



# Heriot News ↴



4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Welcome back to a new session at Heriot Primary. We look forward to working with you in the year ahead. A special welcome to all the new children in Primary 1 and other classes.

## **School Phone Number**

Please remember that the school phone number is 0300 300 0158. Please save this number to your phone so that you recognise the number if we are trying to reach you.

## **Staffing Changes**

A very warm welcome to the following new staff members:

Mr Gordon Taylor, our new Principal Teacher

Miss Selena Johnson and Miss Fiona Scott, Class Teachers

Mrs Louise Harding, our new Senior Early Learning and Childcare Officer

Change of post - Mrs Tracey McInally will now be our Depute Head Teacher

## **Water Bottles**

Please ensure your child carries their water bottle to school every day so they can drink water at their desk.

## **Medication**

Children are now required to carry their own inhalers as no medication can be stored at the office. Any other medication should be given at home unless under very exceptional circumstances. Please contact the school if this situation arises and we will do our best to help.

## **School Uniform**

Please ensure that your child's name is on **all** items of clothing and footwear. This will enable us to return any found items to the children. Already we have a number of new items of clothing, with no name, in our lost property box.

## **Flu Vaccination Consent Forms**

These were sent home recently and many have already been returned. If you have not already done so please return these by the end of the week. Immunisations are taking place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November and the consent forms all need to be collated and checked so these are being collected from schools at the end of next week.

## **Free School Meals for P6-P7 children**

If you have not already submitted your application for free meals/clothing grant please do so as soon as possible. Even if your child is in P1-P5 you can still apply if you think you are eligible as you may get the clothing grant on its own or both if you qualify. We regret you will have to pay for your child's lunch until the school office has been given authorisation from Renfrewshire Council that your application has been approved.

## **Parentpay**

If you have not already registered for parentpay you will have received a letter about it earlier this week. It is important to get registered as the only cash coming in to school will be



donations, sponsor money or charity collections.

### Our classes this year are:

P1a	Room 1	Miss Corr
P1b/2a	Room 2	Miss Currie
P2b	Room 3	Miss Lynch/Mrs Cochrane
P3a	Room 6	Mrs Milne
P3b	Room 4	Mrs Grainger
P4a	Room 9	Mrs McFarlane
P5a	Room 16	Mrs Mackay
P5b	Room 15	Miss Johnson
P6a	Room 13& 14	Mrs Steven
P6b/7a	Room 11	Mrs Kerr
P7b	Room 12	Miss Bell

### Newsletters

Newsletters are issued regularly, giving news of various events in the life of the school, as well as information for parents about meetings etc. Please try to find a few minutes to read our newsletters and let us know if you wish further information about any of the items. Our newsletters are numbered and are emailed to parents via parentpay.

They will also be published on the school website under the heading 'Heriot Primary Newsletters' found at the right hand side of the homepage. Please take the time to read these newsletters to keep you up to date with what is happening in the school.

### School Holidays

A school holiday list is at the bottom of this newsletter and is also available on the school website under the heading 'Events Calendar' at the right hand side of the homepage.

### Making contact

Please don't hesitate to telephone (0300 300 0158) if you have any concerns about the progress or welfare of your child. We will be pleased to arrange for you to speak with a member of staff.

### Annual data check and other information

A large envelope was sent home recently. Please complete and return all the necessary forms as soon as possible to enable us to have up to date contact information for all children.

Please remember to update us during the course of the session as any information changes. I am sure you will appreciate that it is imperative that we are able to contact parents if a child becomes unwell and needs to be collected. Thank you for your support with this.

### Absence information

Parents are asked to inform the school on the first day of absence that their child will not be in school. **Please telephone by 9.30am** so that we can alert staff to a child's non-attendance. It is very important that we know children are safely at home with parents when not in school. If we do not hear from parents by 9.30am we will send a text to the main contact to alert parents. We may follow up our text if we do not hear from you. Sometimes we will ask our Home Link worker to do a home visit if we cannot contact you. If your child continues to be unwell please keep us informed. Thank you for your help with this.

