

Welcome to Bushes Primary's August & September Newsletter!

A very warm welcome back to you all! I hope you all had a wonderful summer!

It has been wonderful to see our new P1 pupils settle in so well and to welcome back our P2-P7 pupils. Thank you for your continued efforts in ensuring your children come to school every day looking smart in their uniforms. I am very excited for the year ahead and I am sure, by continuing to work in partnership, it will be another very successful one for all of our pupils.



Staffing and Classes

In our Early Learning and Childcare Class, we say farewell to Mrs Deborah Wilson, our Early Year's Graduate. I would like to thank Deborah for all of her work in her time with us and wish her every success in her new post. Our new Early Years Graduate, Anna Odolczyk, will be joining us soon from Williamsburgh Early Learning and Childcare Class.

In the school, we welcome Miss Mia Ford who is joining us and will work with Primary 4b.

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| Primary 1a with Mrs McMullan | Primary 4b with Miss Ford and Mrs Paterson |
| Primary 2/1 with Mrs Sweeney-Gardner | Primary 5a with Miss Fowler |
| Primary 2a with Miss Boyle | Primary 6/5 with Mrs Diver and Mrs Robertson |
| Primary 3/2 with Mrs Wake and Mrs Hendry | Primary 6a with Mr Bannerman |
| Primary 3a with Mrs Collin | Primary 7/6 with Mrs MacLeod and Mr Ramsay |
| Primary 4a with Mrs Moseley and Mrs Irvine | Primary 7a with Mrs McIntosh and Mr Ramsay |
| NCCT and pupil support | Mrs Lynn Paterson Mr Neil Ramsay Mrs Abi Bryan Mrs Alison Warnock Mrs Donna McConnell |

Keeping in Touch



We will be continuing to use the Seesaw app this session. Please make sure your details are up-to-date and you can access your account on this app. Using this app will enable us to send home letters and newsletters via this system without having to print them – this will be good for the environment and for the school budget too allowing us to buy more resources to support your child's education. All letters and newsletters are also available on the school website. If you need to have a letter or newsletter printed, please contact the school office.

Please note that although Seesaw is an excellent tool for communication, we would ask that any queries, reporting of absences etc. is made directly with the school office and not through Seesaw. For this reason, direct messaging to the teacher has been turned off and the initial contact must be made via the school office.

We are continuously updating and adding new features to the school website. Keep checking our website at <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/bushes/> for the latest news and information from Bushes Primary. Our annual Standards and Quality Report and Improvement Plan will also be available on the school website by 27th September at the latest.

The school has its own 'X' account. You don't need to have a Twitter account to access it, just search for @BushesPrimary in your search engine. If you do have 'X', why not follow us!

Lastly, if you wish to discuss something with a member of staff or the Senior Leadership Team, please contact the office to arrange a mutually convenient time as it is not always possible to meet a member of staff on demand. We work hard to respond to such requests as quickly as possible. Thank you for your support in this matter.



Appointments

We would ask that wherever possible children attend appointments out with the school day. I am aware however, that this is not always possible, and I would ask that in such cases you telephone the office to inform them. This will allow office staff to accurately record any appointments and inform the teachers, so they are aware. Thank you for your help with this.

Nut Free School



I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we are a nut free school. Nuts and products containing nuts e.g. Nutella, Snickers bars etc. should not be brought into school. There are a number of pupils within the school with life-threatening nut allergies and it is imperative that this ban on nuts and nut containing products is adhered to. Thank you for your support in this matter.

We are also a school that promotes healthy eating. I would appreciate your support in not sending your child into school with fizzy drinks as we have found consuming them can make it harder for children to concentrate.



Dogs in the Playground

A reminder that dogs are not permitted within the playground regardless of whether they are on a leash. This rule also applies to any dogs that are being carried by their owner within the playground. Anyone not following these guidelines will be asked to take the dog out of the playground.

Pupil Equity Fund



As part of our Pupil Equity Fund Plan for this session I am delighted to announce that we will continue to have in place teaching staff for a few days each week whose work will focus on working closely with identified pupils to raise their attainment. We will also continue to invest in software to support children's learning both in school and at home (Sumdog, IDL, GL standardised assessments and Seesaw) as well as materials and supports for health and wellbeing (PATHS). Look out for further details regarding these initiatives this session.



