

Struthers Primary



Bulletin 6 29/9/17



Letters that have been issued to be returned. If you have lost the letter they are available on the website to complete.

Class/Classes or Whole school	Content of Letter	Return date

Struthers holds a Level 2 accreditation as a Rights Respecting School and the ethos of this is embedded in our school. We regularly share and discuss the UN Rights of the Child with all our pupils and we work together as a community to achieve these goals. We include our focus rights in the bulletin each week and it is good to talk about these with your child.

Article 28 Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free. Secondary education must be available for every child.

Article 29 Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Our School Values are: Inclusion, Respect, Honesty, Loyalty and Responsibility.

School Website address is: www.struthers.sayr.sch.uk and phone number is 01292 690073

Please see below our summary of our School Improvement Plan we create from analysis of school audits which involve pupils, parents and staff and reference local and national guidelines and our own school self- evaluation.

Our overarching theme for Struthers is pupil leadership in their learning and in leading school improvement. We are clear that for children to be successful in later life they must understand how to learn, be confident in approaching problems and challenges, be able to work with others and understand and fulfil their responsibilities. We would ask that at home you can support this as well. This means ensuring pupils take responsibility for sharing communication between home and school e.g. sharing homework tasks which will always have been explained, pass over letters, tell you about school events they hear from assemblies and their class teachers. It is vital for children to be self- motivated and have developed skills to face new challenges to ensure they can achieve their potential and achieve success.

Priority	How we will achieve this?
1. To raise attainment in Literacy with a particular focus on pupils who are not achieving expected outcomes.	We will continue to look at our reading strategies and how we can support pupil's comprehension skills. This will be in conjunction with our focus on encouraging reading for pleasure and independent reading. We had a very successful year with Reading for Gold and the development of our new library and this will continue to be developed.
2. To raise attainment in Numeracy with a focus on pupils who are not achieving expected outcomes.	We are going to study all the new approaches to teaching Numeracy and Maths we have recently introduced and look at how the approaches can be brought together in more meaningful lessons. We aim to help children understand more readily how to apply the skills they learn and be able to identify when to use the correct strategies.
3. To measure and track Pupil Health and Wellbeing.	We will be looking at all the Health and wellbeing outcomes for pupils and the benchmarks for their assessment and create a programme for Struthers that will ensure all children meet all outcomes and we will have measures to show this.
4. Develop Parental Engagement to support all	Our 2 newly appointed Acting Principal Teachers are going to be responsible for this area which will look at developing our new Family and Community room and provide

our families.	opportunities for Parents to come in and learn with us.
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If you have any skills or interests in any of these particular areas and you feel you could help us please get in touch.

This Week

We hope you all enjoyed the September weekend holiday and managed to avoid the many bugs going around. We would remind you that if your child has been sick they stay off for 48 hours to ensure the virus does not spread. Mrs Brearley and Mrs Kerr are still absent from school and we wish them both well. We are hoping Mrs Brearley's thumb allows her back to work soon. Mrs Kerr will be absent for a significant time as she has had some difficult news and will require some lengthy treatment. I know you will all be wishing her well and she is missing the children very much. All our after school clubs are going well and we are especially delighted with our new Homework Club. Mrs Lockie, Miss McBean with Mrs Boyd and Mrs Power are looking forward to supporting pupils in their learning over the next few weeks. Our community room has hosted a baby yoga session this week and it looked very relaxing. It is great to see this room being used to support all our families. The big event this week has been our MacMillan Coffee morning hosted by P7 and Mrs Lockie with lots of help from Mrs Maley. It takes a huge amount of work to organise these events and we were delighted you supported it so well! The grand total will be revealed next week but well done to everyone involved.

