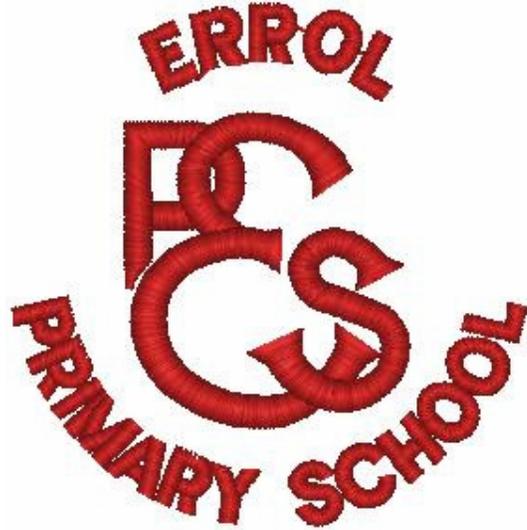


Errol Primary School



Primary One

Parent Induction Information

June 2012

**For more information about our school
please visit**

www.errol.pkc.sch.uk

Welcome to Errol Primary School !

We are all looking forward to working with you and your child. We hope the information in this booklet will be useful to you. If you have any queries not answered here please ask a member of staff. Please help us to improve our induction by completing the parents' response form at the end of this booklet.

The First Day

On the first morning you are welcome to come into the classroom with your child to help them find their table and tray, and to stay with your child for a while before saying goodbye. Please try not to worry if your child becomes a little upset when you leave; this is quite normal and staff are used to dealing with it sensitively. Children almost always settle once parents are away, however should we have any concerns we will contact you. If you wish to take a photo please ensure that no other children are in shot.

The school day

School starts at 9.00 am and finishes at 3.10pm. (P1s finish at 12:35 for the first two weeks of term 1)

Morning Interval is from 10.40am to 10:55am.

Lunchtime is from 12.35pm to 1.30pm.

Please note that the school does not open until 9.00am, the playground is not supervised before school opens and children are not met off the school bus.

Primary One children come in mornings only for the first two weeks of the school session. Thereafter, the pupils will attend full school day session.

School Uniform

School uniform is worn by all Primary One children.

Our school uniform is: black or dark grey trousers/shorts/skirt/pinafore; white shirt/blouse/polo shirt; school tie; dark blue sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan; dark blue & white checked summer dress; black/grey/white socks; black sensible school shoes. School sweatshirts, jackets and polo shirts are available to order from the school office in May & October each year.

All primary school pupils wear school uniform every school day.

All children change from outdoor shoes to indoor shoes on entering the school.

PLEASE PUT YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON ALL CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR.

It is always a good idea to put a plastic bag with a change of underwear in your child's schoolbag in case an accident should occur.

The Curriculum

Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) is taught in Scottish schools to encourage and enable children to become:

- Confident individuals
- Responsible citizens
- Successful learners

- Effective contributors

The curricular areas are: Health and Wellbeing (including PE); Languages (including English, and at P6 & 7, French); Mathematics; Sciences; Social Studies; Expressive Arts; Technologies and RME.

Within CfE there is an emphasis on active learning which includes planned, structured and meaningful learning through play. To provide our pupils with a wide range of interesting and motivating experiences teaching will go beyond the traditional boundaries we are used to and give pupils opportunities to enhance learning from one curricular area using skills developed in another.

You can find out much more about CfE and what it means for your child by visiting our school website at www.errol.pkc.sch.uk and clicking the link to Curriculum for Excellence.

By helping them develop capacities and skills, we aim to encourage children to actively go on learning throughout their lives and be more flexible and resilient in an ever changing world.

Learning to read

The Jolly Phonics scheme is used in learning sounds with an action for each sound. This requires a small amount of work at home each day. Children are usually very keen to practise sounds introduced in class.

Once enough sounds have been learned the children learn to blend these to make words. Word boxes will be sent home containing words in strips to practise. The most common words found in early reading books will be sent home in word walls.

In addition to learning to sound out words children learn to recognise words by sight. Often these words prove very difficult to sound out. Jolly Phonics identify these words as 'Tricky Words' while Cambridge Reading refers to them as 'Sight Vocabulary'.

We use the structured reading scheme 'Cambridge Reading' as one of our resources for helping children learn to read. Early reading books are just as much about learning how to handle books and introducing reading concepts as they are about reading. It is normal for children to tell, or make up, a story from the illustrations in a book, from memory or using clues from rhymes, etc.

You can help to make learning to read fun by reading to your child every day; by teaching your child songs and rhymes; by playing 'I spy' and other word games; by looking at words in the environment such as street names and shop names; and by encouraging your child and praising their efforts. Each child will learn to read at their own pace and it is normal for some children to learn faster than others; what is important is that they do learn to read, not how quickly they learn to read.

Class Groups

For classroom organisation purposes children may be sorted into groups. Please note that grouping in Primary One is determined by a variety of factors and not just by ability.

Going Home

Before coming to school each day please make sure that your child knows what is happening when school finishes e.g. who is picking them up; if they are going home on the school bus; if they are going to Errol Children's Club; if they are going to a friend's house, etc. If you change arrangements please telephone the school to let us know in good time before the end of the school day.

