

Allan's Primary School



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

A WARM WELCOME!

Welcome to our second newsletter of session 2018/19! We hope that this newsletter gives you an update on our achievements, ongoing initiatives and our improvement planning strategy. There seems to be a real buzz about being part of the our wonderful Allan's family and we are so excited about the all new initiatives which are planned to take place this session

Priorities Update

In our August newsletter we shared our priorities for this session, we also shared this at our recent Meet the Team evening. A huge thank you to everyone who came along! Already, we have made progress in the following priorities:

- To raise attainment in literacy through implementation of Read, Write, Inc approach in P1—3. Our P1—3 teachers have been trained in this new approach and are already implementing it with our children. Reports from children and staff are that they are really enjoying the new approach. Our P4 & P6 children are about to start a Book Buddies scheme with the Scottish Book Trust. The Scottish Book Trust are also going to work with us to identify new, exciting novels for our children in P4—7. We hope that the new novels will stimulate interest and develop a positive reading culture within the school.
- To develop 1+2 approach by embedding the teaching of French across the school—Mrs Angus, Mrs Greenwood, Jacqui Burns from Stirling Council and Mr & Mrs Hennebert met this month to discuss how we can embed French within our daily practice. Mrs Greenwood has also volunteered to run a lunchtime French Club for children in P1—3. Our P7 children will also be learning Mandarin every Tuesday afternoon with a Mandarin specialist teacher, Mrs Lawson.
- To enhance our children's health & wellbeing through implementation of the daily mile initiative—our children have already started this initiative and reports from the children are very positive.
- To develop our learners' creativity and 21st century skills by introduction of Makerspace philosophy and enhancement of a science and technology approach. Mr Downs has asked our community for resources to support the use of our new Makerspace. Miss Shrimpton has started to implement science and has organised a visit from the Glasgow Science Centre on Monday 8th October!
- To improve our learners' digital skills through development of a structured, consistent approach to digital learning across the school—we have purchased 10 new iPads and the children are using them for a variety of purposes. We are also waiting on 5 new Chrome Books!

Dates for Your Diary

27 September at 6pm	APC Movie Night in hall
4 October at 7pm	APC Meeting in hall
8 October	Science Day with Glasgow Science Centre
10-12 October	P7 Residential Trip to Dalguise
11 October at 9.45am	Harvest Service in Allan Park South Church
12 October at 3.20pm	School Closes for October Holidays
22 October at 9am	Term 2 Begins
24 October at 9.30am	Triple P Parent Discussion Group in the Hub
25 October	APC Hallowe'en Disco
9 November	Snapshot Jotter Issued
14 November at 9.30am	Triple P Parent Discussion Group
20—21 November	Parents' Consultations
21 November	Flu Immunisation Day
29—30 November	School Closed for Staff Inservice
13 December	P1-3 Christmas Party
14 December	Christmas Book Launch for P4-7
19 December	P4 & P5 Christmas Party
20 December	P6 & P7 Christmas Party
20 December	Christmas Church Service at 1.30pm
21 December at 1.30pm	Christmas Holidays Begin

LEARNING TOGETHER

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Meet the Team event. Many parents reported that the session gave them a clear insight into the priorities for this session and enabled them to understand classroom routines, etc.

Our first Learning Together session is scheduled for Tuesday 13 November at 9am. We will be focusing on embedding formative assessment and how we use learning intentions and success criteria in our learning and teaching. We want to share how we communicate this to our children during each learning activity/lesson. Tea and coffee will be served in the hall at 9am where we will give a short presentation and then you are welcome to visit your child's class to see formative assessment in action.

TRIPLE P DISCUSSION GROUPS

After consultation with our highly supportive APC, it was highlighted that many parents would like advice and tips on dealing with many everyday parenting problems. Our first discussion group will be held on Wednesday 24 October at 9.30am in the H&W Hub. Please come along, have a cup of tea/coffee and share the posi-

Support each other, to grow together.

<http://malenadugroup.blogspot.in/>

tives and frustrations about parenting

FAMILIES CONNECT



Save the Children

Mrs James and Mrs Pridden will be running our Families Connect programme again from October to December. If your child is in P1 or P2 and you would like to participate in this exciting project, please let us know. Many parents and children took part last session and thoroughly enjoyed the process. This strategy is a raising attainment initiative which is proven to enhance children's literacy and numeracy skills.

DALGUISE



It's nearly that time of year again when our P7's head off on their residential trip to Dalguise from 10th to 12th October. Many thanks to Mr Downs for hosting the Dalguise Information Event on 11th September where details of this exciting experience were shared and questions answered. This opportunity provides our P7 learners with an opportunity to develop a variety of skills, including teamwork and resiliency. It also provides a valuable opportunity to meet other children from within the Stirling High School learning community as part of the transition journey. We look forward to them sharing all their memories when they return. Hopefully the sun will shine for them!

VOLUNTEERS

We are very fortunate at Allan's Primary to have many volunteers who bring their varied skills to help support the children and staff team throughout the year. Mrs Toole welcomed several of them to our Volunteer Training Session on 18th September where required training was undertaken. This event also provided an opportunity for new and old volunteers alike to share experiences and a cuppa together. Should you have any spare time and are interested in supporting the school please get in touch with Mr Toole. We would love you to join our fantastic team!



House Challenge

Last week our new House Captains launched the first challenge for this term. Each house has been tasked with bringing in a variety of food and household items to support the work of Start Up Stirling, a local charity who support individuals

CLUBS

This term we have a variety of clubs running throughout the week.