Next week

We have lots of students starting with us next week so you may hear a few different names being mentioned by your children. We have 4 Marr College work experience pupils with us working across the school. There are also students in our Early Years centre and a new face in P1 who is helping on a Thursday and Friday. We really enjoy the enthusiasm and energy students bring and welcome them to Struthers. Due to our numbers increasing our staffing allocation has increased too. We have a Mrs Edgar joining us temporarily on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until the post has been interviewed and filled. We are so lucky to get someone for this position as the supply staff situation across the country is so difficult. Mrs Edgar will cover classes when required while staff are at meetings or training but will mainly be focussed in P1 and P2 as an Early Intervention Teacher.

At assembly this week the children will be learning about CLAPA (Cleft lip and Palate Association) who are promoting World Smile day which is on Friday 6th October. As part of our Rights Respecting Schools Project we are going to support this organisation by having "Collection October" where we will collect tins etc. for harvest and start the collection for postage stamps, old ink cartridges and old mobile phones. We will send out more information in due course but this will also contribute to our recycling for the Eco School Award too. At Rights Time children will be designing posters and talking about the importance of a smile.

We would also like to inform you that the following week on **13th October** it is the Wear it Purple for the Ayrshire Hospice local event and our Harvest assembly. We ask that families could make a small donation of food for the Foodbank which we support every year and to bring a donation for the Hospice.

In summary our charitable events over the next month will be:

Handing in old stamps, ink cartridges and old mobile phones and there will be collection points inside the front door for CLAPA.

Collecting tins/ packets of food for Ayrshire Foodbank for the Harvest Service.

Wearing something Purple on the last day of term at our harvest service for the Ayrshire Hospice and donating some money as part of the offering.

I would also remind you that the Fundraiser group are organising Discos for Thursday Night. I know helpers are always much appreciated.

Finally we are having our Big Breakfast on Friday 27th October where you can join us from 8.15 am and this is supporting Lorraine Kelly's campaign to support all children in accessing a breakfast every morning. A letter has gone out regarding this.

Parent Drop In Meetings with School Chaplains

Our 3 school chaplains play a huge role in our school from sharing their knowledge and expertise to supporting our assemblies and services to helping with the football team to providing pastoral support. At a recent meeting they were keen to extend that Pastoral Support to our Parents. This started on Friday 29th September with Mr Woods who was available in the Community Hub to meet with any parent who wished to pop by. This will be a regular event

Head Lice

This is a common issue in schools and one we have constantly over every year. We are not permitted to send out letters for many reasons but have included information with this bulletin as a reminder and to provide you with the necessary information. We just ask that every parent is vigilant and checks their child's hair regularly and treats only when required and not as a precaution.

You can get advice from NHS Choices site online, local pharmacists or you could contact our School Nurse Abi Nicholl, School Nurse, Barassie Street Clinic, Troon 01292 313 455. There is also an old leaflet on our website you can use but we have requested up to date ones.

Tuck shop and Fairtrade Tuck shop

Please remember this is on every morning from our kitchen and Fairtrade tuck is available every Wednesday and Friday

Playground Safety and Car Parking

Just to remind you parking in our playground is only for Nursery Parents and staff.

Children are not allowed to walk through the car park for safety reasons.

Bikes/scooters must be brought through the playground to be put in the bike shelter. With our growing staff numbers, our Nursery being open and our kitchen hours changing over last few years the car park is becoming a very busy place and we wish to avoid children being near cars or delivery lorries. This is for the children's safety.

We would also encourage children to cycle home along paths and avoid busy roads like Staffin Road.

We have also received a complaint about inappropriate parking from a resident in Garry Place and would ask our Parents to be respectful about their where they park if you must bring your car.

We would also remind all children walking home and requiring to cross Deveron Road that they do so with our Crossing Patrol Supervisor Mrs Helliwell.

Entrance Door

The Council have changed our door entry system and the door is no longer automatic. It will be locked and you will need to buzz the intercom system. Once a member of staff has verified who it is they will then release the catch and you can pull the door open as it will now not automatically swing open.

