

Crosshouse Primary School



Newsletter September 2019

Attain,
Believe &
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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

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

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

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'

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.



* share information about your job

* Join our Parent Council or Fundraising Committee.

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.



Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 10th September

6.30pm Fundraising Committee AGM

7.15pm Parent Council Meeting

Friday 20th September

Athletics Team attending an event

Tuesday 24th September

6.30pm Family Learning Event

Wednesday 25th September

Football team attending an event

Thursday 26th September

Netball Team attending an event

Friday 27th September & Monday 30th September

School Holiday

Tuesday 1st October

Term 1 Clubs begin

School Photographer in

Wednesday 2nd October

Room 13 Trip to Scottish Parliament

Thursday 3rd October

Parents' Evening

No after school clubs

Thursday 10th October

Flu Vaccinations

Friday 11th October

Non Uniform Day - pay £1

Monday 14th October - Friday 18th October

School Holiday

Wednesday 23rd October

Football team attending an event

6.30pm Fundraising Committee

7.15pm Parent Council

Friday 25th October

Athletics team attending an event

Wednesday 30th October

Halloween Discos organised by Fundraising Committee.

Important RemindersTimekeeping

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.

IMPORTANT ALLERGY INFORMATION

Some members of our school community have severe allergies to some food items, therefore pupils, staff and visitors must not bring to school items which contain:

- peanuts or products which may contain peanuts
 - tree nuts – such as walnuts, brazil nuts, almonds and hazelnuts etc.
- * Please note that this includes many chocolate spreads, Nutella products and Kinder Bueno and any items which 'may contain nuts or nut-traces'.**

Lost Property

Please assist in preventing items being lost or misplaced by labelling all items of clothing, footwear, bags, packed lunches etc. with the child's name.

Dogs NOT Permitted

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

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, red 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>

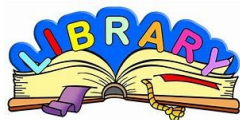
Annual Data Check

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

**Library**

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!

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

Contacting The School

The best way to contact the school for an immediate response is to call into the school office or telephone the school directly. If you would like to make an appointment with a member of staff or speak to a member of staff please telephone the school directly. Please be aware that due to the number of emails received into the school office we may not be able to give you an immediate response.

Message from Our Parent Council

It's hard to believe that we are at the start of another academic year 2019/2020!!!

I'd like to start on behalf of the Parent Council to welcome all the new P1 children and their parents/carers to the Crosshouse family, I'm sure all the children will all settle in quickly and enjoy all the learning opportunities open to them.

We had our AGM on the 19th June 2019 and I'm pleased to be able to let you know that we have elected new office bearers for the role of Chair and Secretary. We welcome back Carol Gillies who will take the council forward in her role as Chair and to Lynn Nicholson who has taken on the role of Secretary. The Parent Council meeting schedule is included in the school diary and newsletters. The Parent Council would extend a warm welcome any new members who would like to come along. It's with the continuing commitment of parents that we are able to develop the parent/carer forum and continue to be the voice of the parent/carer community.

Our office bearers for the 2019/2020 year are:

Chair – Carol Gillies (Mum to Mark)

Vice Chair – Lisa Lesley (Mum to Ross)

Secretary – Lynne Nicholson (Mum to Fraser, Finlay, Emily and Eilidh)

Treasurer – Carolanne Barkley (Mum to Lily)

The Parent Council will be taking forward and building on our improvement plan, a copy of which will be issued in due course and be available online.

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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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: 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,

Mrs Isabelle Murray

Head Teacher



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