

Baldernock Banter



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August 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to the new session. I hope you all had a relaxing break. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new families who have joined us and also Mrs Alison Garden and our new Building Manager Mrs Lynn Connelly. Mrs Garden will be working on a Wednesday to cover Non Class Contact. She will work in P1/2 and P3/4/5.

We want everyone in school to feel safe and happy so as always, please do not hesitate to contact me on any aspect of your child's education or welfare over the coming months.

I have attached a comment slip at the end of this newsletter should you have any comments you wish to make about the service we deliver or indeed to make notes of any further information you require.

Jill Carr

Head Teacher

VIOLIN

Mrs Elaine Leitch returns this year to teach violin. Mrs Leitch will be in school on a Friday morning.

PERCUSSION

We are delighted that Mr Barclay will again be working with us till the Christmas break

NEW INTAKE

Eleven Primary Ones have joined us this year and all have already settled into school routines. They have made new friends and are working hard.

A P1 Curricular afternoon will take place on Wednesday 28th August at 9.30.a.m in school.

PARENT COUNCIL AND PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Our Parent Council meets roughly 4 times over the session and is open to any parent to join. The Parent Council has a more formal role than the PTA. The first meeting will be our AGM where we will confirm committee members and post holders for this session. This meeting will be held on Thursday 19th September at 7.00.p.m in Douglas Academy.

We also have a P.T.A that supports the work of the school by organising fundraising events. Money generated supports various projects over the course of the session. Again after our AGM I will confirm post holders. The date for this meeting is Monday 2nd September at 7.00.p.m. in the Tickled Trout.

Both these groups have an important role within our school so we are always looking for new people to come along and join us.

If anyone is interested in either group, please contact the office.

ILLNESS

If your child takes ill or has an accident in school he/she will be seen by either Mrs Faull, Mrs Maclean, Mrs Meldrum or myself, the school first aiders. Parents will be telephoned if further treatment is required beyond school and if a child has bumped their head.

MEDICINES

Should your child require medicine during school hours, please deliver it to the school office and complete a consent form. Children who have asthma should always have their inhaler with them for use when needed. No medication will be administered unless the relevant forms have been completed and signed by parents/carers. Medicine must be in the original package with the child's name and dosage to be administered clearly visible. Medication coming into school should be brought in by parents/carers and should be picked up at the end of a term /session.

East Dunbartonshire Council have recently updated their medical policy and ours has been updated to reflect this. A sample of parents will be sent a copy of the draft policy for comment and the policy will be taken to Parent Council to highlight updates before being issued.

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones and electrical games and equipment are not covered by school insurance. We would advise that they are left at home. If any pupil requires a mobile phone for use after school, it should be kept in their school bag and switched off during the school day. Pupils are not permitted to send or receive calls or txt during the school day. If they require any help in school, they should approach a member of staff. E.D.C will not accept liability for the loss of a phone in the school or school grounds.

ABSENCE

Please contact the school by telephone before 9.30 a.m. to let us know if your child is going to be absent from school for any reason. We have a duty to follow up un-notified absences by telephoning parents, emergency contacts and, if necessary, the attendance officer, police and/or social services. The school office number is 0141 955 2341. Please send a note with your child when they return to school after an absence. East Dunbartonshire Council has updated their absence policies recently and we are in the process of updating ours to reflect changes. Again I will send a sample of the draft to a selection of parents for comment as well as consulting our Parent Council.

INFORMATION CHANGES

Please remember to keep the school informed of any changes to emergency contact details.

TRANSPORT

A one way system is in place coming off Craigmaddie Road down the hill to the school and then round the loop to come back out at the church. Cars should pull into the wall or just drop children at the entrance to the school. Cars must **NOT** turn here. Please stay off the zig zag lines to ensure visibility for all around the entrance to school. We need to pick up swiftly at the end of the day to lessen congestion around the school. Please be patient if there is a build up of cars to ensure the safety of all.

ALLERGIES

If your child suffers from any specific allergies, please ensure that you inform the school office and provide the school with any medication required.

As the incidence of allergies is increasing it is important that children recognise that it is not always appropriate to share food. We would encourage you to support us in this by reminding your children not to share snacks.

ALLERGY ALERT

Please do not include any nuts in packed lunches or snacks. Can I remind you that peanut butter and Nutella should not be used on sandwiches.

Teachers will not be issuing sweets during the course of the term or at the end of term to ensure the safety of all.

APPOINTMENTS

If your child is leaving class during school hours a note should be sent to the class teacher and an adult must collect them from the school office.

