



Kilbarchan Primary School
Newsletter - End of Term 1 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a superb first term we have had, with so much going on! I have been so impressed with the way in which our pupils have engaged with their learning and can see so much progress already.

So far this term:

- Primary 7 have selected Lockerbie Manor for their residential and have chosen to have a formal prom this year. They have also ordered their Leavers' Hoodies!
- All pupils have been asked for their opinions on a range of topics in relation to leadership at all levels within the school.
- All pupils have been asked how they feel about writing and have completed a survey about their wellbeing.
- All pupils have selected and taken part in pupil committees, ensuring that the voice of every pupil is given a platform. During these committee times they will decide on the things they feel are important and the ways in which they can make a positive difference.
- Sports clubs and music lessons have taken place each week. We have run, played netball, learned how to take turns, learned about different types of woodwind and brass instruments, and displayed many other extra-curricular skills!
- Our teachers have been on a range of courses in order to bring the best and most up to date learning and teaching approaches into school.
- Our Primary 6/5 and 6 classes have been out and about looking at the natural habitat down at the bog. The children have been learning all about the importance of a diverse ecosystem and what can be done to improve this.
- A range of classes have been learning basic cookery skills, finding out how to cut things safely and what kinds of foods are good for our bodies.
- Some classes have linked with DigiLearn, developing our digital skills and learning from others out with the classroom
- All classes celebrated Maths Week Scotland with a range of engaging activities designed to enthuse pupils and support mathematical learning.
- We worked with Kilbarchan Smile volunteers to celebrate the unveiling of the Mary Barbour plaque at the cairn in the village. This event will soon appear in the Paisley Daily Express, so keep an eye open for it!
- The Eco Committee harvested the seeds from our giant sunflowers! We are going to keep some to replant, give some to families and feed some to the birds. It has been a wonderful experience and we are so grateful to Ella and Matthew's family for their donation of the original plants, what green fingers you have!
- Some families have already benefited from the season tickets that St Mirren football team kindly donated to the school. We look forward to offering this out to other families as the year progresses!
- We have welcomed our families into school for the first Meet the Teacher of the new year! It was great to have you back in the building!
- And.....in addition to this we have been spelling, reading, writing, counting, estimating, carrying out science experiments, learning about history, practising our teamwork skills, using Chromebooks and iPads, getting fit and healthy..... and so much more!

Tracking Progress

As many of you may know, the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meet with class teachers every term to discuss progress, attainment and wellbeing for each child. We have recently completed our first round of these meetings, called Excellence and Equity Tracking meetings, where we discussed each child's individual learning journey to date. During these meetings teachers share each pupil's strengths and next steps for improvement, and the SLT identify and track the interventions and supports needed.

Your child's strengths and next steps will be shared with you during Parents' Nights next week and we will share ideas should you wish to help at home.

Parents' Nights

All Parents' Night appointments have been given out. If there is an issue with your time, please call the school so that we can sort this out. On the night we will gather your feedback through an online questionnaire. Chromebooks and iPads will be set up to facilitate this and members of the SLT will be available should you wish to discuss anything.

We are really looking forward to having everyone back in for a more 'normal' Parents' Night however we do recognise that the large numbers of people in the gym hall may be unsettling for some. We will be setting up the tables in a way that allows for some social distancing. Appointment times remain at 10-minute intervals.

Annual Consent and Data Checks Forms

There are some families who have not completed/returned annual consent forms or data checks through our ParentPay system. We ask that as a matter of urgency you check that this has been completed for your child so that future trips can go ahead without anyone missing out and in the case of an emergency, we have the most accurate communication information. Please call the school office if you are having any issues with this as we are happy to help.

Should you need to contact the school for any reason please call or email using:

0300 300 0163

Or

kilbarchanenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Parent Council

Our Parent Council meeting will take place on **Tuesday 11 October, 7-8pm via Teams**. Please contact the school if you wish to be emailed a copy of the link in order to join the meeting. It is important to us that as many parents/carers join our Parent Council as possible. It ensures that the Parent Council reflect all voices within our community, enables us to bring in new ideas and with a greater number of participants, we can do more for our children.

The Clothing Crew can be found on:

<https://www.facebook.com/ClothingCrewKPS>

Parent page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/195046234419890/?ref=share>

Reminders

- We are a Nut Free School so ask that all items brought from home do not contain nuts.
- Children should bring a water bottle with them every day and are encouraged to stay hydrated. The water bottles should only contain water and not juice.
- All items belonging to your child must be labelled with their name. Where items are labelled, we can return them to your child. Unfortunately, many items without labels are often recycled if the owner cannot be identified.

Yours faithfully,

Fiona MacKenzie
Head Teacher