



COLGRAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRE-5 UNIT
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Dear Parents and Carers,

06 February 2019

As you may be aware, Term Three is when we have enrolments for both Primary and Nursery places. We are delighted to inform you that there has been a very good uptake of places at the Primary 1 stage, which is always the norm as the majority of children transition from our Pre-5 Unit. We have also received several placing requests into our school and know that families who will be part of the Colgrain Community in session 2019/2020 will be made most welcome.

Very shortly, prospective parents will be issued with their transition pack and invited to various linked events over the coming months. This is highly effectively led by Mrs L Candlish, Acting Depute Head.

Nursery Enrolments

Mrs McClelland, Mrs L Candlish, Mrs S Cunningham (Pre-5 Lead Practitioner) and Mrs C Stevens (Nursery Clerical Assistant), recently attended an information session regarding the Argyll and Bute Early Years Delivery Plan for 1140 hours led by Mrs Wendy Brownlie, Early Years Education Manager. For your information, the Early Years Team, who play a crucial role in directing the delivery of high quality ELC within the Helensburgh and Lomond area are :

Mrs Wendy Brownlie	Early Years Education Manager
Mrs Tina Sartain	Education Officer Early Years
Mrs Ailsa Dominick	Early Years Development Officer
Ms. Lorna Stewart	Principal Teacher Early Years
Mrs Jeanette McGourlay	Early Years and Family Support Worker

Further information on the Early Years Team can be found at: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/argyll-and-bute-early-years-staff>

From August 2019, Colgrain Pre-5 Unit will provide the option of 1140 hours for each nursery child, and as such, the present reflection is that there will be seriously limited availability. We have never been in this position before and understand that this will also be a first for you in the early years community. We have been guaranteed that within the Helensburgh locale there is an adequate number of nursery places across other establishments. A complete list of these providers can be found at: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/childcare-and-pre-school-education>

Nursery enrolment week commences on **Monday 4 March**. Should you wish to register your child, please come to the school office with your child's birth certificate.

Primary 7 Transition

Both Mrs Alison MacGillivray, P7 and Mr Adam Laughtland, P7/6 have been working in partnership with Hermitage Academy staff to review and refresh some elements of the Hooked on Hermitage transition programme. Following the mid-term break, Mr Ross Stewart from Hermitage and Colgrain former pupils will begin the formal part of transition process with a visit to Colgrain shortly.

After School Clubs

It is with pleasure that the following clubs reflect opportunities for all pupils throughout P1-P7.

Day	Club	Age Group	Staff Member(s)/Adults	Time
Monday	Athletics	P1 – P3	Miss J Peil	Monday 3pm – 4pm
	Football	P6 and P7	Mr S Grant	Monday 3pm – 4pm
Tuesday	Scripture Union	P5 – P7	Mr K Newberry	Tuesday Lunchtime 12:30pm – 1pm
	Table Tennis	P4	Sports Leaders - Drew and Craig	Tuesday Lunchtime 12:30pm – 1pm
Wednesday	Art	P4 and P5	Miss A Caldwell/Miss L Anderson	Wednesday lunchtime 12:30pm – 1pm
	Coding	P6 and P7	Mr A Laughtland	Wednesday lunchtime 12:30pm – 1pm
	Rugby	P5 – P7	Mr C Brown/ Mr C Ross Two parental volunteers	Wednesday 3 – 4pm
	Gardening Club	All stages & Parents	Mrs Jen Beattie	Wednesday 3pm – 4pm
Thursday	Netball	P6 and P7	Miss K Young/ Mrs K Bell	Thursday 3pm – 4pm

Our Clan Chieftains share these extra-curricular opportunities with all pupils. They will be responsible for managing the sign up to the relevant clubs so that children will be given a fair and equitable choice of club. We would appreciate your co-operation in the timely return of permission slips, these will be issued in due course.

Volunteers

We continue to be very grateful for the commitment from Mrs Effie Walker, who gives of her personal time on a weekly basis to volunteer within Colgrain Pre-5 Unit. She is much adored by nursery children and staff alike.

Colgrain pupils of P6 and P7 continue to benefit from the outstanding expertise of Mr Daz Murphy of Helensburgh Athletics Club.

As we proceed with our provision of after school clubs, we are most grateful to the guidance and support from Mr Martin Caldwell, Senior Active Schools Co-ordinator and his colleague Miss Louise Hannah.

We are very grateful to the many parents who are volunteering to help with these clubs too.

Pupil Voice

On entry to nursery, the pupil voice is encouraged through various means such as contributing to the planning of lessons, choice of activities, participation in committees and even in choice of snack each day.

The opportunities to encourage pupil voice are varied as described below:

- Pupil Council – led by Mrs A MacGillivray
- Sports Council – led by Mr C Brown
- Eco-Committee – led by Miss L Anderson
- Clans – led by Mrs C Ross

A key aspect of this role is to be elected by peers and represent the children on a committee, ensuring pupil voice is heard and the arising actions can be taken.

Eco

All of the hard work and commitment of our children, parents and staff has been recognised once again in the award of yet another Eco Schools Scotland Green Flag. Miss L Anderson is currently managing the election of our new committee. Further news about this award will be in the local press.

