

Baldernock Banter



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August 2017

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 to our new staff

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.

Thank you again for the gifts I received at the end of term. I have given out thank you cards but had 2 bottles of wine with no names attached. Whoever you are thank you. They were enjoyed over the summer.

Mrs Michie has asked me to pass her thanks on to you for her leaving gift. See attached sheet at the back for copy of her letter.

Jill Carr

Head Teacher

P1 Pupils

We welcomed 5 P1 pupils to school this August. All have settled well to the routines of school and will join us full time on Monday 4th September.

Staff

Mrs Milano and Mrs Purves have joined our staff this year. Mrs Milano will be working in P6/7 with Mrs Meldrum and Mrs Purves will be in P4/5.

Paperwork

Thank you for your understanding regarding the amount of forms that have to be filled at the beginning of term. At this stage in the year, these generally are to ensure the safety and well being of your child while at school. Should there be any change to medication and contact details over the course of the year, please contact school immediately.

Medication

Any medication including inhalers required at school should be sent in to the office with your child's name and dosage clearly marked. The M2 form for the administration of long term medication will require to be completed. Should short term medicine be required over the year an M1 form requires completion. Please note I am not allowed to administer medicine from verbal consent over the phone. The M1 form must be completed first. This is in line with E.D.C. Policy.

Internet Safety

Work related to Internet Safety is ongoing over the year. We would appreciate it if you could also remind children about:

1. Not giving out personal details
2. Not posting photographs
3. Not agreeing to meet anyone

to reinforce this work. A gentle reminder for yourselves is that 13 years is the legal age for Facebook. We are encouraging pupils to ensure mum and dad know they have a Facebook account as in primary they are younger than 13 years.

Uniform

Our pupils have returned to school looking extremely smart and we hope these high standards continue over the course of the year. Could you please ensure that clothing and footwear are clearly named as we are already trying to match various items to their owners.

Should indoor shoes become too small or badly worn they will be sent home in order that they are replaced.

Education Support Service

Mrs Jenny MacDonald will be supporting the work of the school in literacy and numeracy on a Monday morning. She will work in P1/2/3 over the course of first term. Mrs MacDonald also continues with her normal Thursday post.

Violin

Mrs Elaine Leitch returns this year to teach violin with the children she was working with last session and we look forward to hearing their renditions over the coming weeks. There is no recruitment this session due to limits on Mrs Leitch's timetable which is out with my control.

Security

Can I remind you that all visitors to the school must report to the school office first and not go directly to the classrooms.

Buses/Taxis

If your child is not going home on the bus at 3.00 p.m. can you contact the office with your arrangements and not just speak to the drivers in the morning. This saves any confusion at home time. Please note that children can't just swop buses, for example, if they are going to someone's house at the end of the day, even if there is a spare seat. This is due to insurance requirements.

P.E. Bus Run

I only have 1 person at the moment for the bus rota on a Thursday morning. If anybody could spare a bit of time to accompany children on the bus to P.E. I would be most grateful. If I get 4 names it would mean supporting once every 4 weeks. Please call the office if you can spare some time. Thank you in advance.

Parent Council

The first Parent Council meeting will be intimated as soon as the date is confirmed and will be held in the school. Should anyone be interested in the work of the Parent Council, please contact Rona Hamilton- 07730894403- Email ronahamilton@hotmail.com and/or Kimberley Murray- 07931793146 [Email-K.cantmurray@btinternet.com](mailto:K.cantmurray@btinternet.com) (our joint chair people).

P.T.A./A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the P.T.A. will take place on Tuesday 5th September at 7.00 p.m. in school. We would love to see as many of you as possible especially as it is the A.G.M., and hope that some new people will consider joining our group with new ideas for fundraising. Anne Train is stepping down as Chair as indicated last year, so it is important to secure someone to take her place at the meeting. Once again thanks to Anne for her time as Chair.

Lunches

Children self register in the morning and also have responsibility for recording cafe lunches and pack lunch numbers. To aid this process can children paying for a lunch, try to bring the correct money daily. We only keep a small float and are therefore unable to constantly pay for children who forget money. Lunches cost £2.00 for a snack and £2.30 for a main meal. A slip of paper is given to children when they forget money as a reminder to bring it to school the next day. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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. We can no longer inform you of any outbreaks. Checks should be made weekly/fortnightly. If a child has head lice, they should be treated before returning to school. For further information check www.onceaweektakeapeek.com.

Illness

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

P.E.

Trainers, shorts and a blue shirt are required for P.E. lessons and should be left in school. P.E. will be on a Thursday this year at St. Joseph's and on a Tuesday - school based and various locations.

All jewellery **MUST** be removed for P.E. lessons. We would ask that children do not have ears pierced during the school term as they will miss all P.E. until earrings can be removed. This is East Dunbartonshire Policy.

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 texts during the school day.** If they require any help in school they should approach a member of staff. East Dunbartonshire Council 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.

Garden

The children are having great fun in our adventure garden. We are encouraging them to manage and assess risk within play activities they engage in and learn from mistakes they may make. This is an important life skill and something children need to do in today's society.

We are looking for tyres, crates, guttering and palettes to ensure a variety of materials to stimulate the imagination and the fun that can be had.

Old clothes can be brought in to play in the garden. Children may come home dirtier than normal should this not happen. Wellies should be in school at all times.

Rag Bag Collection

Please ensure what goes into the bin at the back of the school only includes the items on the collectable list:

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.

Greenhouse

Over the course of this session we will need to renew the plastic bottles in our greenhouse. Could you send in any washed, clear 2L plastic fizzy drinks bottles you may be throwing out. If anyone has any time over the session, we would be very grateful for some help to renew damaged bottles.

Thank you once again for your continued support and again we look forward to working with you over the course of the session.

DIARY DATES - TERM 1

Event	Date	Time
Wednesday 30 th August	P1 Meal Experience	11.45 a.m.
Tuesday 5 th September	P1 Class photograph	1.00 p.m.
Tuesday 5 th September	P.T.A.	7.00 p.m.
Friday 8 th September	Family Learning Afternoon	12.00 - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 8 th September	Sponsored Sleepover	6.00 p.m. - 8.00 a.m
Friday 22 nd September	Holiday	
Monday 25 th September	Holiday	
Wednesday 11 th October	Parents Night	
Thursday 12 th October	Harvest Service @ Church	10.00 a.m.
Friday 13 th October	In Service	
Monday 16 th October- Friday 20 th October	October week Holiday	
Monday 23 rd October	School re-opens	
Wednesday 13 th December	School Show	Afternoon performance -P1/2/3 Nativity P4-7 - T.B.C.
Thursday 14 th December	School Show	Evening performance P4-7 only
Friday 22 nd December	Christmas Service @ Church	10.00 a.m.
Friday 22 nd December	School stops for Christmas	2.30 p.m.
Monday 8 th January 2018	School re-opens	

Parent/Guardian Comment Slip
Baldernock Banter - August 2017

Signed: _____ Class: _____