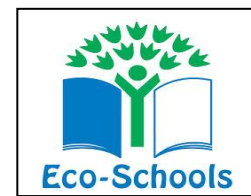




Bargarran Primary School  
Newsletter for Parents and Carers  
August 2024



Welcome to the new school session. A special welcome to our new Primary 1 children as they begin their journey through school, our new Primary 7 children as they begin their senior year in primary school and children and families who have joined our school after the summer break.

### School Uniform

It was wonderful to see all the children dressed so smartly in school uniform on their return after the summer break. We would like to thank all parents and carers for the great deal of time and effort spent to ensure such a high standard. To avoid any items being lost, could you please ensure that all items of clothing have your child's name on them, as during the school year, we gather a small mountain of clothing that often goes unclaimed.

### Uniform Hub

We have set up a uniform hub with a range of new and nearly new items. The hub is open during the school day and is available for parents and carers on a drop in basis.

### School App/Class Dojo

Our subscription to the School App has not been renewed and will be replaced by Class Dojo as our main means of communication. The school had to pay a subscription each session for using the School App, where there is no cost to the school for using Class Dojo.

In the early part of the session class teachers will send out a link to invite parents and carers to join their Class Dojo pages. This will involve downloading the Class Dojo app to your phone. Last session **98%** of children had at least one parent who had activated the link to the Class Dojo pages.

This session we will introduce **Pupil Portfolios** to our use of Class Dojo. Pupil Portfolios provide parents and carers with examples of **individual work** your child is proud of and would like to share with you. Each parent who has activated the link to use Class Dojo should see at least **three pieces** of your child's individual work **by the end of each term**. A support booklet will be issued to help you access your child's portfolio. We will continue to use the **class pages** to show a range of **class events** on a regular basis.

This session we will also undertake a trial of using the messaging facility available through Class Dojo for parents and carers to communicate directly with class teachers. The content of messages and staff replies will be monitored. Parents and carers are asked to follow the guidance below during the trial period:

- Please only send messages on Monday to Friday and between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Length of response times may vary. Instantaneous responses or responses during class hours should not be expected. Responses will be provided within three working days.
- Please keep the subject of messages to your own child and relate to class procedures and organisation.
- Complaints or issues regarding children other than your own, absences and change of day arrangements should be directed through the school office (0300 300 1447 or [bargarranenquiries@renfrewshire.sch.uk](mailto:bargarranenquiries@renfrewshire.sch.uk))

**Arrangements for contacting the school regarding your child's education or pastoral concerns is provided later in this newsletter.**

## **Reporting to Parents and Carers**

The revised programme for reporting to parents and carers will be introduced this session. The dates in the first part of the term between August and October are as follows:

Date/Time	Event
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September (3.15 - 4.00 p.m.)	Let Your Child Be Your Guide (Surname A-L)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September (4.00 - 4.45 p.m.)	Let Your Child Be Your Guide (Surname M-Z)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Tracking Report Issued
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents and Carers Appointments 3.30 - 9.00 p.m.

Our first whole school event, 'Let Your Child Be Your Guide' is an informal event where children will have the opportunity to show a parent or carer their class environment and early examples of their work. Class teachers will be in their classroom areas during the event. Due to the size and design of the school building we have allocated set times to ensure the class areas are not too busy. If parents and carers could please keep to the time allocated it would be greatly appreciated.

## **Session Planner**

A session planner showing all the events and activities planned across the session will be made available through the Class Dojo before the end of August. Paper copies can be obtained by contacting the school office.

## **School Administration**

During the first full week of term annual data and consent forms will be sent home with your child. When you receive these forms could you please complete them and return them to the school office. The local trip consent form is also live on your child's parent pay account and we would be grateful if this was completed as soon as possible.

## **Wet 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. Under these circumstances, school staff will open the entrance doors to allow children access to the building. On days when the weather is unsuitable to remain outside could I please ask parents to organise your child's journey to school so children arrive as close to 9.00 a.m. as possible. The shelter provided by the building or in the playground should be used until access to the school building is available.

## **School Photographs**

Individual, family and year group photographs will be taken on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. The photographs will be taken by Stark Images. Further details will be provided nearer the time.

## **Nut Free School**

We have a number of children who attend our school who have an allergy to nuts. As a school we operate a nut free policy to ensure the wellbeing of all our pupils. I would ask when sending snacks or packed lunches to school this policy is followed. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

## **Hair**

Could we please ask that you check your child/children's hair on a regular basis. If you find any nasty surprises the link below should provide suitable support.

