

# Meadowburn Primary School/ Bun Sgoil Innis an Uillt



August 2019

A motivating, challenging, inclusive and nurturing community where we learn, achieve and grow

Welcome back to all of our pupils, it is lovely to see everyone again after the holidays. I would like to say a big 'hello and welcome' to all Primary 1 children and to any new pupils throughout the school and their parents. It was great to see so many of you last night at our 'Meet the Teacher' evening. The presentations will be added to the school website as soon as possible.

## STAFF/CLASS UPDATES

We have a few changes to staffing this year. I am delighted to welcome Mrs L. Flynn, Ms L. Mitchell, Mr. M Gurillo and Ms F. Graham to the school staff this year. Mrs Flynn will be teaching P4/5 along with Mr Dhaliwal, Ms Mitchell will be teaching P6 along with Mrs Main, Mr Gurillo will be teaching Clas 5/6/7 and Ms Graham will be teaching Clas 2/3 along with Mrs MacDermaid as well as team teaching in Clas 4/5 and C5/6/7.

## ATTENDANCE, ABSENCE AND ILLNESS

Attendance of pupils at Meadowburn Primary School is very good and good attendance is vital for children's progress. A child's non-attendance can be due to a number of reasons e.g. illness or family circumstances and as Head Teacher I monitor attendance on a monthly basis. Communication between home and school is always key and I think that it is important that parents are informed when their child's absence levels reach a stage where it could be impacting on their child's learning and his/her ability to reach his/her full potential. In these circumstances I will issue a letter and contact parents by phone to have a conversation or arrange a meeting if necessary. The same procedures will be followed if late-coming is having a similar disadvantageous impact on a child's learning. Being late regularly for school means valuable teaching time is missed and it can be unsettling for the child. If your child is late he/she should enter through the main door and report to the school office, not just go directly to class. Should your child be unaccounted for, a member of the office staff will call you before 9.30am to ascertain his/her whereabouts. If your child is home at lunchtime and is unable to return for afternoon lessons please call us before 1.00pm.

## FLU IMMUNISATIONS

The date for the nasal spray immunisations for school children in Meadowburn this year is **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November.** Flu Immunisation packs have been sent home for completion and further information is available at [www.immunisationscotland.org.uk/childflu](http://www.immunisationscotland.org.uk/childflu).

## CYCLING/SCOOTING TO SCHOOL

We always want to encourage active travel to school and it is great to see those who live close enough to be able to, walk, cycle or scoot to school. To keep everyone safe in the playground however, including our many nursery pupils, **please remember to come off bikes and scooters at the school gates and push them through the playground at the start and end of the school day.**

## **PARKING**

Unfortunately, the space in the staff car park is very limited and needs to allow room for pupil transport buses and emergency vehicles to safely manoeuvre. **Can I please remind you that parents/carers should not use the car park between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm unless by prior agreement with the Head Teacher.** We respectfully ask this is communicated to everyone who is involved in dropping off/collecting your children. If any parent/carer has any concerns or queries then please contact the school office. Please also help to ensure all of our pupils are able to travel safely to and from school by parking with extra care, courtesy and consideration to others, allowing pedestrians (many of whom are our pupils) to be able to walk, scoot or cycle on pavements safely. This includes parking on the yellow zig-zag lines and ensuring that when cars are parked they do not obstruct pedestrian pathways.

## **P.E.**

East Dunbartonshire Council has a Health and Safety requirement which states that jewellery **must not be worn** during PE lessons. Children should be able to remove any jewellery safely by themselves however, it is advisable that they leave their jewellery at home on P.E. days. If your child has pierced ears they should be able to remove the earrings before P.E. If they cannot do so, it is advisable that they do not wear their earrings on P.E. days to avoid having to miss out on P.E. lessons.

## **IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

This has been finalised for 2019/2020 and our main school priorities for the coming session are summarised below. Full details will be available shortly on the school website. We have also started working on a Pupil-Friendly version which will be displayed in the school foyer and shared with parents once the Pupil Council has been formed and their suggestions included.

### **1. RAISING ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT**

To continue to raise attainment and achievement by meeting the needs of all learners by focusing on continuing to improve attainment in writing, further developing support and challenge interventions in numeracy and literacy and implementing 'Giglets ann an Gàidhlig' (an online Gaelic reading tool).

### **2. ENSURING WELLBEING, EQUALITY AND INCLUSION**

To improve outcomes ensuring equity and excellence for all by continuing to develop a Play2Learn approach in P1 and C1/2 focusing on planning, documentation and outdoor learning, implementing the PATHS (Positive Alternative Thinking Strategies) programme in both nurseries and raising parental awareness of the programme, revisiting training for all staff on Nurturing School Principles and piloting LIAM (Let's Introduce Anxiety Management) through a targeted support approach.

### **3. CURRICULUM**

To deliver an effective curriculum resulting in strong outcomes for all learners by reviewing our learning pathway for listening and to ensure appropriate progression and skills development and by continuing to further enhance Digital Learning through implementing online Learning Stories (Seesaw) throughout the primary stages and E-Journals in Sgoil Araich.

## **A LITTLE BIRDIE TOLD ME ...**

Did you know that Meadowburn Primary is on Twitter? The twitter account is secure and only accepted followers will be able to access it. If you wish to follow the school please email your Twitter details to [office@meadowburn.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](mailto:office@meadowburn.e-dunbarton.sch.uk) (marked F.A.O Miss Campbell re Twitter). This will enable us to ensure that only Meadowburn parents have access to the account. If you have any questions or suggestions with regard to Twitter please feel free to contact me.

## **NUT FREE SCHOOL**

May I take this opportunity to remind you that some children in school suffer allergic reactions when they come into contact with nuts. Please help keep everyone safe and healthy by ensuring that snacks and packed lunches are 'nut free.'

## **PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT**

The next meeting dates for our 3 Parent Groups are:

Parent Council	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September
Comann nam Pàrant	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> September
PTA	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September

\*Don't forget PTA Quiz Night on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September - looks like it's going to be a great night!\*

## **DATES FOR DIARIES**

Keep an eye out for our next newsletter coming soon which will include details of dates for the year such as assemblies, parents nights, School Show, Sports Day etc.

To all parents/carers, I would like to say that if there are any aspects of school life that cause concern or that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to get in touch right away, phone, email or pop in to the school office and we will do our best to help.

Miss J. Campbell

Head Teacher

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