School Photographs

Monument photographers will be visiting the school and ELC Class on **Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th September**. Please ensure your child comes to school or the ELC Class on both days ready to have their photographs taken. Once the photographs have been taken, proofs will be sent home for you to decide if you wish to purchase any of the photographs. Instructions for ordering and payment information will be included with the proofs, however you are under no obligation to make a purchase.



Parent Council

We have a very active and supportive Parent Council, and I am very appreciative of everything they do for the school. Last year, despite many challenges, a lot of money was raised (nearly £5000!) with the money raised being used for a variety of actions which benefitted pupils. We are always looking for new members and I would encourage you to support the vital work the Parent Council does for the school. Parent Council meetings are usually scheduled for the first Tuesday of every month and are held in the staff room at 6.30pm. Dates are advertised on Seesaw with the first meeting of the year to take place on **Tuesday 27th August**.

Meet the Teacher / Key Worker Evening



An opportunity to attend a 'Meet the Teacher/Key Worker' evening is being offered on **Wednesday 4th September between 4.30pm and 5.30pm**. A letter with further details will be sent home and will be available on Seesaw and the school website.



Car Park

Just a quick reminder that the school car park is for staff use only. Unfortunately, we only have enough space to accommodate staff's cars and by entering the car park to drop off or pick up, you may be placing children at risk. I would ask that you do not enter the staff car park. Thank you for your understanding and support in this.



Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices



If you deem it necessary for your child to bring a mobile phone with them to school, it must be switched off and kept in their school bag at all times. Children are not permitted to use their mobile phones within school time and the school takes no responsibility if they are lost or damaged. Children should not be using their mobile phones to take videos or photographs within the school grounds.

Children should not be bringing other electronic devices to school to use at break times or in class. At Bushes, we like to encourage children to build friendships and relationships with one another and find that the use of such devices at these times does not support this.

I am grateful to you for your support in both matters.

I ♥ PE P.E. and Jewellery

A reminder that we strongly recommend that for best health and safety practice, children do not wear earrings to school on days they have P.E. However, if this is not possible, parents wishing their children to wear earrings must ensure that they are studded and not hooped. Parents must also ensure that earrings are either taped up before the start of the school day, provide tape to your child to administer the tape if you feel they are capable of doing so independently or that the pupil is able to remove the earrings by themselves. Please note that adults in the school do not take responsibility for taping up pupil's ears and that pupils are responsible for the safekeeping of their jewellery.

Children will also be asked to remove watches and other jewellery during P.E. lessons as per council policy. Children can wear comfortable trousers, leggings or joggers on P.E. days but should still wear a school polo shirt and jumper/cardigan as per the uniform guidance.

Water Bottles



Staying hydrated has many proven health benefits including increased levels of concentration. With this, I would ask that you provide your child with a refillable water bottle and encourage them to bring it to school each day filled with fresh, plain water. They will have the opportunity at break and lunchtimes to refill these bottles from our water fountain.



Attendance and Timekeeping

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the majority of parents/carers who ensure that their children come to school regularly and on time. Attendance and timekeeping are key to ensuring your child has the opportunity to achieve to their fullest potential and as such it will continue to be monitored closely. If attendance and timekeeping percentages fall below certain levels, I am duty bound to inform you of this and will do so via letter.

Parents/Carers are kindly requested, whenever possible, not to take children out of school during term time as holidays out with term time are having a negative impact on children's learning and in some cases, there is a clear link to children's attainment. Children are being assessed formatively by their teachers throughout the school session and children are missing out on key assessments due to unauthorised absences during term time. We **will not** fulfil any requests for work to be issued for children to complete whilst they are on holiday during term time.

Dates for diary and school holidays



Please find on the next page a note of dates for your diary for this school session. Can I also draw your attention to the link on our school website to Renfrewshire Council's website page which details the school holiday dates. Go to <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/bushes/> click on the 'information' tab at the top of the page and then choose 'school holidays'.



Celebrating Children's Successes!

Don't forget to remind your child to share any successes outside of school with myself (e.g., sporting, doing tasks by themselves etc). We regularly share these at assembly and in our newsletters and like to mark any achievements our pupils make!

Celebrating Bushes' Successes!



