



Crosshouse Primary School



Newsletter September 2018

Already we are in full swing in the school and nursery.

Primary 7 pupils are showing excellent leadership skills as they take on responsibilities with our younger pupils. We have received very positive feedback from parents/carers and children on our P1 & P7 buddy programme. A huge well done to our buddies!

Our Primary 1 pupils have settled particularly well and are already part of the Crosshouse family.

'Meet The Teacher'

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Meet The Teacher events. I hope that you found the information helpful. If you attended a workshop we would be delighted if you could complete an evaluation which will be emailed to you soon.

Health Promoting School

As you are aware, Crosshouse Primary is a Health Promoting School and as such we suggest that children bring a small, healthy snack to eat during playtime. We also request that birthday cakes and other sweets are not sent in for distribution. We will celebrate your child's birthday in class and also during our weekly assembly. We are sure you will support us in promoting healthy eating during school time.

Parent/Carer Events & sharing your child's progress

Throughout the year you will be invited to different events which give you the opportunity to become more involved in your child's learning and to learn about their progress. As a result of feedback from parents/carers and through discussions at Parent Council meetings we have made some adjustments to the timings of these events. This year we have planned:

- Aug - Meet the Teacher
- Sep - Parents' Night
- Feb - Parents' Night
- June - Written report

Each class will also be involved in a 'Let's Learn Together' event to which family members will be invited along. In addition to these

Learning Logs

Class teachers and the senior management regularly monitor Learning Logs.

Please remember to read and sign the Learning Log each night and comment on your child's achievements at the end of the week.

Thank you.

Lost Property

We already have a range of lost items including lunch boxes, cardigans and jackets without names. Please label all items with your child's name and check the janitor's room for lost property when you pop in.

Photographer

Our photographer will visit the school on Thursday 20th September. He will take individual and family group photographs on the day. Family group photos will only include children who attend the school or nursery. Children should come to school wearing full school uniform:

- White shirt/blouse
- Navy skirt/trousers
- School shoes
- School tie

events, we have our Learning Logs which incorporate homework tasks, aspects of your child's learning journey as well as weekly targets you can support them with. Last session we were also able to provide family learning workshops and opportunities for children and family members to work together. We will extend this programme again this year.

There are many ways you can support our school. You can

- * accompany classes on outings
- * be a parent helper in the classroom
- * support our Scotland Reads paired reading programme
- * assist or lead an after school / lunch club

Parents' Evening

Our first parents' evening will take place on Thursday 27th September. Appointment times will be issued next week. Please be aware that we like children to join the discussion so please bring your child along. There will be a child minding facility for siblings and our book fayre and uniform shop will be open. Our fundraising committee will also be selling tea, coffee and home baking. Home baking donations would be greatly appreciated and can be handed into the school office.

New Pitch

Our new MUGA (multi use games area) is almost complete. We are just waiting on the contractors to complete their final checks and remove their equipment. We are all very excited and can't wait to try it out.



- * teach our children new skills e.g. host a 'Masterclass'
- * share information about your job
- * Join our Parent Council or Fundraising Committee.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering in our school or you are currently volunteering we would like to invite you to an information session on Friday 14th September at 2pm.



Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 5th September

3.00pm Room 15 'Meet The Teacher'

Friday 14th September

2.00pm Parent Helper Information Session

Wednesday 19th September

6.30pm Fundraising Committee

7.00pm Parent Council AGM

12.00 noon Football Team Out at Hamilton Palace Sports Ground

Thursday 20th September

Photographer In

Friday 21st & Monday 24th September

Holiday

Tuesday 25th September

Extra Curricular clubs begin

Wednesday 26th September

Football Team out -Hamilton Palace Sports Ground

Thursday 27th September

Parents' Evening

12.15pm Netball Team out

Friday 28th September

12 noon Athletics Team out

Wednesday 10th October

Flu Vaccinations - whole school

Friday 12th October

Non Uniform day - children pay £1

Monday 15th October - Friday 19th October

Holiday

Monday 22 October

Duncanrig Secondary open evening

Wednesday 24th October

6.30pm Fundraising Committee

7.15pm Parent Council

School Bell & Punctuality

Please be advised that our school bell is on a programmed timer and we have monitored the bell timings over the last week. As you know both gates will close at 9.00am. Children arriving after this time should enter via the main entrance. Parents/carers should not open the gates as this is a security risk to the children who have already entered the playground. The safety of our children is our main priority.

