' no matter how big or small the challenge.

Our classroom

Our classroom is in the main building. We have two separate P.1 classrooms this year and enjoying spending our time in both classrooms. Our walls are filled with our beautiful bright artwork. We also have space at the back of the classroom for a cosy home corner. Here we like to play with our toys and friends.

What we are learning



Literacy: Each week in class we learn two new focus sounds. In addition, we have weekly spelling words which coincide with our sounds taught and have guided reading sessions throughout the week. To aid our learning in class we do a variety of practical learning activities and written tasks which focus on letter formation. We have also started using our own magnetic boards to make, read and write simple words.

Maths: We are learning to count, write and sequence all our numbers to 10. Ensuring a solid foundation of number work at this stage is key and will lead to future successes within this curricular area as your child progresses through the school. We have had lots of fun making patterns and sorting and matching different things around the class.

Health and Wellbeing: Throughout the year we will cover a variety of learning topics. This term, we will be learning all about 'Percy the Park Keeper'. During this topic we will learn about woodland animals, seasonal change and friendships.

How we work in class

The children are settling in well and are becoming more familiar with the many new routines in class and around the school community. In primary 1, we ensure that play and active learning are central to the children's learning. Building skills through practical problem solving, arts and crafts, provides an environment where children can explore, develop independence, and build relationships with their peers. We have a school 'house points' system where children can earn points for effort, kindness and good manners, as well as the work they do. The children look forward to Golden time each Friday afternoon, where they have the opportunity to choose freely from toys and games in class.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me:

1. Call the school: (01236 794892)
2. Email: enquiries-at-gartcosh@northlan.org.uk

