

We are an ambitious school where everyone works well together and feels part of the Newmains Team



0300 300 0172

newmainsenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/Newmains

@NewmainsPS

Via seesaw app



Newsletter 1

19th August 2022

Welcome back to Newmains where I hope you had a great summer ready for the new school year. I would like to give a special welcome to our new Primary 1 pupils and their families. All pupils are settling well and looked very smart in their uniforms this week.

Staff News

We welcome two new teachers to our school this term, Mr Chapman and Miss Knotts both to Primary 5 and Miss Coll, our new Early Years and Childcare officer, who will be working with Primary 1. Mr Taylor surprised us all with the news he was moving to the USA and we wish him well as he leaves us.

Senior Leadership Team:

Head Teacher: Mrs Dunn - overall responsibility of the school

Depute Head Teacher: Miss Gillon - pastoral responsibility for P1-3

Depute Head Teacher: Mr McGauley - pastoral responsibility for P4-7

Classes:

P1a	Mrs Watts	P4a	Miss Herd
P1b	Mrs Kirkpatrick	P4b	Mrs Dallas
P2/1	Mrs Greenhill and Mrs Hall	P5a	Mr Chapman
P2	Mrs Simpson	P5b	Miss Knotts/Mrs Millar
P3/2	Mrs Carlin	P6a	Miss Leitch
P3a	Mrs Crawford	P6b	Miss Cameron
P3b	Mrs Jackson	P7a	Mrs Simpson
NCCT	Mrs Peacock	P7b	Miss Lafferty

If you have any concerns relating to your child's welfare or progress, please contact us and we will be pleased to arrange for you to speak to a member of staff.

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 9.30 am 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 or carers when not in school. If we do not hear from parents by 9.30 am 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. If your child continues to be unwell please keep us informed.

We are caring

We are kind

We are fair

We strive for success

Annual Data Check

Your child will soon receive an envelope which contains a number of important forms to complete so that our records are up-to-date. Please complete the forms and return to the school in the envelope provided as soon as possible. If any details change throughout the session, especially with telephone numbers, please inform the school immediately.

Breakfast Club

The breakfast club is open Monday to Friday from 8.20 am. Children should not arrive at the school until 8.20 am where there are staff to supervise them. The cost of breakfast club is 50p paid via parent pay. Please bring your child through the school playground to the front entrance as the carpark at that time can be busy with staff cars arriving and deliveries. If at any time you do not require your space or wish to reduce the number of days, please let the office staff know as there is a waiting list.

Important Dates: including holidays, school events and parental engagement opportunities

24 th August 2022	Meet the teacher - classrooms open from 3.10-4.30pm
12 th September 2022	Individual and family photos
23 rd and 26 th September 2022	September Holiday
27 th - 30 th September 2022	Maths week
11 th October 2022	Flu immunisation - more information will follow
12 th October 2022	Parent Interviews - more information will follow nearer the time
14 th October 2022	School closes for October holiday
24 th October 2022	Inservice day - staff only
25 th October 2022	School reopens for pupils
28 th October 2022	Primary 1 and Primary 7 class photos
14 th - 18 th November 2022	Anti-bullying week
30 th November 2022	St Andrew's Day holiday - school closed
22 nd December 2022	School closes for Winter holiday
5 th January 2023	School reopens for pupils

Drop off and Pick up

Thank you for following the guidance around drop off and pickup. Our pupil questionnaire last session highlighted the benefits for the pupils in reducing the number of adults in the playground. Parents and carers of P1-3 are welcome to wait either at the pencils in the P1 playground or behind the painted pickup line in the P2 playground. Parents and carers of P4-7 should collect outside the school. A reminder that no dogs are allowed in the playground as per Renfrewshire Council policy for all schools and nurseries and only cars accessing the disabled parking spaces are permitted in the staff carpark.

Medication

Medication cannot be either self-administered or given voluntarily to your child by school staff without prior written agreement. The forms can be obtained from the school office. Only medication prescribed by the doctor can be administered by staff and then only if it is **not** the first dose. The medicine should be brought to school with the pharmacy administration label on it which includes the child's name and date of birth.

Communication

We have made significant improvements with communication over the last year however results from the parent questionnaire identified the need to streamline the number of platforms. Going forward we will be using seesaw as our main communication tool which includes regular photographs and updates about your child, homework and whole school announcements. The school app will cease use by the September weekend to allow a transition period.

The school website, Twitter and Facebook pages remain operational to share successes and general messages/information about the school - please make sure you are following us.

Seesaw is a very effective communication tool however if there is something very personal, important or time sensitive you wish the school to know about then please continue to phone the school office as these messages are passed on immediately whereas teaching staff access seesaw when they are able during the teaching day.

Parental engagement and involvement

Responses to the parent/career questionnaire at the end of last term were very positive and noted many of the developments and changes made recently, in particular opportunities for parents and carers to be involved in the life of the school. We have already held a successful *Tea and Tissues* event on the first day for Primary 1 parents where they had the chance to meet and chat.

We will be reintroducing the Volunteer Programme - Miss Gillon will send information out in the next few weeks if you are interested in being part of that.

Parents and carers are invited to the Meet the Teacher event on 24th August and Parent Interviews this session will be face-to-face in school, on 12th October.

Newmains Parent Council

The Parent Council runs many events throughout the year for pupils and their families of the school and we are very grateful for their valuable support. More information regarding meetings and the AGM will be shared by the Parents Council shortly. If you are interested in joining the parent council or supporting their events, please contact a member via the Newmains Parent Council Facebook page or a member of school staff who can pass on your details.

Maths Week: 27th - 30th September 2022

Our first whole school event will be Maths Week Scotland which is based on making maths relevant in everyday lives. and Miss Gillon will issue more information about getting involved nearer the time. The theme this year is *Beauty in Maths* where pupils will participate in a range of activities and challenges throughout the week.

Please contact us if we can help in any way and we look forward to working with you all in the year ahead.

Louise Dunn

Head Teacher