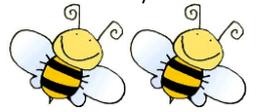




Bargarran Primary School
Newsletter for Parents and Carers
August 2021

Our School Values

- Be happy
- Be honest
- Be kind
- Be respectful
- Be responsible
- Be all you can be!



Welcome to the new school session, and a special welcome to our new Primary 1 children as they begin their journey through school. I look forward to working with all connected with the school in the coming session to ensure a successful session for pupils, parents and staff.

School Uniform

It was wonderful to see all the children dressed so smartly in school uniform on their return after the summer break. I understand the time and effort put in behind the scenes to ensure such a high standard and thank you for doing so. To avoid any items being lost, could you please ensure that all clothes have your child's name on them, as during the course of the year the school gathers a small mountain of clothing that often goes unclaimed.

Indoor Shoes

We are currently not asking children to change their shoes at the start of the school day and after interval and lunchtime. The only occasion children will require a pair of suitable indoor shoes is for indoor P.E. A list of dates for P.E. and outdoor learning is provided later in this newsletter.

School Office

Our school office opening times are 8.40 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. each day. The school phone number is 0300 300 1447.

Meet the Teacher Event

The current risk assessment does not allow for large gatherings to take place within the school. This session's 'Meet the Teacher' event will be provided through Class Dojo and will comprise of a short presentation from the class teacher. The presentations will be available to view from Thursday 2nd September.

Communication/School App

For new parents reading our newsletter for the first time, we try to ensure, as a school, we communicate as effectively as we can with you. One of our methods of ensuring this is by producing a regular newsletter. The newsletter is available on the School App and from our school web site.

The School App is used for whole school communications and can be easily downloaded by searching for School App for Parents and entering Bargarran Primary as your chosen school.

This session we intend to make greater use of Class Dojo for individual class communications. If you are not yet signed up to your child's Class Dojo please contact the school office.

Class Dojo has the facility for parents and carers to send messages to school staff at any time of day. Please be aware that we do not use this facility and would ask that school staff are contacted directly through the school office.

Staff E-mail Addresses

Last session we provided staff e-mail addresses as part of our approach to supporting children and families during lockdown. This session we would ask all e-mail contact with school staff to be made through the school enquiries e-mail address - bargarranenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

P.E./Outdoor Learning

This session each class has been allocated one indoor and one outdoor P.E. slot. Primary 4 to Primary 7 classes have also been allocated an outdoor learning time on the same day as they have outdoor P.E.

P.E. will be taught as the non-class contact subject to all classes by Mr Martindale, apart from Primary 2 and Primary 6.

Unless the weather is extreme classes will go outside for P.E. and outdoor learning on their allocated day.

Primary 1, Primary 2/1, Primary 2 and Primary 3 have not been allocated an outdoor learning day as they have access to the area outside their classroom every day. It would be helpful if children come to school appropriately dressed for our Scottish seasons and the weather.

On the day children in Primary 1, Primary 2/1, Primary 2 and Primary 3 have indoor P.E. it would be helpful if children wear a polo shirt or a t-shirt to school and have gym shoes and shorts to change into. Children in Primary 4 to Primary 7 should bring a t-shirt and a pair of shorts to change for P.E.

On days when Primary 4 to Primary 7 pupils are allocated outdoor P.E. and outdoor learning slots the school uniform guidance will be relaxed. Children can wear black, grey or red joggers or tracksuit trousers, a white polo shirt or t-shirt, and a black, grey or red sweatshirt. None of the above should contain an over-size logo. Children should also bring a waterproof jacket to school on their outdoor learning day.

