People Directorate

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Monday 17th May 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,





We have 6 weeks left before the summer holidays which feels a very short amount of time to achieve all that we need to before the end of the year. It has been a long year with all of the COVID challenges but equally brief in relation to the amount of time our children have been in school.

We are very grateful to the diligence shown by all of our families in following the guidelines and keeping everyone safe. Hopefully next session we will see a return to a more normal school life with opportunities for parents/carers to be welcomed back into the school and be more fully involved in their child's learning.

Inductions

Our Early Years and Primary 1 induction programme has started. The Pre-school children have been spending time within the P1 class bases and getting to know their new teachers, Mrs Thomson and Mrs Mair. Some Primary 1 parents/carers joined us last week for an information session and will have the chance to join their child this week in class. In the Early Years Centre next year there will be 40 children. Letters have been issued to confirm places. The Induction programme will start this week for the new ante pre-school children coming into our Early Years Centre.

Surveys - reminder

Pupils in Primary 4-7 have completed their annual surveys which will give us an opportunity to capture their views and build this into planning for next session. The link to the parents' survey was e-mailed directly to parents as well as being posted on facebook and the BLOG. We would appreciate as many parents as possible completing the survey which will help us to celebrate our successes and reflect on any areas where we need to improve upon. It is important to capture the views of the majority of our parents/carers. The survey needs to be completed by Friday 21st May***

The link for your parent survey is : <u>https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/EYCParents20-21/</u>

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/PrimaryParents20-21/

Uniform order

We are continuing to encourage the children in the school and EYC to wear the uniform. We will be placing an order for uniform next week to ensure that it is delivered before the end of term. If you would like to order it through the school, please return the attached form with payment by **Monday** 24th May. Alternatively Parents/Carers can purchase the uniform throughout the year, online (www.beschoolwear.co.uk) or in store, 'BE Schoolwear' in Ayr.



Water / lunches

Please remember to provide your child with plenty of water as the weather is warmer and the classes can get quite warm, even though the rooms are well ventilated. They should bring two bottles of water each day, one for the morning and one for the afternoon, as the normal facility for pupils to refill from the water cooler is not available, as part of measures to prevent the potential spread of the virus. All children will be provided with water or milk at lunchtime as well.

It has been confirmed that Primary 4 will be entitled to free school meals next session which will support the school in encouraging healthy eating and I am sure free lunches will also be welcomed by parents/carers.

Classes and staffing for next year :

Elaine Clark was successful at interview in gaining a Senior Early Years Practitioner post at Cairn Early Years Centre and she will take up her post prior to the end of term. Helen Clark who is currently on maternity leave will not be returning so we will be appointing a new Early Years practitioner. Nicola Noonan, who is one of our Early Years Practitioners at the Carrick Centre, will be joining us at Gardenrose as a key worker. Kerri McDougall will be returning from maternity leave in October and will be moving to the Carrick Centre.

Mrs Whiteford, who has been teaching at Kirkmichael this sessions, will start at Gardenrose in August as a Class Teacher. In October we will be welcoming Mrs Wade and Mrs Park back from their maternity leave. Congratulations to Mrs Boyd who is expecting her second baby and will be going on maternity leave from October.

- EYC Miss Lee (Class Teacher)
 - Gardenrose : Susan, Lee, Rhian, Nicola plus (2 vacancies to be appointed before the summer) Carrick Centre : Angela (Senior EYP) and Kerry (Maternity cover until October)
- P1 Mrs Mair / Mrs Thomson
- P2 Mrs Boyd (Aug-Oct) / Mrs Wade (Oct-June) / Mrs Whiteford
- P3 Miss McNeillie
- P4 Miss Pollock
- P5 Miss Grater
- P7/6 Miss Caldwell
- P7/6 Vacancy

Pupil Support - Mrs Julie Briggs and Mrs Irene Miller

The whole school 'Bump-up' day will be on the afternoon of Wednesday 9th June where all of the children will be move into their new classrooms to meet their new teachers.

Parents' night and report cards

Annual reports with information about Curriculum for Excellence levels will be issued to parents/carers on Thursday 27th May. Parents/Carers had appointments with Class Teachers in March so there will not be an additional Parents' meeting this term. If any parents/carers have any concerns in relation to their child's report card then they can contact the school to arrange an appointment to speak to the Class Teacher.

Sports Days

Due to the ongoing restrictions there will not be a traditional sports day held this year. The children will have the opportunity to participate in some competitive activities within their Class groups. Unfortunately Parents/Carers will not be able to attend.

Management Changes

Mrs McDougall will take up post as Head Teacher of Cairn and Gardenrose Primary on Tuesday 1st June when I will return to my substantive post as Head Teacher at Dailly Primary. Mrs Malcolm and I have been working very closely with Mrs McDougall to ensure a smooth handover. It is with a very heavy heart that I leave Gardenrose as I have very much valued my time here, particularly in the last two years and previously when I covered Mrs Trimming's maternity leave. I will take with me some amazing memories and I thank all of children, the parents, carers and staff for making this secondment such a special experience.

I will look forward to following Gardenrose's continued successes on facebook and twitter.

Yours sincerely

Louise Monneron

Louise Morrison Head Teacher