We are actively promoting the benefits of arriving at school in plenty of time and are now tracking punctuality rates across the school. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Safety and Security

As we settle in to the new school session there are always a few teething problems. We need your help to keep the children safe:

Please do not park in the drop off zone. If you do so the taxis and other cars can't stop and this results in traffic chaos and is a hazard to everyone. Please do not drop children off or park in the areas marked with double yellow lines or school crossing zigzags.

Parents please ensure that other family members, friends and childminders who may be dropping children off are aware of this guidance.

If you are bringing forgotten lunches, snacks or other items to school please report to the school office. Do not enter the playground area. We are happy to pass items on to the children. Playground gates will be closed at intervals and lunch time.

Please report to the office whenever you visit the school. We need all visitors to sign in at the office as we need to know who is in the building.

Please remind all children that if there is no-one to collect them, at the agreed meeting places, they should return to the school office.

We are happy to look after children on the very odd occasion if you are delayed but please call the office in plenty of time for us to notify children before the end of the day.

Please be aware that supervision in the playground before school does not begin until 8.45am and therefore children should not be in the playground before this time.

Remember Crosshouse is a nut-free zone. Please be aware of the nut content in chocolate spread for sandwiches.

Please remember that as per South Lanarkshire policy dogs are not permitted within the school grounds. Please keep all dogs outside the perimeter of the school area.

Thank you for working with us to make sure that everyone is safe.

Family Holidays During Term Time

Family holidays should be avoided during term time as this both disrupts the child's education and reduces learning time. If holidays are taken during times when the school is open parents should inform the head teacher in advance by letter.

If your child is taken on a family holiday during term time this will be classified as an unauthorised absence. However, in exceptional circumstances a Head Teacher may register a family holiday during term time as an authorised absence when for example, parents are unable to obtain leave during the school holiday period.

We do not provide 'extra' work to be completed at home as children who are taken out of school miss the teaching input required to complete the work missed.

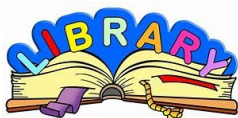
**Parent Council - Message from our Chair, Claire Steele**

We had a successful first meeting back for the school year and it was lovely to see so many new faces. This term we will be working along side the Pupil Council focusing on something very important to all of us- road safety. The Parent Council will also be taking forward our improvement plan with communication being one number on the agenda. The next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 19th September and we would love to see you there. As this is the Annual General Meeting (AGM), it will start at the earlier time of 7pm.

Library

Our library timetable for nursery, P1, P2 and P3 will begin on Wednesday 12th September and every Wednesday thereafter. Many thanks to our library helpers for volunteering to help out in our school library. Your child will bring a library book home to read along with you. Stories can be read over and over again to children as this helps with their reading, vocabulary, common words and their ability to retell a familiar story. Library books should be returned to school on or before Wednesday mornings.

Our P4, P5, P6 and P7 children use a library system called accelerated reader. This is a system we use to make sure children are reading books, appropriate to their level of reading ability. Children are permitted to bring their accelerated reading book home but must bring it to school everyday. Children keep a record of their accelerated readers in their learning logs. Please ask your child about accelerated reader!

**Annual data Checks**

We still have a number of outstanding data check information sheets to be returned. It is imperative that this information is returned as soon as possible so that we have the correct emergency contact details.

Keeping You Informed

The school newsletter will be emailed out near the beginning of every month and will be uploaded onto our school website. Please note that we will no longer send a hard copy of the newsletter home with children. We want to avoid unnecessary photocopying costs and do our bit for the environment too!