INTERNET SAFETY

The internet is vast and exciting but there are still potential risks for our children. Please support us by reminding your child if they are using chat rooms or social network sites:

- not to use their real name
- never give out personal information
- never agree to meet anyone
- never post photographs of themselves

HEALTH PROMOTION

Baldernock Primary School is a Health Promoting School and while we recognise that treats have their place we would like to encourage healthy choices at snack time and in pack lunches. As ever we would welcome your support in this.

LUNCHES

P1-5 children receive a free lunch. Lunches are ordered via the cashless catering system.

Discussion took place last session between parents and the authority to address issues in the dining hall regarding the quality of food, serving of food as well as inconsistencies between what the menu offered and what actually was served.

Changes have been made to address this, one of them being that our food will be coming from Killermont Primary kitchen to cut down travel time which was impacting on the quality of certain foods.

I have to say that in the first few days back at school there has been an improvement in the quality of food. I hope that as a result of this children might again use the cafeteria for their lunch.

P.E

We will be back to Torrance for P.E. in December and will be there over January and February. We will continue with our 3 weekly visits to Mugdock on a Tuesday and P.E on our own grounds on a Thursday.

Cycling at Baldernock runs from P1-P7 with the aim being that children leave Primary 7 having achieved Bikeability 2. Cycle Scotland can offer support, but if available, it is only P7 pupils that are funded. Staff are trained to allow us not to depend on funding. We develop progressive cycling skills from P1-P7 to ensure that children by P7 can ride safely on the road. Many children can ride a bike but don't have the skills that mean they can for example take their hands off the handle bars to signal or brake properly. When working on Bikeability 1 & 2 I will send home a parental booklet which has tips on what you can do at home to help develop cycle skills and reinforce what we deliver at school. Thank you in advance.

OUTDOORS

We use the outdoor classroom, canopied area and shelter in the garden when taking our learning outdoors as well as the area at the back of the garden with its raised beds, cold frame and shelter. We have acquired Belfast sinks which we are going to use to develop aspect of sustainability within the curriculum.

RUNNING

We will start running week beginning 9th September on a Tuesday and Thursday.

If anyone would like to help with running (there is no need to be able to run as we need helpers along the way) and has a half an hour on either or both of our running days please contact the office leaving your name with Mrs Faull and we will get back to you. Thank you in advance.

PROMOTING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Our Promoting Positive Relationships policy will be sent out to remind everyone about the ethos we wish to foster at Baldernock Primary School.

HEADLICE

Please remember to check your child's head regularly for sign of infection. It is no longer the role of the school nurse so responsibility falls to parents/guardians. Checks should be made weekly/fortnightly. If a child has had lice, they should be treated before returning to school. For further information check www.onceaweektakeapeek.com

PRE LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM SERVICE

As part of our Reduce Reuse Recycle initiative we run a second hand school uniform service. Orders can be placed by calling the school office. Items will be packaged and sent home via your child's schoolbag. All items are free of charge. We also accept good quality school uniform. Unfortunately, we cannot accept shoes, underwear or clothes that are damaged, ripped or heavily stained. All donation are accepted at the school office.

RAG BAG COLLECTION

Please ensure what goes into the bin at the back of the school only includes the items on the collectable list and is bagged.

What we can collect: Wearable clothing-All fashions-All ages: Paired shoes: handbags: belts

We can no longer accept: Workwear, uniforms, wet or soiled clothes, curtains, towels, duvets or covers, pillows or cases, blankets, cushions, table cloths, linen, carpets, suitcases, bric-a-brac, hangers or electrical.

SECURITY

Please can I remind you that ANY visitor must report to the school office. **NOBODY SHOULD GO DIRECTLY TO A CLASSROOM**

DIARY DATES

Date	Event	Time
Wednesday 28 th August	P1 Curricular morning	9.30.a.m.
Monday 2 nd September	P.T.A AGM - Ticked Trout	7.00.p.m
Week beginning 9 th September	Running starts - Tuesday & Thursday	9.00.a.m.
Friday 13 th September	Flu immunisation	A.M
Thursday 19 th September	Parent Council AGM - Douglas Academy	7.00.p.m.
Friday 25 th September - Monday 30 th September	Holiday	
Wednesday 2 nd October	Parent's Night	
Thursday 10 th October	Harvest Church Service- Baldernock Church	10.00.a.m.
Friday 11 th October	In Service Day	
Monday 14 th October - Friday 18 th October	October School Holiday	
Monday 21 st October	School Re-opens	9.00.a.m.

Parent/Guardian Comment Slip - Baldernock Banter - August 2024

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date _____