

Wallace Primary School

Back to School Newsletter

August 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to the school year 2018-2019, I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and has returned looking forward to the year ahead as we aim to make our vision a reality for ALL pupils, staff, parents and partners at Wallace.



***Happy Together. Learning Together.
Succeeding Together.***

Funding Update

We have received some wonderful news over the last few months about funding applications for our school. Our grants sub-committee of the Parent Council has secured the following for us:

- £4,000 from Foyle Foundation for reading resources and our library.
- £2104.35 from Flight Path funding for cooking equipment.
- £2635.65 from Food for Thought for a food technology project.
- £500 from local shop Nisa for our football team.
- Sponsorship from local business Eastons Solicitors for our football team.

They were also able to organise volunteers from Intu Braehead to upgrade our atrium area, they worked with staff from Cardwell Garden Centre for two days to paint, clean, clear and plant. The area looks great and we hope we will get lots of good weather to use it. We cannot thank the parents in this group enough for their hard work in securing this funding; these grants and sponsorship will make a massive difference to the pupils at Wallace.

Staffing Update

At the end of last term, we were sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Weldon, Mr McGill, Miss Montgomery, Miss MacDonald and Mrs Carrigan. We would like to thank them for their hard work and wish them well for the future.

We are delighted to welcome new teaching staff to the school Miss Clark (P1), Miss Hughes (P3) and Ms Crawford (P2).

Happy Together

Meet the Teacher

I am delighted to share with you the details of our Meet the Teacher event to be held on **Wednesday 29th August.**

Last year we tried a new format and 100% of parents preferred this to previous formats. The class teachers will deliver a short talk to parents; this will cover plans for the year as well as homework expectations. Talks will last around 10 minutes to allow parents with more than one child to move between classes. During the evening tea and coffee will be available in the gym hall where members of the management team will be available.

Primary 1:	5pm
Primary 2:	5pm
Primary 3:	5.20pm
Primary 4:	5.20pm
Primary 5:	5.40pm
Primary 6:	6pm
Primary 7:	6.15pm

Following the Primary 7 talk there will be a presentation about the Loch Insh trip.

Learning Together

Parental Engagement

Last year we made excellent progress in improving parental engagement across the school through a variety of events, support from parent helpers and developed methods of communication. We hope to continue this as we move into this new school year.

Happy Together

Communication with Parents

We have a variety of ways to communicate with parents.

- Download our school app - 'My School App'
- Check out our website and class blogs
- Follow us on twitter @WallacePrimary
- Sign up for our email subscriptions, which will send you any blog updates.
- Read our monthly newsletters, which will come home in school bags.

Teaching and Learning

As your child embarks on a new school year, you will notice changes in our approaches to teaching and learning. In line with educational research and Local Authority guidance, we shall no longer be operating our 'setting' approach where children are grouped for Literacy and Numeracy.

Pupils will mostly be taught by their own class teacher in a mixed ability group. This approach is research based and recommended as best practice in ensuring the best outcomes for all pupils. *Learning Together*

Diary Dates

It is my intention to have a year planner issued to you within the next few weeks with all key dates for the year to allow you to plan ahead. I hope you find this useful.



Awards

We will continue to hold red carpet assemblies and celebrate pupil successes outwith the school and welcome any successes to be brought in and shared with me. We will continue "Head Teacher's Awards" to celebrate success within the school. Pupils are nominated by their class teacher and this can reflect any aspect of their work or behaviour from that week. There will be additional awards linked to our school values. I hope the children enjoy celebrating their success at our weekly assemblies.

Reminders

- Wallace Primary School is a nut free zone; we have children with severe nut allergies and ask that no nuts or nut products be brought to school.
- We kindly request that parents don't park in the school car park and are considerate of local residents when using surrounding areas.
- Pupils are welcome to cycle to school, we ask parents to ensure bikes are in roadworthy condition, helmets are worn and pupils have appropriate skills and safety awareness to do so. We kindly request no cycling in the school playground.
- No dogs are allowed within our school grounds.
- Pupils should bring full PE kit on gym days. Jewellery should not be worn on PE days. If earrings must be worn, they should be taped over at home or by the child at school. Tape should be provided from home, this is in line with Renfrewshire Council Policy.



Finally, I would like to thank you in advance for your support this year as we embark on another successful year at Wallace.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Susan Dalrymple
Head Teacher