I am delighted to share with you that since our last newsletter in June, Bushes has received no less than 3 accreditations! These are:

Rights Respecting Schools Bronze Award – Led by Mrs Paterson and supported by pupils and staff in the school and ELC Class, this award means that we are committed to embarking on the UNICEF UK Rights Respecting journey and that the right foundations are in place for our journey to the second stage of the Award, Silver: Rights Aware. Work has begun on this second stage already and further information about this will follow over the course of the year.

Scottish Book Trust Reading Schools Core Status Award – Led by Mrs McConnell and supported by pupils and staff in the school and ELC Class, this is awarded to schools who demonstrate a commitment to building a reading culture for their learners and communities.

Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Level 1 Jade Award – Led by the Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Approach (RNRA) Core Group (Mrs Moseley, Mrs Irvine and Mrs McMullan) and supported by pupils and staff in the school and ELC Class, this accreditation signifies that we are committed to developing nurturing relationships. Work has begun on this second level already and further information about this will follow over the course of the year.

We plan to mark these three achievements in some way this term, further details to follow! In the meantime, well done to all involved!

If you have any concerns regarding your child please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Craig McCrorie

Dates for Diary 2024-2025

| August | |
|---|---|
| Tuesday 27 th | Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm |
| September | |
| Wednesday 4 th | Meet The Teacher/Key Worker 4.30pm-5.30pm (ELC Class and P1-P7) |
| Wednesday 11 th and Thursday 12 th | School and ELC Class Photographs |
| Thursday 12 th | Parent Council Disco |
| Monday 23 rd – Friday 27 th | Maths Week Scotland |
| Tuesday 24 th | Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm |
| Wednesday 25 th | P7 Open Evening at Gleniffer High School 6-8pm |
| Friday 27 th - Monday 30 th inclusive | Holiday |
| October | |
| Wednesday 9 th | Parents' Night (3pm-9pm P1-P7) (ELC Class 5pm-7pm) |
| Thursday 10 th | Non-Uniform Day |
| Friday 11 th | Inservice Day (school only open to staff) |
| Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th inclusive | Holiday |
| Monday 28 th | Parent Council Disco |
| Tuesday 29 th | Fluoride Varnish team visiting |
| Wednesday 30 th | Flu Vaccinations |
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| November | |
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| Friday 1 st – Friday 8 th | Primary 1 Enrolment |
| Monday 4 th | Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm |
| Wednesday 6 th | P6s Residential Trip Meeting |
| Friday 8 th | Non-Uniform Day |
| Saturday 16 th | Winter Fayre |
| December | |
| Monday 2 nd | Holiday |
| Tuesday 3 rd | Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm |
| Tuesday 10 th (morning and afternoon) | ELC Class, P1 and P2 Nativity |
| Wednesday 11 th | P4s Christmas Party |
| Thursday 12 th | P3s Christmas Party |
| Friday 13 th | P5s Christmas Party |
| Monday 16 th | P6s Christmas Party |
| Tuesday 17 th | P7s Christmas Party |
| Wednesday 18 th | P2s Christmas Party |
| Thursday 19 th | P1s Christmas Party |
| Thursday 19 th | ELC Class Christmas Party |
| Friday 20 th AM | P1-P7 Pantomime |
| Friday 20 th | Finish at 2.30pm |
| Monday 23 rd – Friday 3 rd January inclusive | Holiday |
| January | |
| Tuesday 14 th | Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm |
| Friday 24 th AM and PM | P1-P7 Scottish Showcase |
| February | |
| Thursday 6 th | Parent Council Disco |
| Thursday 13 th | Non-Uniform Day |
| Friday 14 th | Inservice Day (school only open to staff) |
| Monday 17 th and Tuesday 18 th inclusive | Holiday |
| Thursday 20 th | World Thinking Day |
| March | |
| Tuesday 4 th | Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm |
| Thursday 6 th | World Book Day |
| Wednesday 12 th | Parents' Night (3pm-9pm P1-P7) |
| Monday 24 th – Friday 28 th | P6s Residential Trip to Lockerbie Manor |
| April | |
| Wednesday 2 nd | P1-P7 Open Afternoon |
| Friday 4 th | Non-Uniform Day |
| Friday 4 th | Finish 2.30pm |
| Monday 7 th – Monday 21 st inclusive | Holiday |
| Tuesday 29 th | Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm |
| May | |
| Thursday 1 st | P7s Parents and Carers Evening at Gleniffer High School 6.30pm |
| Friday 2 nd | ELC Class and P1-P7 Sports Days (to be confirmed) |
| Monday 5 th | Holiday |
| Wednesday 14 th and Thursday 15 th | P7s Induction at Gleniffer High School |
| Thursday 15 th | New Primary 1s Induction at Bushes |
| Thursday 22 nd | Non-Uniform Day |
| Friday 23 rd | Inservice Day (school only open to staff) |
| Monday 26 th | Holiday |
| Thursday 29 th | Parent Council Disco |

