

Ralston Primary School Newsletter



Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school session. Our first newsletter is a paper copy for every family. All school information for parents is available on our website, including all letters. Newsletters will be posted at the beginning of each term on the school website.

Office hours – The school office is staffed between 8.15 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. Please telephone during these times.

Senior Leadership Team

Miss J McGown	Head Teacher
Mrs C Kerr	Depute Head Teacher/Pastoral Care for pupils P4-P7
Mrs J Matheis	Depute Head Teacher/Pastoral Care for pupils in Nursery to P3



Classes

P1a	Miss Montgomery
P1b	Miss Scott
P2-1	Mrs Marley
P2	Miss Chisholm
P3a	Mrs Dobson
P3b	Miss Morrison
P4a	Mrs Melrose
P4b	Mrs Pinder
P5a	Miss Bradbury
P5b	Miss Brocket
P6a	Mrs Martin
P6b	Mrs MacLean
P7a	Miss Fulton
P7b	Mrs L Brown

NCT—Miss Curran and Miss Mercer

Nursery Staff

Mrs Lynne Taylor - Job Share Senior ELCO
 Miss Gillian Howie - Job Share Senior ELCO
 Miss Gemma Torley - ELCO
 Miss Lesley Carr - ELCO
 Mrs Morag Leitch – ELCO
 Mrs Mary Durkin – ELCO
 Miss Klar – ELCO
 Miss Lenihan – ELCO
 Miss Martin – ELCO
 Miss Gallacher – EL Support Worker
 Miss Attwood – EL Support Worker

Classroom Assistants

Mrs Julie Tait	Mrs Patricia Barclay
Mrs Elanie Whiteford	Mrs Kath McCulloch

ASNA

Mrs Julie Wright	Mrs Jennifer Cowley
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Clerical & Janitorial Staff

Mrs G Urie	School Office Manager
Mrs L Pollard	School Office
Miss L Paterson	Nursery (Based in school)
Mr C Fox	Janitor

Staff Car Park

The staff car park should not be used by parents as a drop off area.

Pupils are not permitted to walk through the car park.

School App

We have invested in a new school App which is free to download. The App's diary is much better than the previous version and also has items such as the daily lunch menu.

Any posts from the School Website or Twitter feed are automatically linked to the app in the News section. The App is free to download from google Play and Apple store by searching for School App for parents and then Ralston Primary School when the App opens.

We hope this new feature will improve communication and allow parents and carers to access all school information from the one place.



Entry to school

I am pleased to say that our P1 pupils are settling well in their new environment.

P1-P3 parents are requested to remain outside the perimeter gates, between 8.50 a.m. and 9 a.m. If your child is unsure about entering the playground alone, please wait at the gate until 9 a.m. Thank you for your co-operation.

Each morning, a warning bell rings at 8.59 a.m., to remind children to stop playing and make their way to the lines. The school day begins at 9 a.m. and children need to be in the building as quickly as possible.

We have a classroom assistant on duty in the Infant playground and our janitor is on duty in the upper school playground from 8.50 a.m. **Parents are requested not to enter the playground at this time.**

As our children are involved in Outdoor Learning and Golden Time in the playground, we request that parents/carers do not come into the playground until 2.50 p.m. to prevent lessons being cut short.

Any child who is not collected at the end of the school day should be reminded to go directly to the front entrance and buzz to get in, where a member of school staff will assist. If you are late collecting your child this is where they will be at the end of the school day.

Lost Letters

All letters issued to parents regarding trips etc can be downloaded from the school website.



School Holidays

School holiday list for 2019-2020 can be found on the school website or on Renfrewshire Council website under school holidays.

Health and Wellbeing

As a health promoting school we encourage children to have healthy snacks. Please avoid giving your child sugary snacks to eat at school. We have a healthy tuckshop for children in P3-P7 and children will be informed which day is allocated to their class. All children are encouraged to drink water throughout the school day and should bring a named water bottle. Please note juice is not allowed in water bottles. As a number of our children have a **severe nut** allergy, we request that no products containing nuts are brought into the school for snacks or lunch.

Thank you for your co-operation.



Attendance and Punctuality

It is in everyone's best interests that the school guidelines are followed, this ensures the safety and wellbeing of all pupils. Good attendance and punctuality are beneficial to every child's education and, additionally, help them prepare for future responsibilities. By working together we can ensure success for our children.



It is important that parents contact the school with regards to a child's absence. Parents are requested to telephone the school office between 8.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. at the latest, on the first morning of each absence. If no notification is received it is treated as an 'Unauthorised Absence' and parents will receive a text message. However, parents are respectfully requested to adhere strictly to the school policy. The registers are taken at 9.00 a.m. promptly. Latecomers must enter by the front door and report directly to office staff. They will be recorded as 'Late'.

