



*achieving- happy- healthy-responsible- resilient*

Auchtergaven  
Primary School

Newsletter

Dear Auchtergaven Families

We have had a very settled start to the year 2023-2024 and have very much enjoyed welcoming our Primary Ones and our new Nursery pupils to Auchtergaven. With the help of their buddies the P1s have settled very quickly and are becoming very use to the routines and expectations at school.

We have made a couple of changes to our school Assemblies and now have a quick Monday Meeting where we talk about the value of the week or hear from the Fiction Addiction Owls, the Pupil Council, and our House Leaders. We then meet again on Fridays for our whole school Get Together where we celebrate our pupils of the week, those who have gone Over and Above and count the Ready, Respectful and Safe Links (we are trying to get to 1000!) and House Points.

At the Friday Get Together we also celebrate children's wider achievements and love hearing from Parents and Carers about achievements out of school. If your child has mastered a new skill or helped someone at home or in the community or has done well in a sport or out of school activity, please get in touch so we can celebrate their achievement with them. Please send a quick photo and a little sentence via email to [auchtergaven@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:auchtergaven@pkc.gov.uk) and we will share at get together. If your child does not want to come out in front of everyone to talk about what they have done, let us know, we want to celebrate achievement but not make children feel uncomfortable.

Please note that school term and holiday dates can be found here: [School term and holiday dates - Perth & Kinross Council \(pkc.gov.uk\)](#)

To help you plan, please find a list of diary dates below.

Best wishes

*Catharine Findlay*

Head Teacher

Diary Dates for Parents and Carers		
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Shaun Ward	School Photographs for Nursery & School Pupils
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 2-3pm	P1 to P7 Meet the Teacher	Parents invited to school to meet your child's teacher and visit their classroom. Please come to the main entrance no earlier than 2pm.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Parent Council 7pm	AGM, face to face in school.
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Last day of term	School closed for holidays
23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2023	Term two starts	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Parent contact	Invites to follow
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Parent contact	Invites to follow
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Inservice day	School closed for pupils.
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Parent Council 7pm	Online using MS Teams
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	School Christmas Lunch	Children can wear their Christmas Jumper/something festive if they wish
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Inservice	School closed to pupils
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	February holiday	School Closed
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Parent contact	Invites to follow
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Parent Council 7pm	face to face in school.
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Parent contact	Invites to follow
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Inservice	School closed to pupils
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Holiday	School closed to pupils
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Parent Council 7pm	face to face in school.
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Sports day	Parents invited to morning races.
TBC	P7 Leavers Assembly	

<b>P7 Activity Week</b>	<p>Last week the Primary Sevens had a fun and adventure packed week of activities to develop their leaderships skills and prepare them for the year ahead. The P7s will be sharing what they got up to with the rest of the school at a special get together next week. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in making the week so special. Thanks to Mrs Obure and Mr Milne for kindly giving up their time to take the P7s away over night to Fordell Firs, thanks to all at Taste Perthshire who made a morning of work a very enjoyable experience. Thanks to the staff at Willowgate who engaged positively with our pupils and gave them a rich experience on and off the water. The feedback from everyone who worked with our P7s last week was very positive and they were the perfect ambassadors for Auchtergaven. Well done to all of you.</p>
<b>Parent Council</b>	<p>We are always happy to welcome new members, to help us promote partnerships between the school, pupils, parents, and the wider community. Please get in touch if this interests you <a href="mailto:AuchtergavenPTC@gmail.com">AuchtergavenPTC@gmail.com</a> and follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with fundraising activities and projects we're working on.</p> <p><b>Parent Council dates for this academic session are 7pm on:</b>          Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October- in person at school          Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December –online on MS Teams</p>

	<p>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March – in person at school          Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – in person at school</p>
<b>iBike</b>	<p>This term we are looking forward to starting up our balance bike sessions with the nursery pupils and Bikeability L2 training with the P7 pupils. We would love anyone who is interested in biking to join our group. If you would like more information, please get in touch through the school office.</p> <p>Many thanks          iBike group</p>
<b>Prieston Road</b>	<p>Some parents and carers have been in touch to express their concern about safety of pupils and families at drop off and pick up times on Prieston Road. You will all be aware how busy Prieston Road is with buses, lorries, vans, and tractors all using this road as the school goes in and at the end of the day, combine with parents and carers driving their kids to school it can become very busy and congested. Please consider parking further from the school and walking in. There is also car parking space behind the school from Tullybelton Road, which means a short walk over the wee bridge at the burn or car parking down Newhall Street, next to the park.</p>
<b>Playground pick up and drop off.</b>	<p>A wee reminder that unless arriving on dedicated school transport, children are the responsibility of their parents and carers before 9 am. Please encourage your child to play safe in the playground and ensure adequate supervision until the start of the school day.</p> <p>If you are picking your children up from school. Please enter the playground at or after 3pm. Sometimes classes are learning outdoors until 3pm and parents arriving can be a big distraction and interrupt the learning.</p>
<b>Communication</b>	<p><b>Pupil Absence</b></p> <p>Parents are requested to telephone the school <b>by</b> 9.30 am on the morning of the first day of a child’s absence. If your call is not answered, please leave a message on the answer machine. Voicemails are checked by 9:30am and if a message has been left, we will be aware of your child’s absence from school. <u>In addition, absence <i>must be explained by letter or email to the school on the child’s return</i></u>. This is a legal requirement. It is a parent’s duty by law to ensure the regular attendance of their child at school.</p> <p>Permission to leave school during school hours must be requested in writing. This includes visits to hospital clinics, dentist etc. All pupils must be collected from the school office by a responsible adult. In the interests of safety, we cannot allow children to leave the school by themselves.</p> <p><b>Contacting school</b></p> <p>Our main office is a busy place. It is regularly unmanned if staff are dealing with pupils and visitors. We ask that if you need to get a message to school, and haven’t had a call answered, you leave voice mail. We strongly encourage visitors to make an appointment but if you have to ring the bell, please be patient and someone will try to answer as soon as possible. We want to keep the school safe, and all visitors must enter via the main entrance and sign in to school.</p>