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.

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.

Parent Pay

Our Parent Pay system is now live. Many thanks to those of you who have managed to set up an account. Even if your child does not pay for a school lunch, you are still required to set up a Parent Pay account as this system will be used to pay for school trips, uniforms and other charges. At the moment children are still required to bring 20p cash for milk as this is not yet on the Parent Pay system. It is hoped that by the end of the year we will be a cashless school. If you are having any issues or problems with Parent Pay please contact Mrs Miller in our office who will be more than willing to help.

Family Fun Night

A huge thank you to our Fundraising Committee for organising our Family fun night. Huge thanks to the helpers and volunteers and families who despite the weather, came along to support our school. £550 was raised on the night.

Staffing

Mrs Mason is currently absent from work and Miss McIntyre is covering in Room 11.

We welcome Mr Nicholson to the Crosshouse team this year. Mr Nicholson will be working in Room 7 every Friday to allow Mrs McDougall to fulfil her Acting Principal Teacher duties.

Parents’ Evening

Parents’ Evening will take place on Thursday 3rd October. Appointment times will be issued by letter next week. We ask that parents/carers attend at the allocated time as no alternative times can be given.

It is important that children attend the meeting and take part in the discussion.

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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
October - Parents’ Night
March - 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 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
* teach our children new skills e.g. host a ‘Masterclass’

Our Fundraising Committee AGM will take place on Tuesday 10th September at 6.30pm and our first Parent Council meeting of the school year will take place at 7.30pm on the same evening. All parents/carers are welcome to attend.

Don’t forget parents’ evening!

Parent Council

Dates for Your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th Sept</td>
<td>6.30pm Fundraising Committee AGM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.15pm Parent Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20th Sept</td>
<td>Athletics Team attending an event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14th Oct</td>
<td>School Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd Oct</td>
<td>Football team attending an event</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.30pm Fundraising Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7.15pm Parent Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20th Oct</td>
<td>Athletics team attending an event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th Sept</td>
<td>Football team attending an event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.30pm Family Learning Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27th Sept</td>
<td>Netball Team attending an event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th Sept</td>
<td>Meet the Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 29th Sept</td>
<td>School Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th Sep</td>
<td>Football team attending an event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.30pm Family Learning Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 3rd Oct</td>
<td>AGM will take place on Thursday 3rd Oct.</td>
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<td>Appointment times will be issued by letter</td>
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<td>We ask that parents/carers attend at the</td>
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<td>children attend the meeting and take part</td>
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<td>in the discussion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1st Oct</td>
<td>Term 1 Clubs begin</td>
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<td>School Photographer in</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd Oct</td>
<td>Room 13 Trip to Scottish Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 3rd Oct</td>
<td>Parents’ Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No after school clubs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10th Oct</td>
<td>Flu Vaccinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 11th Oct</td>
<td>Non Uniform Day - pay £1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14th Oct</td>
<td>School Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd Oct</td>
<td>Football team attending an event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20th Oct</td>
<td>Athletics team attending an event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th Oct</td>
<td>Football team attending an event</td>
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<td>Halloween Discos organised by</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fundraising Committee.</td>
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Important Reminders

Timekeeping
As you know the gates to our playground will close at 9.00am prompt. 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. Please remember that school starts at 9am when the children line up and not when the children enter the building. We are actively promoting the benefits of arriving at school in plenty of time and we track punctuality rates across the school. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Parking
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.

Visiting The School
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.

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.

School Pick Up
Please ensure your child knows where to meet you at the end of the day or what the arrangements are for walking home. Parents/Carers (or other relatives collecting children) are allowed into the infant playground but are asked to wait well back from the pupil doors and make themselves known to school staff when they see their child at the front of the line. Parents are not permitted into the upper school (back) playground.

Please know the pick up arrangements for your child well in advance of the school day. Since the beginning of term, the last minute pick up arrangements being communicated to office staff is becoming almost unmanageable. 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.

Water Bottles
Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school every day and to keep hydrated during lessons. Only plain water is permitted during class time. Children should take their bottle home each night to be washed. It is recommended that bottles be ‘BPA Free’ or ‘PET Free’ and that they are washed with soapy water each night. Children may bring metal water bottles and flasks to school, but glass bottles are not permitted. The re-use of disposable water bottles is not recommended.

Fizzy Drinks
Cans and bottles of carbonated drinks, including energy drinks, are not permitted in school.

