**Howwood Primary School**

Semple View

Howwood

PA9 1BT

Tel: 0300 300 0160

Children’s Services

**Head Teacher: Shirley Ormond**

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to our final term of the year.

You have been provided with a letter which has dates for your diary for this term to allow you to plan for any time off from work or support your child with events.

Homework, sports clubs, STEM clubs and learning clubs all begin next week. Please sign your child up for the sports clubs through the active schools link**-**[Term 3 (Mon 22nd Apr 2024 - Thu 6th Jun 2024) | Howwood Primary | Powered by ClassForKids](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foneren-howwood.classforkids.io%2Fterm%2F29&data=05%7C02%7Cshirley.ormond%40renfrewshire.school%7C9d37f88084e3421d8c7d08dc5d206ca3%7C0da1dde9559847fe891e370cb713d6b0%7C0%7C0%7C638487641046371859%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BwR1aQELQYQaA5t0GGEsgv40lcp7dUvtwON3xPrnJbQ%3D&reserved=0) . There will be a dance class for P3-P7 beginning on 16th May for four weeks and a link will go out for this nearer the time.

Nurture

This term we are focussing on resilience and perseverance as our main Growth Mindset topics as part of our nurture programme. Nurture information was available on parent’s night and we will create the video information that the majority of parents voted for who could not attend the evening.

School Improvement Planning

We continue to focus on digital learning and writing, the main areas for improvement in our School Improvement Plan. The parent council have donated £3000 towards digital learning resources as well as a £2000 donation from Virgin Bank. We will purchase new ipads and chrome books as a result of their generosity. Pupils have been developing their coding skills throughout the school and are becoming confident with many aspects of digital learning. We are incorporating digital learning into all areas of the curriculum where this increases motivation and skills for lifelong learning and work.Teachers are now confidently teaching the Talk for Writing programme and pupils have recently reported on the benefits of the programme. Pupils said:

“I think it has helped me to want to write more because it is fun.”

“I really like writing a story. We both think it has made us more motivated.”

“My writing is much, much better, I have more ideas in my head and don’t just put random things down!”

Thank you so much for supporting the self-evaluation programme this year, there were a lot of surveys to fill in however this is vital when planning for improvement. We will use all of your responses when planning for 2024-2025.

Holidays

Thank you to those of you who have informed me about a term time holiday. During this term we gather progress information on your child using more formal assessment resources such as Scottish .National Assessment tools, GL online assessments for reading and numeracy, spelling tests and writing assessments. This allows us to support teacher judgement on your child’s progress throughout the school year. We will try our best to ensure children absent through holidays are assessed in this way, it really helps if we can plan ahead for this.

Gardening Day

The school grounds could really do with some sorting out and clearing out. We have a list of jobs that we would like to do to allow pupils to get more involved with nature. On Saturday 18th May we would like to invite adults to come and help us to achieve some jobs which the children just can’t tackle. Children are welcome to come if accompanied by an adult. I will send out an app message nearer the time regarding tools needed for the day. We are currently writing to shops asking for donations of soil and plants. If you have any annual plants that you could donate please phone the school office to let us know as the front planters will be needing new plants.

And finally…

We have lots to look forward to this term with trips, outdoor learning and end of term celebrations planned. This year’s P7 will mark 7 years of my headship at Howwood which will make the end of term speech a tough one. I hope that I continue to serve you well and that you know I am here to support you and your child whenever you need me to. Please pick up the phone or pop in should you need to discuss anything with myself or your child’s class teacher, you will always be listened to and we will work together to resolve any concerns that you may have.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Shirley Ormond

Dates for your Diary

Monday 22nd April -ALL CLUBS START

Thursday 25th April-P1 and P2 trip to Blair Drummond

Monday 29th April-P7 netball Team festival, Johnstone High Hub 3.45-5.45pm

Wednesday 1st May-Parent Council Meeting 7pm-Boarding House, Howwood. ALL WELCOME.

Thursday 2nd May- SCHOOL HOLIDAY-IN-SERVICE DAY

Monday 6th May-SCHOOL HOLIDAY

Tuesday 7th May-Class newsletters home

P7 information evening for Donouns.

Thursday 16th May-Lunchtime dance class begins for 4 weeks.

Saturday 18th May-FAMILY GARDENING DAY

Monday 20th May- P7 residential trip

Tuesday 21st May-P5/4 trip to Dynamic Earth

Wednesday 22nd May-P6 trip to Safe Kids, St.Mirren Park

Friday 24th May-SCHOOL HOLIDAY

Monday 27th May-SCHOOL HOLIDAY

Thursday 30th May-Sports Day

Thursday 6th June-Reserve sports day

Friday 7th June- Sports and STEM clubs stop

12th,13th and 14th June-P7 to Johnstone High School-pupils should make their own way there and back.

Friday 14th June-Learning clubs stop.

Baking for village fete to be handed in.

Saturday 15th June-Village fete/ school are hosting the café this year!

Thursday 20th June-School disco

Tuesday 25th June- 9.30-10.30- School Service-Howwood Parish Church

Please note that P1 presentations will take place on this day as well as P6 roles of responsibility awards.

Wednesday 26th June-19.30 P7 service at Howwood Primary School-P7 parents welcome.Teas and coffees to follow.

Primary 7 leaving party 6.30pm -9pm-Howwood Inn, Howwood.

Thursday 27th June- End of Term-school closes at 1pm.