School Bus

Some children are granted school transport to take them to and from school. If your child is travelling to school by the school bus we ask that you frequently remind your child to always wear a seatbelt, not to distract the bus driver and to come straight into the back playground once arriving at school. School staff carry out a register and check the wearing of seatbelts before the buses depart from school, however, school staff are not present on bus journeys and do not meet children off the bus on arrival at school. Please make it clear to your child whether they are to go home on the school bus or not. Where a child is registered to use the school bus but doesn't know what they should do we usually send them home on the bus unless you have telephoned in to say otherwise.

School Houses

Your child will be sorted into one of our School Houses, which they will be a member of for all of their time at primary school. The houses are Carse, Gowrie, Sidlaw and Tay. Where possible, we aim to keep siblings in the same School House.

Absence

If your child is not coming to school please inform us by telephone as soon as possible.

School Office Telephone Number: 01821 642264

When your child returns to school please send them in with a letter signed by you detailing the dates of absence and reason for absence, this is a legal requirement.

If your child does not turn up for school and you haven't informed us we will try to contact you to make sure you know your child is not at school. This measure is part of our Child Protection Procedure to help ensure the safety and well being of each school child.

Term time holidays are always marked in the register as unauthorised absences even if you inform us in advance. It is also not Council policy for children to be issued 'catch up' work to take home or to take on holiday.

If your child is ill please keep your child off until they are fully recovered and fit enough to return to school.

Please inform the school in writing as soon as possible if your child has a contagious illness or a specific medical requirement.

Food & Drink

All children will be given a school water bottle which they keep on their desk and are encouraged to sip from throughout the day. Water bottles are to be taken home every day to be washed and for parents to ensure the bottle has some kind of identifying feature with the child's name on it.

Water bottles should contain only plain water, not fizzy or flavoured water or juice.

Other drinks for morning interval or lunch should remain in school bags or packed lunch boxes. Please note fizzy drinks are not permitted at school.

Children are encouraged to bring fruit for snack rather than sweets or crisps.

A three weekly school dinner menu will be issued to you and this will allow you and your child to decide which days a school dinner is required.

Please put dinner money in a purse or sealed envelope with your child's name, teacher, days they are taking dinner, and amount of money enclosed written clearly on the front. School dinners currently cost £1.80 per day and should be paid on the day the meal is taken or in advance. We are unable to provide meals on credit. It is most useful if dinner money is paid on a Monday for the week ahead.

Vegetarians and children with particular dietary requirements can be catered for, please discuss this with us well in advance.

Forms to apply for free school meals are available from our school office.

Indoor shoes

For health and hygiene reasons children change into black indoor shoes on entering the school. Most children use their black gym shoes but any black indoor shoes will do.

PE Kit

Our PE kit is a plain white t-shirt, black or navy shorts, indoor and outdoor black gym shoes and a bag to keep it all in. **PLEASE NAME ALL CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR.**

PE kits are kept in school and taken home to wash at the end of term or on request.

Jewellery is not part of school uniform, is strongly discouraged and should be removed for gym sessions. Long hair needs to be tied back for gym lessons; please keep a few bobbles in the PE kit bag for this purpose.

Personal Belongings

Children are not encouraged to bring toys into school (unless specifically asked to do so by the teacher) as they distract children from learning. For 'Show & Tell' children may be asked to bring interesting objects, topic related objects, books etc.

Pupils should not bring mobile phones, electronic game consoles or cameras to school.

Homework Packs

Each child will be provided with a Homework Pack which is to be brought to school daily or as instructed by the teacher. Newsletters, leaflets and additional information will be put in homework packs; please check them every day.

Children will be issued with a Homework diary/jotter which will be used to note down work to be done at home. Staff and parents may write encouraging comments and other little notes in the diary which therefore serves as a useful means of communication (for urgent or important messages please telephone the school office). Please supervise all homework and sign diary when homework is completed.

It is important that your child comes to school fully prepared. Please ensure your child has the following items:

Pencil case (clearly labelled); HB pencils; coloured pencils; rubber; sharpener; ruler; and an old shirt (named, please) to use as a painting apron.

Taking Medicine in School

If your child suffers from an illness or allergy please inform the school so that we can respond appropriately if your child becomes ill. We can administer some medicines in school if parents complete the relevant form available from the school.

Please also let school staff know if your child's medical information changes throughout the year so that our information is always current.

RME

Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, 'Any pupil may be withdrawn by his/her parents from any instruction in religious subjects and from religious observance.' Any parent who wishes to exercise this right must discuss the matter with the Head Teacher.

ERROL PRIMARY SCHOOL PRIMARY 1 INDUCTION

PARENTS' RESPONSE FORM

Dear Parent

Please use this form to help us improve our system of induction from nursery to primary 1 by letting us know your thoughts below.

The induction booklet:

Liked –

Would like –

The induction meeting:

Liked –

Would like –

My child's visits to primary one:

Liked –

Would like –

Parent's name:

Date:

Child's name:

Please return this form to your child's teacher. Thank you.