

Millersneuk Primary School - Vision, Values & Aims

All pupils are supported to reach their full potential

READY

RESPECTFUL

SAFE

Motivate

Prepare

Succeed



MILLERSNEUK PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter - August 2023

Dear Parents

We have had a great start to the children returning to school after the Summer holidays. Can I take this opportunity to offer a special welcome to all our new families in Primary 1 and across the school who are joining the Millersneuk Family. I am sure your involvement with the school will prove to be rewarding, not only for your children, but for yourselves as parents.

Over the course of the school session newsletters will give you an insight into the learning experiences of pupils. Not all pupils discuss their school day in great detail at home. We hope that future newsletters, Seesaw and curricular information will help to fill that gap a little.



Child Protection

The safety and health & wellbeing of all pupils at Millersneuk Primary School are of paramount importance. As Head Teacher I am 'main contact' to whom children and parents can approach if they have any issues they wish to discuss. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns.

As this is the first newsletter of a new academic year I am including a number of important items that I hope you will find useful to help settle into the school routines and plan ahead.

PE Timetable



P.E. Timetable		
Day	Indoor P.E.	Outdoor P.E.
Monday	1G, 3MN	3CW, 5B, 7H
Tuesday	1HW, 2A, 4K, 5AB	4M, 6C, 6BM
Wednesday	4M, 7OT	1G, 2LG, 3MN, 4K
Thursday	2LG, 3CW, 6BM, 7H	1HW, 5AB, 7OT
Friday	5B, 6C	2A



Before & After School



Parents are responsible for their children until 8.50am. Between 8.50am and 9.00am pupils can enter the 3 main school gates and proceed straight to their classes.

At the end of the school day parents can come into the school grounds to collect their child/children. We would appreciate it if older children could leave the school grounds independently to meet parents/adult outside the school grounds or to walk home independently!

If your child attends after-school care and there are any changes to this provision, please make sure you inform the office staff at the school.

Attendance, Lateness & Illness



Attendance of pupils at Millersneuk Primary School is extremely good. Good attendance is vital for your child's progress. A child's non-attendance can be due to a number of reasons e.g. illness or family circumstances. As Head Teacher I monitor attendance on a regular basis. On the majority of occasions where a child is experiencing long-term absence(s) there is excellent communication between parents and myself/Class Teacher. I think it is important that parents are informed when their child's absence levels reach a stage where it could be impacting on their child's learning and his/her ability to reach his/her full potential. In these circumstances I will issue a letter and contact parents by phone to have a conversation or arrange a meeting if necessary. The same procedures will be followed if late-coming is having a similar disadvantageous impact on a child's learning. Being late for school means valuable teaching time is missed and it can be unsettling for the child. If your child is late he/she should enter through the main door. If your child is ill please call the school office between 8.30am-9.00am and give the duration of absence (if possible) or use the Parent Portal to relay information. Should your child be unaccounted for a member of the office staff will call you before 9.30am to ascertain his/her whereabouts. If your child is home at lunchtime and is unable to return for afternoon lesson please call us before 1.00pm.

School Excursions

This session, pupils at Millersneuk Primary will be able to go on various excursions, attend after-school clubs and represent the school at numerous events in the course of an academic year. In order to streamline paperwork and considerably decrease the need for parents to complete repetitive forms a 'EV3 Consent Form' is completed at the start of the school year. This means that the onus will now be on parents to inform the school of any subsequent changes to:

- Pupil's medical information; or
- Emergency contact details.

An **EV3 Form** can be completed on the Parents Portal. If you have not registered, please visit:

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/parents-portal

The EV3 completed at the start of the school year will cover local outings to the church, local shops, Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre or other local schools including Lenzie Academy (for P6 & P7 pupils). You will still be informed of these local outings and will be able to contact the school if you do not wish your child to attend. The school will continue to seek permission to take pupils on any excursions further afield e.g. Science Centre, Stirling Castle etc - school permission slips will be issued at these times.

HEALTH & WELLBEING AT MILLERSNEUK PRIMARY SCHOOL



MILLERSNEUK - NUT FREE ZONE

At Millersneuk we have a few children with nut allergies. I would appreciate your continued support in making the school a nut free zone. This includes making sure there are no nut products given to pupils for snacks or lunch

(This includes sandwich spreads such as Nutella etc)



Drinking Water at School



In Millersneuk Primary School pupils are encouraged to drink water to remain hydrated in the course of the school day. Water fountains (**for filling bottles only - no drinking facility**) are available in the school hall and the infant & senior end of the school. Please try to ensure your child comes to school with a filled water bottle that can be refilled in the course of the day if necessary. Pupils will have an opportunity to refill bottles under adult supervision.



Sickness Bugs

The school nurse has indicated that if your child contracts a sickness bug, he/she should be kept off school for **48 hours** after the last episode of sickness and/or diarrhoea. Following this advice will hopefully help to stop the spread of some of the winter bugs at school.

Flu Vaccination

Representatives from the NHS will visit Millersneuk on the afternoon of **Monday 27th November** to carry out the flu vaccination programme. An information pack including consent forms will be issued soon.

For more information, go to:

www.nhsinform.scot/childflu



Birthday Celebrations for Pupils

Many parents like to celebrate their child's birthday by providing a treat for the rest of the class. Unfortunately, due to the current strict health and safety restrictions the school cannot issue any such treats.