Parents must ensure that prior to leaving the house in the morning children know their travel arrangements for the end of each day. We would kindly ask parents to refrain from telephoning school asking for messages to be relayed to individual children. At the end of the day any child who has not been collected should make their way to the school office, awaiting collection.

Tools for School

Your child needs a school bag and a pencil case. It is very helpful at the start of term if the following items are in the pencil case: HB pencils, ruler with child's name, rubber, sharpener, glue stick (named) and if possible crayons or felt pens. Please ensure your child has everything he/she needs at the start of the day.



School Uniform

All our children are very smart in their uniform, thank you for supporting us in our efforts to maintain high standards. **Please remember to put your child's name on all items of clothing so that they can be returned.** Last session, a huge number of school sweatshirts, jackets and shoes were put in the clothing bin at the end of term.

Our children benefit from regular outdoor learning and are engaged in innovative learning in our school grounds. It is really important that when your child has outdoor learning, they bring appropriate clothing. We recommended that a jacket with a hood and sturdy shoes or wellingtons are worn. We have a large stock of childrens gardening gloves and equipment. Children can wear old joggers for some of these activities to protect their uniform.

P.E.

We are extremely grateful to the staff at Ralston Sports Centre for allowing us to use their pitches throughout the day. Participation in 2 hours of high quality P.E is so important for your child's health and well being. All children should bring a PE kit including gym shoes/trainers on the required days.

- No jewellery can be worn during P.E.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- All earrings **must be removed** or **taped** by parents for P.E.
- Navy/black shorts and red/white T-Shirt/Polo Shirt
- School tracksuit is optional in P5-P7

Parent Pay

Starting in September 2019, we will be introducing a more convenient way to pay for school meals, trips, school events and activities and much more online, using a secure service called ParentPay.

ParentPay will be live at our school on **19th September 2019** and from this date we will no longer be accepting cash and cheque payments, making the school a cash-free environment. Parents who need to continue making payments by cash may do so using the PayPoint network at local convenience stores.

Making secure payments online using your credit or debit card

You can access ParentPay via <https://www.mygov.scot/myaccount>

You will already have received your activation letter. Please activate your account before 19 September 2019

Mobile Phones

In accordance with Council and School Policy, please note that children are not permitted to have mobile phones switched on at any time during the school day. If a child is found to be using their phone, they will be asked to hand it in to the office and collect it at the end of the day. We will contact parents to inform them.

Pupils are required to act responsibly at all times when accessing the internet or using mobile phones.

Head Lice

Please check your child's hair regularly as this is often the time of year when outbreaks occur.



Class Dojo

Communication with the teacher via this app has proved useful, however; parents are requested to phone the school and make an appointment to see the teacher if they require information about their child's progress or have a concern they wish to raise. Absences and appointments must be notified to the school office and not through class dojo.

Teachers will not respond to messages in the evenings or at weekends.



Administration of Medicines

The administration of PRESCRIBED medicines during the school day is at the discretion of the Head Teacher. Appropriate forms must be completed in advance of medicines being administered.

- Only prescribed medication supplied by the parent/carer in its original container should be administered to a child.
- No child should take any form of medication in school without the written permission of the parent/carer. **Prescription medicines should be accompanied by Appendix 1 Permission Form.**
- Medication must be delivered to/collected from school by an adult.

Diary Dates

September

11 September	School Photographer
12 September	School Photographer
25 September	MacMillan Coffee Morning
27 September	Holiday
30 September	Holiday

October

11 October	In Service Day
14 to 18 October	Holiday
22 October	Flu Vaccinations
24 October	Parent Council Halloween Disco

November

7 November	Parents' Night
23 November	Parent Council Christmas Fayre

December

02 December	St Andrew's Day Holiday
11 December	Nursery Nativity
11 December	Christmas Jumper Day
12 December	Christmas Concerts A.M P1-P7
13 December	Christmas Concerts A.M P1-3 P.M P4-P7
16 December	P7 Christmas Party
17 December	P5 & P6 Christmas Party
18 December	P3 & P4 Christmas Party
19 December	P1 & P2 Christmas Party
20 December	School Closes 2.30pm

The full annual calendar can be found on the school website. Please note all dates may be subject to change.

Recognising Pupils' Achievements Outwith Ralston Primary School

Although we encourage children to tell us about their achievements outwith school we are sure that we don't know about lots of things, however, big or small. If you feel that your child has accomplished something for the first time, improved in something, or has achieved an award (yellow belt in Judo, a badge at Souts/Brownies /Boys Brigade etc) please let us know by completing the tear off slip below. This will then be shared at assembly and added to our achievements records. Children are awarded a Bronze Achievement certificate after (5 achievements) a Silver after (10 achievements) and a Gold after (15 achievements).

Recognition of Achievement

I'd like (name) _____ (class) _____ to be recognised for his/her achievement in _____

He/she _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____



@RalstonPrimary

Head Teacher: Miss Jillian McGown



School Contacts:

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