Mobile Phones
Pupils are discouraged from bringing their mobile devices to school, however, if they require them for after school, they must remain switched off and in school bags at all times and have a signed agreement. This is in line with our Mobile Technologies policy. Children are not permitted to bring any other personal electronic devices to school.

Gym Shoes
Children are required to change into suitable indoor footwear at school. Black plimsolls are preferable. Indoor shoes that no longer fit or are ‘past their best’ will be sent home to let parents know they need replaced.

Playground Supervision
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.

Medical Information
Please inform the office staff of any medical conditions that may affect your child in school. If your child requires prescribed medication during the school day, please discuss this with a member of office or management staff. Children are not permitted to have any medication in school without the completion of a medical administration form. Medicines should not be sent to school in pupil bags.

Sickness and diarrhoea
Children experiencing these symptoms should not return to school for 48 hours following the last period of sickness/diarrhoea.

Cycling to School
Children are encouraged to cycle or scoot to school. Children are recommended to wear a suitable helmet and reflective clothing and must dismount their bike in the school grounds and push it to the bike rack. We recommend the use of bike locks when leaving bikes and scooters in the bike rack. The school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to bikes/scooters etc. while on school property. Electric scooters and ‘hover boards’ etc. are not permitted.

PE Lessons
Please ensure children come to school with appropriate gym clothes – plain dark shorts, plain dark t-shirt/polo shirt and suitable trainers or plimsolls. All children will take part in a minimum two hours quality PE per week. If your child is unable to participate, please inform the class teacher in writing. Please remember that ALL jewellery should be removed for PE lessons.

Flu Vaccination Programme
Flu immunisation permission slips were issued last week. Please complete and return it to school as soon as possible, or contact the office if you need any assistance.

More information about the programme can be found at https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/immunisation/vaccines/child-fluvaccine#primary-school-children
Annual Data Check
If you have not done so already, please check, amend, sign and return the annual data forms and photograph permission slip to the school office as soon as possible.

School Photographs
Our photographer will be in school on Tuesday 1st October. All pupils will have individual photographs taken. Group photographs will be taken for families but please note that only children who attend Crosshouse Primary or Crosshouse Nursery can be included in family groups due to time constraints. Children should come to school wearing full school uniform:

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

As always communication will be at the heart of the plan. The Parent Council will continue to have a Parent Council notice board within the school which is located as you enter the main area next to the sign in table. The board identifies our office bearers as well as information on how to contact us. We will continue to be present at parents’ evenings and other school events so always feel free to come and have a chat. The suggestions box will remain so please feel free to drop us any suggestions. The suggestions given will be collected on a weekly basis.

The Parent Council will strive to keep parents as up to date as possible with information being regularly shared on the parent council Facebook page.

Our first meeting of the term will be on Tuesday 10th of September at 7:30pm and we hope to see you there.

Lisa Lesley
Vice Chair

Family Learning - A Wee Blether
Our first Family Learning event of the year will take place on Tuesday 24th September at 6.30pm. The theme for our first session is ‘Outdoor Learning’ and will involve some practical tasks! Steve Moizer, a training and development officer with Learning Through Landscapes will lead the session. This is a great opportunity to learn together, support your child’s learning and to find out what is going on in our school.

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Our library timetable for nursery, P1, P2 and P3 has started. 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!

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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: Nico McLaughlin & Leon Wilkosz
- Room 1 - Jessica Rutherford
- Room 2 - Sienna Travena
- Room 3 - Blair Wilson
- Room 4 - Jackson Currie
- Room 5 - Andrew Welsh
- Room 6 - Colby Cameron
- Room 7 - Shay Kennedy
- Room 8 - Kacey Mackenzie
- Room 9 - Fraser Tod
- Room 10 - Katy Watson
- Room 11 - Haniya Shah
- Room 12 - Amy Low
- Room 13 - Stephen Orr
- Room 14 - Cristian Silvast
- Room 15 - Jennifer Tait

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 and achievement in Literacy and English through improved learning, teaching and assessment. (Full implementation of Crosshouse Skills Based Literacy Curriculum)

- To improve the design of our curriculum to ensure coherence, progression and relevance in science, social subjects, Health & Wellbeing & STEM

- To develop a whole school approach to nurture which supports improvements in wellbeing and relationships and the growth and development of children.

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,

Isabelle Murray
Head Teacher

Mrs Isabelle Murray
Head Teacher

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