Class	Indoor P.E.	Outdoor P.E	Outdoor Learning
P.1	Tuesday	Wednesday	
P.2/1	Thursday	Monday	
P.2	Tuesday	Thursday	
P.3	Tuesday	Wednesday	
P.4	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday
P.5	Thursday	Monday	Monday
P.6	Friday	Thursday	Thursday
P.7F	Thursday	Monday	Monday
P.7G	Thursday	Monday	Monday

Standards and Quality Report/School Improvement Plan

Every school is required to produce and publish a Standards and Quality Report and a School Improvement Plan on an annual basis. The Standards and Quality Report details the development work undertaken during the past year and how it has impacted on the work of the school. The School Improvement Plan outlines the planned improvement work for the year ahead and the proposed impact. Both documents will be available on the school website from early September.

School Diaries and Homework Bags

All pupils will be provided with a school diary during the early days of the new session. The diaries have been improved this year to provide additional materials to support learning and are provided in colour. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Parent Council for the additional funding to provide the children with a high quality school diary

Weather Arrangements

On mornings when the weather is deemed to be unsuitable for children to remain in the playground access will be provided to the school building five minutes before the school day is due to start. Children should enter the building through their usual entrance. I would ask parents not to enter the school building. On days when the weather is unsuitable could I please ask parents to organise their child's journey to school so children arrive as close to their child's designated start time as possible and use the shelter provided by the building or in the playground until access is available to the school building.



School Administration

The school data information form was issued earlier this week. It is important that we have up to date information on file in case we need to contact you. To improve the flow of information between the school and home we now regularly send out text messages to parents and carers and it is essential for a variety of reasons, including Child Protection, we hold up to date information on file.

If you have not yet returned the form could you please do so as soon as possible.

School Photographs

Individual, family and year group photographs will be taken by Tempest Photography on Monday 13th September. If you have any queries regarding the photograph arrangements, or you do not wish your child's photograph to be taken, please contact Mrs Harwood or Mrs Reid at the school office.

Nut Free School

A number of pupils who attend our school have allergies to nuts. As a school we operate a nut free policy to ensure the wellbeing of all our pupils. I would ask that when sending snacks or packed lunches to school you check the items provided meet with our policy. Your support of this policy is greatly appreciated.



Lunches

Hot and cold lunches are available from the school dining room. The cost of a lunch is £2.25. Children have different options to choose from. These choices rotate on a weekly basis. The weeks and rotas are as follows;

Week Beginning	Rota Week
Monday 16th August	1
Monday 23rd August	2



Point of Contact

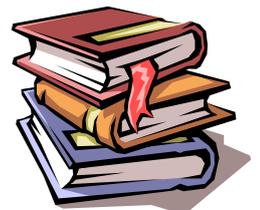
There are occasions outwith our reporting procedures when parents and carers may wish to contact the school regarding their child's day to day education. As a school we welcome communication with parents, and will do our best to address any issues as swiftly as we can. Parents and carers are asked to use their child's class teacher as a first point of contact for issues that may arise. The Head Teacher and Depute Head Teacher have overview responsibility for allocated stages and can be contacted, in the unlikely event, that your child's class teacher is unable to resolve the issue. Mr Lyle has responsibility for Primary 4 to 7 and Mrs Mackenzie for Primary 1 to 3. Mr Lyle and Mrs Mackenzie can be contacted through school office by phone (0300 300 1447) or through the school e-mail address.

Mobile Phones in School

Due to the increase in the number of children who bring a mobile phone to school we no longer have space to securely store the number of phones that are being handed in to the school office. Due to this we have revised our school policy in this area. **All mobile phones brought to school will be the responsibility of the child bringing them and the school will not take any responsibility for loss or damage of mobile phones.** Children bringing mobile phones to school should turn them off when they enter the school playground in the morning and keep the phone in their school bag. Phones should remain in the child's school bag until they leave the school at the end of the school day. Any parent or carer who requires to contact their child during the school day can do so through the school office. If a mobile phone is taken out of a child's bag and used during the school day this will be treated as a serious breach of school discipline. Should the situation unfortunately arise where a child is in possession of a mobile phone without following the above instructions the phone will be confiscated and will only be returned, in person, to the child's main contact.