Medication

If your child has any medical condition it is vital you let us know. We are updating records currently and would be delighted to hear from you. Please note South Ayrshire Council's policy prevents us administering any form of medication unless prescribed by a doctor. If this is the case you must come to the office to complete required forms. Forms are also available on our website.

Attendance/Absence/Latecoming

Any pupils who arrive after the 9am bell must report to the office and sign the late book. This is monitored regularly and if we have any concerns of regular late arrival we will contact you. It is vital that all children are here for the start of the day as this is when the plans for the day are discussed and key teaching aspects explained. If a child is unwell / going to be absent please contact the school by phone to let us know. If we do not hear from you we will follow necessary procedures. ***Please ensure all contact details are up to date for your child's safety and welfare. It is distressing for everybody if your child takes unwell or has a serious accident and we can't get in touch with you. Being unable to contact anyone does happen regularly.***

Respect at Work

We along with all other workplaces have a clear respect at work policy and very strong focus on values and rights so we would ask at all times that you communicate with us appropriately. I can assure you that every member of staff at Struthers has the best interests of your child at the centre of all they do. They will work in partnership with you to resolve any issues in a calm, supportive manner where communication is equally respectful.

Communication

We have worked closely with all partners to improve communication. We have a very detailed and regularly updated website. Mrs Maley keeps adding all up to date information on this so if you are unsure of dates/trips etc. please take time to visit this.

The address is:

www.struthers.sayr.sch.uk.

We also tweet events and information so follow us

Join us on Twitter!

Download the Twitter App today and follow us @StruthersSchool
At Struthers Primary and Early Years Centre we aim to use Twitter to:

- ✓ Promote the school
- ✓ Provide information to current and prospective parents and teachers as well as the wider community
- ✓ Act as a one way communication channel outwards (Please continue to contact the school directly with any questions)
- ✓ Showcase examples of pupils' work – in words, pictures, sound or movie clips

Please feel free to contact Miss McBean (Depute Head) on 01292 690073 for more details or for more information on how to download the Twitter app.

I write a weekly bulletin every Friday with information about school priorities, events, dates for your diary and anything you need to know about the life of the school. This can be accessed on website to cut down on paper but if you can't access it this way you can request a hard copy at the office and this will be sent home with your child.

Class teachers will also be sending home Class Curriculum flyers about routines, contact details, yearly plans and homework. Classes will also have Homework Diaries as a means of communication and please note anything you want us to know in there. They will also have Glow Pages too. Any other suggestions let us know!

Mrs Jane Houston

Please keep checking the dates as some are being amended and new ones are being added.

Primary 2 parents Coffee and Chat in community Room	Mon 2nd Oct 9-9.30 am
School Disco P1-3 6 pm-7.15pm P4-7 7.30pm- 8.45 pm	Thursday 5th October
P7s to Inverclyde	Mon 9th Oct – Wed 11th Oct
Close for October week	Friday 13th October at 3pm
Staff In service days	Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th October
Children return to school	Wednesday 25th October
Big Scottish Breakfast	Friday 27th October at 8.30am
Hallow'een Afternoon	Friday 27th October
Parents Meetings	Wednesday 15th Nov 6-8 Thurday 16th Nov 3.30-5.30
Advent Christmas Market	Friday 1st December 5.30-7 pm-Change of time
P3-7 Pantomime Trip	Tues 12th Dec am
P1 and P2 Nativity	Tues 12th Dec 6 pm and Wed 13th Dec 2pm
Nursery party	Mon 18th Dec 1.30-3
P3 and P4 party	Tues 19th Dec 1.30-3
P5-7 party	Wed 20th Dec 1.30-3
P1 and P2 party	Thurs 21st Dec 1.30-3
Church service	Fri 22nd Dec 10 am at St Meddans
School close and reopens	Fri 22nd Dec at 2.30pm and re opens on Mon 8th January

These dates **can be subject to change.**

Mrs Jane Houston
Struthers Primary School
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