Seasons for Growth



**SEASONS
FOR GROWTH**

We are once again going to run '**Seasons for Growth**' groups in school this session. Seasons for Growth is a peer support group that aims to enhance the social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people who are dealing with significant loss or life changes such as death, divorce, separation, moving house or family breakdown. This programme aims to produce a sense of resilience, personal growth and acceptance of change in people's lives and is based on the belief that change,

loss and grief are a normal and valuable part of life.

Mrs Hynes and Mrs Tierney are trained companions in Seasons for Growth and will lead small group of children in age appropriate activities, over 8 sessions. If you think your child would benefit from this programme, or if you would like more information, please contact Mrs Hynes. More information can be found at www.seasonsforgrowth.org.uk.

Cycling & Scooting to School

Children who are scooting or cycling to school can padlock scooters or bikes in the designated areas in the Infant / senior playgrounds.

Parking at Millersneuk Primary



Parking is always a big issue at the school. PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE PAVEMENTS AT CARRON CRESCENT, ORCHARDFIELD AND LINDSAYBEG ROAD. CARS ARE MOUNTING PAVEMENTS AS PARENTS AND PUPILS ARRIVE & LEAVE SCHOOL AT 8.50am & 3.00pm. **THIS IS VERY DANGEROUS!** If possible, please consider walking with your child or dropping/picking up your child from a safe destination a little bit further away from the school gates. **Please pass this message on to any adult who is dropping off / picking up children at the school.**

The Parents' Association will hopefully be able to start organising some fun events this session including a quiz night, fairs and discos - look out for further information soon, including a date for a virtual AGM.



Parent Council

Ruth Alexander (P4 & P7 Parent Member)
Julianne Anderson (P2 & P5)
Christina Black (P3 Parent Member)
Garry Doherty (P3 Parent Member)
Laura Henderson (P2 Parent Member)
Aidan Keane (P7 Parent Member)
Alison Love (P6 Parent Member)
Pamela Martin (P5 Parent Member)
Rachael Nicholls (P4 & P6 Parent Member)
Julie Wilson (P6 Parent Member)

This table shows the current members of Millersneuk's Parent Council. The Parent Council AGM will be held very soon. If any of the new P1 parents, or indeed any parents from P2-7, wish to join the Parent Council please contact the school by email at:

office@millersneuk.e-dunbarton.sch.uk



We have already had a couple of requests from parents to join. The membership of the Parent Council will be updated in the first Parent Council newsletter

Homework & Seesaw

Official homework for all classes will start week beginning Monday 28th August, this will give the children time to settle back into school life and for staff to work out how this can be delivered using a mixture of online and physical activities. Seesaw should be in operation for all classes by the end of next week.

School Improvement Plan & PEF Spending



Every year the school has priorities in a **School Improvement Plan** to further improve the standard of Teaching & Learning offered to pupils and the allocation of Pupil Equity Funding to support identified children throughout the school. This year the school's priorities and PEF spend will consist of the following:

School Improvement Plan Priorities	
UNCRC - Rights Based Learning Rights Respecting School (Silver Award)	
Raising Attainment through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)	
Pupil Equity Fund Spending	
Employment of an additional Classroom Assistant (100% of Parents who completed the PEF Consultation strongly agreed or agreed with this decision)	£12 960

Important Dates for your Diary



Here is a list of some up and coming events happening at Millersneuk Primary. I will update this list in subsequent newsletters:

August 2023	
Thursday 31 st	DOG'S TRUST VISITING VARIOUS CLASSES TODAY
Thursday 31 st	PARENTS' ASSOCIATION BACK TO SCHOOL DISCO: - 6.30PM P1-3 - 7.45PM P4-7
September 2023	
Friday 1 st	DOG'S TRUST VISITING VARIOUS CLASSES TODAY
Wednesday 6 th	MEET THE TEACHER (MORE INFO TO FOLLOW)
Wednesday 6 th	PARENTS' ASSOCIATION AGM: - CHEESE & WINE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday 22 nd	SCHOOL HOLIDAY
Monday 25 th	SCHOOL HOLIDAY
October 2023	
Friday 13 th	IN-SERVICE DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS)
Mon 16 th - Fri 20 th	OCTOBER HALF-TERM BREAK
Monday 23 rd	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL
Thursday 26 th	SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS (MORE INFO TO FOLLOW)
Thursday 26 th	PARENTS' ASSOCIATION HALLOWEEN DISCO: - 6.30PM P1-3 - 7.45PM P4-7
November 2023	
Friday 10 th	PARENTS' ASSOCIATION FRIDAY FRENZY (MORE INFO TO FOLLOW)
Saturday 25 th	11.00AM - 2.00PM PARENTS' ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS FAIR (MORE INFO TO FOLLOW)
Monday 27 th	FLU VACCINATION
December 2022	
Friday 22 nd	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS BEGIN (School closes at 2.30pm)
January 2023	
Monday 8 th	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL

I will update this calendar of dates in the next newsletter. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Hynes if you wish to discuss anything. You can do this by calling the school on 0141-955-2307 or by using the emails below:

gcaldow@millersneuk.e-dunbarton.sch.uk
rhynes@millersneuk.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

Kind regards

Greg Caldow
Head Teacher