| June | |
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| Tuesday 3 rd | Parent Council AGM Meeting 6.30pm |
| Wednesday 18 th and Thursday 19 th | P7 School Show |
| Tuesday 24 th | P7 Prom |
| Thursday 26 th | P7 Leavers' Service |
| Friday 27 th | Finish at 1pm |

Please note some dates may be unavoidably changed.



Bushes Vision, Values and Aims

"Blossom at Bushes"



Our Vision

To create the happy environment our school community needs to thrive, all stakeholders have established a clear Vision and set of Core Values as well as our aims for the whole school community.

Our Vision

We believe that all children are created equal and are owed the best we have to give. As a whole school community, we will work together tirelessly to develop and advance the unique set of skills and talents each of our pupils have and encourage every one of them to believe they can be successful and empower them to achieve amazing things.

Our Values are at the root of everything we do at Bushes:

Build each other up through **KINDNESS** and **FRIENDSHIP**

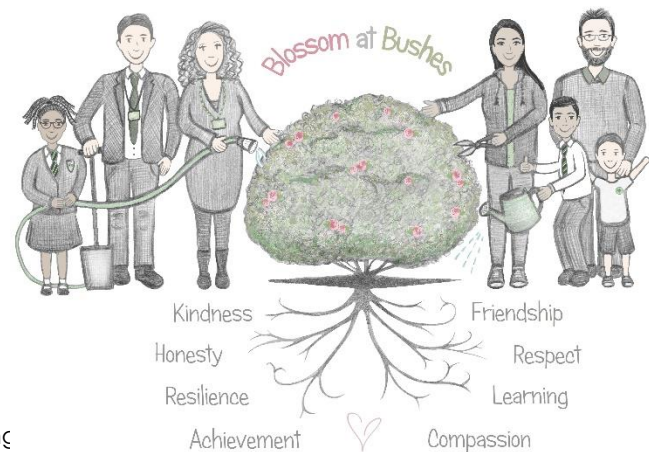
Uphold **HONESTY**

Share **RESPECT**

Have **RESILIENCE**

Encourage **LEARNING** and **ACHIEVEMENT**

Show **COMPASSION**



Aims for our Pupils

- To provide a happy, safe, stimulating, supportive and nurturing full potential as both learners and people, and can develop respect for themselves, others and their surroundings.
- To provide a rich, exciting and progressive curriculum which engages and motivates children and through which every child can develop fully as lifelong learners with skills to equip them for their future.
- To encourage children to be independent, motivated, curious, creative and resilient learners who have a love of, and are capable of leading, their own learning.
- To provide children with the opportunities to contribute their voice to, and play an active role in, the development of the School and ELC Class.
- To provide opportunities for every child to feel part of, and be able to positively contribute to, the school, local and global community, helping them to become responsible members of society.
- To actively promote good physical and mental health amongst all children.
- To celebrate children's achievements and ensure they receive recognition and praise for their efforts and achievements in all areas of their life, both within and out with the ELC Class and School.
- To provide equity for all children.

Aims for our Families and Community

- To provide a supportive and nurturing environment, working collaboratively and in partnership with parents and carers to help every child achieve their full potential.
- To empower parents and carers to play an active role in their child's education.
- To develop and sustain close links between parents and the local community to further children's learning.
- To promote, support, respect and value parental engagement in contributing to the ongoing development of the school.

Aims for our Staff

- To provide a supportive and nurturing environment wherein staff work collaboratively to provide the best educational experience possible for every child.
- To support them in keeping up to date with latest National and Council policies and procedures and continuing to develop their practice through Continual Professional Development opportunities.
- To nurture and respect each child as an individual and play an active role in their personal, as well as their educational development.
- To serve the community of Bushes with empathy, progressive learning and pride.