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/skin-hair-and-nails/head-lice-and-nits>

## Points of Contact

There are occasions out with our reporting procedures when parents and carers may wish to contact the school regarding your child's day to day education. As a school we welcome communication with parents and carers 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. We would ask parents and carers to contact teaching staff by phone on the school's number (0300 300 1447) or through the school enquiries mail box - [bargarranenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:bargarranenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk).

Our Senior Management Team have pastoral responsibility for the following stages: Mrs Mackenzie (DHT) and Mrs Thompson (DHT) for Primary 1 to 3 and Mr Lyle (HT) for Primary 4 to 7.

If you have any pastoral concerns regarding your child please contact the member of the management team listed above through the school office.

Mrs Mackenzie (Primary 1-3) and Mrs Thompson (Primary 4-7) are the school point of contact for Additional Support Needs. The school's Child Protection co-ordinator is Mr Lyle.

## Mobile Phones in School

Children bringing mobile phones to school should turn them off when they enter the school playground in the morning and keep them in their school bag. Phones should remain in the school bag through out the school day. Any parent or carer who requires to contact their child during the school day can do so through the school office.

## Smart Watches

We would ask that children do not to wear watches to school that have a text, phone or listening facility. If smartwatches are worn to school the listening facility should be turned off and text messages or phone calls should not be made to or from the watch. Any parent or carer who requires to contact their child during the school day can do so through the school office.

## 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 made 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 we ask that requests for the school to administer medication are only made in exceptional circumstances.

## 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. **Could we please ask that children dismount from their bike or scooter when they enter the playground to ensure the safety of all who use the playground.** We would also ask that children who bring their bikes and scooters to school chain them to the racks provided. The school can not be held liable for any bike or scooter that goes missing from the playground.

## Pupil Safety - Parking

Parents who drive their children to school are asked not to park in the access road, Barrhill Road or Hamilton Drive when bringing children to, or collecting from school. The school car park has a drop off area and we ask that this is only used when dropping children off and not for parking.

## Absence and Latecoming

Pupil absence should be communicated by contacting the school office on each day of absence.

Absence and latecoming are both monitored on a regular basis. As a school we look to support children, parents and carers to ensure attendance rates are as high as possible. We have a system of issuing letters of concern and requesting meetings with parents and carers 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 we would encourage you to contact the school office so we can discuss the matter with you. Latecoming is concerning as children who are late not only miss lessons planned by their teacher they also disrupt the work of other pupils and teaching staff by their late arrival in the classroom. If you have concerns regarding your child's latecoming we would encourage you to contact the school office so we can discuss the matter with you.

## Disabled Parking Spaces

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

## School Web Site

All of our classes will have their own page on the school web site by the end of August. The class pages are maintained by our teaching staff and will provide information on class routines, such as homework routines, P.E days and work being undertaken by the class. The address of our school web site is

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/bargarran/> .

## Water in Class

As a health promoting school, we encourage children to bring water to school to drink due to the benefits of hydration. We have been asked by a number of parents if they can add a very small amount of diluting juice to encourage their child to drink water during the school day. Previously we had supported these requests, but the advice we have been given is that it should be only water that is drunk. School staff do not have the time to check the contents of water bottles during the busy school day and we are only aware of the contents of a bottle if the bottle is clear.

## Fizzy Drinks

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

## Warm Weather

We are all hoping for some warm and sunny summer in our first term, to allow as much time as possible to be spent learning outdoors. Could we please ask that children come to school properly prepared with a sun hat and wearing sun cream in suitable weather. We are sorry but staff members will not be able to apply sun cream to children.

## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	School Photographs
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	School Photographs
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Let Your Guide be Your Guide Family Name M-Z (3.15 - 4.00 p.m.)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Let Your Child Be Your Guide Family Name A-L (4.00 - 4.45 p.m.)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Pupil Tracking Report 1 Issued
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	School Holiday - September Weekend
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	School Holiday - September Weekend

Date	Event
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening (3.30 - 8.30 p.m.)
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	School Closes at 3.00 p.m. for October Holiday
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	School Closed - In-service Day
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	School Re-opens at 9.00 a.m.

Yours sincerely

*A. Lyle*

Mr A. Lyle  
Head Teacher