Accelerated Reader

Further to our invitation to welcome you to our Accelerated Reader information session, we would like to remind you that this will take place on **Wednesday 27 February 2019** from **6pm – 7pm**.

The feedback has been very positive from our children regarding this initiative. This Friday, there is to be further training by the Accelerated Reader team from England. Many staff will be trained on this occasion and subsequently in August.

Interdisciplinary Learning

The subject of our IDL this term is 'We are Scientists'. The present focus for the upper school, P4-7 will be forces and the lower school, Pre-5 to P3 will have a focus on materials. After the mid-term break, there will be a swap between the stages.

Nurture

Following the extensive redevelopment of a classroom in the senior end of the school, we are almost at the completion stage of Colgrain Primary School nurture room. This initiative was set up in response to the children's needs and further information of its launch will follow. This initiative is led by Mrs L Candlish in collaboration with Mrs C Walker, Class Teacher, with a nurture specialism.

We always like to recognise and build upon the strengths of our parental body. Mrs Candlish has liaised with Mrs J Orr to co-ordinate play therapy and social skills sessions for some of our pupils.

Following a good response to the parent drop in session, Mrs Orr will now lead further sessions with our pupils.

All staff at Colgrain have been trained in many aspects of nurture such as PAtHs (Positive Alternative Thinking Strategies) by Mrs Roslyn Redpath, Principal Educational Psychologist.

Parent Teacher Council

Thank you to those parents who recently attended the PTC meeting. As usual our ladies are working very hard and we look forward to exciting events such as the Bingo Night on Thursday 21 February and the Spring Fayre in May. Further details will be issued by our Chairperson, Mrs L Wright. Thank you to you all for your continued support.

Health and Wellbeing

The health and wellbeing of our pupils is of paramount importance to us so we would request that you keep us informed of any allergies or health conditions. We request your co-operation in not providing any products for your child's snack or packed lunch that may contain nuts. We would also request that you inform the school if your child has any viral infections such as chicken pox.

During this cold spell, please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear. Many of our learning opportunities take place outdoors.

Our pupils are supported by their teachers to learn effective methods of hand-washing to prevent the spread of germs. Our pupils are encouraged to wash their hands after visiting the bathroom, upon returning from outdoor activities and before lunch.

At certain times of year we become aware of children who are presenting with head lice. We are grateful to those parents who inform us. The standard advice, should you have any concerns, would be to visit the local pharmacy for advice. They can provide head lice lotions and combs free of charge through the NHS Minor Ailment Service.

We are always very grateful to our school crossing team, particularly our own Mrs L McSporrán, who patrols very busy junctions and we are especially thankful during this period of inclement weather.

Community Partners

Mrs June Graham, Road Safety Officer for Argyll and Bute Council regularly supports all aspects of road safety within our curriculum and we look forward to receiving the banners pictured below.



Car Parking

Thank you to all parents who are mindful of their children's health and safety and do not bring their vehicle to school. We would remind you that the car park only has a certain capacity and the school gates will close as soon as this is reached.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 8 February

Friday 8 February
Monday 18 February
Wednesday 27 February

Thursday 28 February
Monday 4 March
Thursday 7 March

Thursday 14 March
Tuesday 19 March
Wednesday 20 March
Friday 29 March
Monday 15 April
Tuesday 16 April
Wednesday 17 April
Thursday 18 April
Tuesday 23 April
Wednesday 24 April
Thursday 25 April
Thursday 25 April

Tuesday 30 April
Monday 6 May

Thursday 9 May
Friday 10 May
Friday 17 May
Tuesday 21 May

Thursday 23 May

Thursday 23 May
Friday 24 May
Tuesday 28 May
Tuesday 28 May
Thursday 23 May
Friday 28 June

Take Away Theatre Company -
'Ye Cannae Shuv Yer Granny Aff a
Bus'

School and Pre-5 Unit close
School and Pre-5 Unit re-open
Accelerated Reader Parent Session
6pm – 7pm

Animal Man – Pre 5 Unit
Nursery enrolment week
'Don't Know, Click No'

P6 and P7 Internet Safety
Contraflow Assembly
P7 Day of Dance
P7 Easter Code

School and Pre-5 close
School and Pre-5 reopen
P6 and P7 Heart Start
P6 and P7 Heart Start

School and Pre-5 close at 2:30pm
School and Pre-5 Reopen
Pre 5 Fluoride Varnishing

Contraflow Assembly
P6 and P7 Active Schools Cross
Country Team Event

P1 – P5 Fluoride Varnishing
P6 & P7 Primary Athletics Individual
Event

Pre-5 Safari Park trip
P6 & P7 Inter School Cross Country
P7 Hooked On Hermitage Sports
Parent Consultations
5:30pm – 7:30pm

Parent Consultations
3:30pm – 5:30pm

School and Pre-5 close
Inservice Day
School and Pre-5 reopen
Christian Aid Netball Event

Contraflow Assembly
School closes at 1pm

Yours sincerely



Mrs Johanna McClelland
Head Teacher