P1 & 2 Gymnastics Club will start on Monday 22 October 3.20—4pm—more info to follow

P6 and P7 Running Club at lunchtime (Mrs Ashworth)

P3 & P3 Scottish Country Dancing on Wednesday after school (Mrs Gow) - more info to follow

P5-P7 Friday Football Club starting 28th Sep 18 (Mrs Angus)

NUT FREE SCHOOL



As stated in our last newsletter, we have an increased number of children who suffer from a nut allergy, please ensure that your child's snack or packed lunch does not contain nuts.

We also ask that our children do not share their snacks or packed lunches as this will ensure that they are eating food which is suitable for their own dietary needs. Thank you to everyone for supporting this policy!

GDPR

We are still waiting on a few GDPR consent forms. If you haven't sent your form back to school, please send it in as soon as possible as we cannot use your child's photograph, etc until we have your written permission



BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club will be open from 8.15am every morning and we are delighted that Mrs James and Mhairi are helping out again! Breakfast Club will be running until 8.45am in our Health &

Wellbeing Hub. We will be serving cereal, toast and fruit for £1.50. We also serve free breakfasts to children receiving free school meals, footwear and clothing grants. If you think that you may be entitled to free school meals or a clothing grant, please ask at reception for an application form.

CAR PARK

We have received reports that taxis and cars are using the car park at the beginning and the end of the school day. Please be advised that only cars on council business are able to access the car park. PLEASE DO NOT USE THE CAR PARK FOR DROP OFF AND COLLECTION.



FLU VACCINATION

Every year, each school in Scotland participates in the Flu Vaccination scheme. To help prepare for this, letters of consent will be distributed and a NHS liaison nurse presented at our assembly on 21 September. Our vaccination day has been scheduled for Wednesday 21 November. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to ask or visit www.healthscotland.com where you will find new leaflets about the vaccination programme.

Updated Administration of Medicine Policy

We have updated our Administration of Medicine Policy and as a result, we will only administer medicine which has been prescribed by a GP or pharmacist. Most over the counter medicines can be prescribed by a pharmacist using the Minor Ailments Service. If you would like to have a look at our new policy or have any queries, please pop in and ask Mrs James to talk it through with you.

CYCLING TO SCHOOL

We are absolutely delighted to see so many children cycling or scooting to school. We do ask however that if your child is cycling or scooting that the following code of conduct is adhered to:

- ◆ Wear a helmet at all times
- ◆ Dismount at the school gate and then walk the bicycle/scooter into the school grounds
- ◆ Walk the bicycle/scooter down Spittal Street to avoid collisions
- ◆ Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult

In the summer term, our P5 P6 classes will be participating in our Bikeability programme. Many of our children thoroughly enjoy this programme and have enhanced their cycling proficiency.



Parent Council News

Our next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday 4 October at 7pm in our Health & Wellbeing Hub. The APC have also organised a movie night for all children on Thursday 27 September at 6pm. Children are able to come to school in their pyjamas/onesies. Snacks will be provided but we ask that each child brings their own water bottle. The APC are looking for parent volunteers to help out on the night so if you are free and able to help, please contact a member of the APC. We will also be serving tea and coffee for parents in our H&W Hub.

MY INCLUSION ABC'S



A Message from Mrs Foran

Hello, my name is Anna Foran and I'm the new Support for Learning Teacher here at Allan's.

I've been working in this role for over 10 years and my passion is supporting children to achieve their potential. Just like in the broader community, support needs present in many different ways and encompass all aspects of wellbeing. Some are lifelong, while others are temporary. I believe all children are born learners and all children have the capacity to make a valued contribution within our school. The infographic above highlights some of the many considerations and adjustments we use



at school to help meet individual needs as we work together.

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the pupils at Allan's this term and over the coming weeks and months I look forward to meeting many of you as I work alongside your children and their teachers.

Kind regards,

Mrs Foran

PUPIL PARLIAMENT UPDATE

Our new Pupil Parliament has been established and we have had our first meeting. We are really enthusiastic about taking new initiatives forward in our school and have constructed an action plan to show our improvement priorities. We want to make the journey to and from school safer and cleaner for all our children and community members and we also want to enhance the wellbeing of our children by introducing pupil counsellors. We are now having a feature in every newsletter which will allow us to give you monthly updates.

Improvement Priority 5 – PUPIL PARLIAMENT 3.1 ENSURING WELLBEING, EQUALITY & INCLUSION				
Outcomes for Learners & School Community				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make the journey to school safer and cleaner for all our children and community members To enhance the health & wellbeing of all our children in the school 				
Key Actions	Priority Leader	Milestone Dates	PEF	Evaluation/ Analysis of Progress and Impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take action and create awareness on the way to school with cars and vehicles (go on the Stirling radio, make signs and do something ourselves). Write to the refuge department about the amount of wheelie bins on the streets on the way to school(Imovie's, news report, Stirling radio) Establish pupil/house counsellor from each house and publicize it Picnic tables to be bought by the end of this year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heather Cook, Abigail McNaught Annie Mackie, Calan Ledinham Kallan Smith, Emily Smith (organisers) Hamish Hamilton-Smith, Adam Sparks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 2019 March 2019 October/ November 2018 Early October 2018 		
FUTURE PLANS				

Kind regards

Annie Mackie (First Minister)



BUILDING UPDATE

At the end of last session, our school building and grounds were subject to a Suitability/Fit for Purpose assessment. The results of this assessment will be shared at the Council's Children and Young People's Committee meeting on Thursday 27 September. Once this survey has been shared, information will follow. If you have any queries regarding any aspect of this study or its findings, please do not hesitate to contact us.