Damaged or Lost Reading Books

There are occasions when books provided by the school are either not returned to school or returned damaged. We try to prevent this by providing homework bags for Primary 1 - 3 pupils, and plastic homework pockets for Primary 4 - 7 pupils. I realise that accidents do happen and that the books are not damaged or lost on purpose. In the event of a book not being returned or returned damaged to school we may ask for a donation of £5.00 to replace the book. The donation can be paid in instalments if necessary. Thank you for your understanding and support with this request.



Medication



There are times when children may be prescribed medication to overcome illness. As a school we follow the local authority guidelines on administering medication. If you wish to view a copy of these guidelines please contact the school office. I would ask that if medication is being prescribed the doctor is aware that there is no guarantee it will be able to be administered during school hours, unless a parent or carer can come to school to do so. The administration of medication by school staff is done on a voluntary basis. In order to provide a fair and equal service to all could I ask that requests for the school to administer medication are only made in exceptional circumstances.

School Bus

If we have been notified that you have received a letter from Renfrewshire Council granting permission for your child to travel on the Millfield bus we will assume that they are to travel on it daily unless we hear otherwise from parents. Please inform the office staff if, at any time, you do not wish your child to travel on the bus.

Bikes and Scooters

It is encouraging to note that many of our pupils make the journey to and from school each day by bike or scooter. As a school we encourage the children to live a healthy lifestyle in and out of school. It has been noticed that a number of bikes and scooters are not chained to the racks available in the playground. Could I please ask that all children bringing and leaving their bikes and scooters at school chain them to racks provided. Children should also dismount from their bike or scooter to ensure the safety of all who use the playground.



Absence and Latecoming

Absence and latecoming are both monitored on a regular basis by the Head Teacher. As a school we look to support children and parents to ensure that attendance rates are as high as possible. We have a system of issuing letters of concern and requesting meetings with parents whose children's attendance is causing concern. These are generally issued when attendance falls below 90%. If you have concerns regarding your child's attendance at school I would encourage you contact me via the school office. Latecoming is concerning as children who are late not only miss lessons planned by their teacher, but disrupt the work of other pupils and teaching staff by their late arrival into the classroom. I am sure that you would agree with me that this is not an acceptable situation and one that, if it arises, requires to be addressed. Office staff take a record of the names, dates and times of children who enter the school through the front entrance after 9.00 a.m. If you have any concerns regarding your child's punctuality I would encourage you to contact me via the school office and we can work together on improving the situation. Letters of concern and requests for parents to attend a meeting to discuss latecoming will be issued where necessary.

Pupil Safety - Parking

Parents who drive their children to school are asked not to park in the school car park, the access road, Barrhill Road or Hamilton Drive when bringing their children to, or



collecting them from school. The new car park has a drop off area and I respectfully ask that this is only used to drop children off and not for parking.

Disabled Parking Spaces

Could I please ask that parents and carers not to use the designated disabled parking spaces unless you have the appropriate permit and the permit is displayed on your vehicle while it is parked there. We have children who attend the shared campus that require these spaces on a daily basis. Thank you for your support.

Water in class

As a health promoting school, we encourage children to bring water to school to drink. A number of parents have asked if they can add a **very small** amount of diluting juice to encourage their child to drink water during the school day. In previous years we have asked that water bottles contain only water. As it is part of our school ethos to work in partnership with parents and carers; this session we will leave it to parents to decide if they would like to add a **very small** amount of juice to the water they provide from home. I would ask that parents who decide to do so consider using a low sugar variety of juice

Our school policy asking parents and carers not to provide their children with fizzy drinks at interval and lunchtime remains in place and we would ask for your support in upholding this

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Thursday 2 nd September 2021	Meet the Teacher presentations provided
Monday 13 th September 2021	School Photographs
Friday 24 th September 2021	Holiday - September Weekend
Monday 27 th September 2021	Holiday - September Weekend
Wednesday 6 th October 2021	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 8 th October 2021	Last Day of Term

Yours sincerely

Mr A Lyle
Head Teacher