### **Passing telephone messages to children during the course of the school day.**

Can we ask all parents to be mindful when asking the office staff to pass on messages to their child during the course of the school day. Although we are more than happy to do this if the need arises, we have experienced a rise in requests for non urgent information to be shared. Last session we also experienced a significant increase in calls received right at the end of the day asking for information to be passed to children. This made it very difficult for all messages to be delivered prior to 3pm. It also left the office and phones unmanned at what is a busy time of the day.

### **Staff Car Park**

Please remember that the school car park is for staff use only. For safety reasons children should not be in the car park at any time, even with a parent. Our car park is very small for the number of staff we have therefore we cannot accommodate extra cars even just for drop offs/collections.

### **Telephone Enquiries**

The office staff will always do their best to help with telephone enquiries however, as I am sure you will understand, members of the management team are not always readily available to take calls. Messages will be passed on and we will respond as soon as we can. The office staff have no control over the time this may take. Unfortunately, we cannot always get back to you right away which we understand may be frustrating. If you would like to make an appointment to speak with any member of our staff, please ask the office staff and they will arrange this and will call you back as soon as possible.

### **Seesaw App**

Please do not use this app for communicating dentist/medical appointments or absence to the class teacher. Please, instead phone the school office so that office staff can update the system and avoid sending unnecessary texts or make unnecessary calls to parents

### **Reading Books - Help!**

Before the first Covid lockdown started we issued children with reading books and novels to take home to use whilst learning moved online. Unfortunately when we returned to school many of the books didn't! Since then we have seen our stocks of reading books dwindle further. Please can we ask you to check at home for any school books that might be lurking in a bedroom or in a drawer somewhere. We desperately need our books back so no questions will be asked if you discover a book sent home a very long time ago. Our thanks in advance for your help.



### **Parking**

A reminder not to park on the zig zag lines outside the school. This is for the safety of all of our pupils. The school car park is for staff only and should not be used by parents/carers at any time. Thank you.

Heriot Primary School - where everyone's learning!

School website - <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/heriot/>

Twitter - @HeriotPrimary



**DIGITAL SCHOOLS**  
AWARDS SCOTLAND

## School year

First Term	Return date for Teachers	Monday 14th August 2023 (IS)
	In-service Day	Tuesday 15th August 2023 (IS)
	Return of Pupils	Wednesday 16th August 2023
	September Weekend	Friday 22nd September 2023 and Monday 25th September 2023 (inclusive)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 26th September 2023
	Schools closed	Monday 16th October 2023 to Monday 23rd October 2023 (inclusive)
	Return date for Teachers	Monday 23rd October 2023 (IS)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 24th October 2023
	St Andrew's Day	Thursday 30th November 2023
	Schools re-open	Friday 1st December 2023
	Christmas / New Year Schools closed	Monday 25th December 2023 to Friday 5th January 2024 (inclusive)
Second Term	Schools re-open	Monday 8th January 2024
	Mid Term break	Monday 12th February 2024 to Wednesday 14th February 2024 (inclusive)
	Return date for Teachers	Wednesday 14th February 2024 (IS)
	Schools re-open	Thursday 15th February 2024
	Spring Holiday Schools closed	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 to Friday 12th April 2024 (inclusive)
Third Term	Schools re-open	Monday 15th April 2024
	In-service Day	Thursday 2nd May 2024 (IS)
	Schools closed	Monday 6th May 2024
	Local Holiday	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 – Monday 27th May 2024 (inclusive)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 28th May 2024
	Last day of session	Thursday 27th June 2024

**Teachers return Friday 14 August 2024.**

### School in-service days

- Monday 14th August 2023
- Tuesday 15th August 2023
- Monday 23rd October 2023
- Wednesday 14th February 2024
- Thursday 2nd May 2024