The aim of our newsletter is to keep you informed and provide information regarding recent and forthcoming events. In addition to this, dates and news can be found on our school website. You will also find the annual calendar of events on the publications section of the website. School policies and procedures including our Standards and Quality Report and School Improvement plan can also be found on our website. You can also receive updates by following us on twitter @crosshouseps

**PE Teacher Vacancy**

We have been unable to fill our PE teacher vacancy and we are currently working with our personnel and recruitment department on this.

Extra Curricular Clubs

Our Term 1 extra curricular programme will be sent out next week. We try to provide a balance of activities throughout the year and across most stages of the school. If you are interested in volunteering or leading an extra curricular activity please contact Mrs Murray.

Pupil Leaders & Pupil Voice

It is important to us that the voices, views and opinions of our children are heard. On the last Friday of every month our senior management team meet with our pupil leadership groups to discuss various aspects of school life. We have the following pupil leadership groups:

- Pupil Council
- Leaders of Change
- Leaders of Learning
- Facilities Leaders

We can not wait to find out what ideas and suggestions our groups have!



Chaplaincy Team

As part of South Lanarkshire's chaplaincy guidance, schools are required to communicate information regarding the work of their chaplaincy teams. At the moment we do not have chaplains or a chaplaincy team working with or in the school.

At Crosshouse Primary School we aim to develop pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural values through a broad, stimulating curriculum, and the promotion of positive behaviour, ethos and climate. The programme and content for Religious Education in Crosshouse Primary has been developed by working groups following the national guidance set out in Curriculum for Excellence.

Scottish Government Ministers consider that religious observance complements religious education, and is an important contribution to pupils' development. It should also have a role in promoting the ethos of a school by bringing pupils together and creating a sense of community.

Schools are required to provide for religious observance, and at Crosshouse the focus for this is on time for reflection. Children are invited to participate in time for reflection during our themed assemblies which are scheduled throughout the year.

There is a statutory provision for parents to withdraw children from participation in religious observance (time for reflection). This right of parents' wishes will be respected. Where a child is withdrawn from religious observance, we will make suitable arrangements for the child to participate in a worthwhile alternative activity. Should you wish to withdraw your child or would like further information please contact the school.

Spotlight on Success Winners

On the first Friday of every month we have a 'Spotlight on Success' assembly to celebrate achievements across the school. Each class teacher chooses a child who has demonstrated 'excellence' in a piece of work or skill.

Our winners for August are:

Nursery: Marcus Inglis & Zach Whiting
 Room 1 - Alannah Sutherland
 Room 2 - Callum Trevena
 Room 3 - Callum Todd
 Room 4 - Roman Stokes
 Room 5 - Rudy McMillan
 Room 6 - Jack Doyle
 Room 7 - Ferne Hosie

Room 8 - Andrew Bulman
 Room 9 - Paige Peevor
 Room 10 - Jack Rodger
 Room 11 - Sophie Morrison & Emily McGillivray
 Room 12 - Lilly Barkley
 Room 13 - Layla McDonald
 Room 14 - Jamie Miller
 Room 15 - Kyle Hepburn

Congratulations to our Spotlight winners!



School Improvements

We are proud of our attainment and achievements at Crosshouse but there is always room for improvement.

Our Improvement Plan is developed in direct response to self-evaluation.

Key priorities for improvement this session include:

- * To raise attainment in Literacy and English through improved approaches to learning, teaching and assessment (Key Focus: Writing)
- * To improve the design of our curriculum to ensure coherence and progression across the levels and to establish greater continuity across the school, taking account of recent strategic priority developments.
- * To review the procedures for identifying, supporting and tracking interventions for children who require additional support with learning.
- * To develop a whole school approach to nurture which supports improvements in wellbeing and relationships and the growth and development of children.
- * To review and develop our anti bullying policy across the school and to embed anti bullying practices in line with school vision and values.

- * To extend and deepen staff knowledge and understanding in outdoor learning by supporting staff in accessing high-quality professional learning.

We will form Improvement Plan priority groups and we are hoping to have staff, parent and child representatives on each group. If you would like to be part of our improvement groups please contact the school or Parent Council.

If there are any questions relating to the items in this newsletter or any other matters please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours Sincerely,
 Mrs Isabelle Murray
Head Teacher



**Attain,
 Believe &
 Achieve**