



Colgrain Primary School & Nursery

'Inspiring all to Flourish'

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the October edition of our school Newsletter. We were happy to welcome back the children after a well-deserved October break. The children and staff looked refreshed and ready to take on term 2 and all the challenges this might bring.

I know you will be following closely, the ever changing picture from the Scottish Government around COVID-19 and the restrictions across the country. I feel very blessed that the Colgrain community have been vigilant and supportive during this time and we are in a positive picture within the school. We continue to have our Blended Learning Plan B if this is required at a later date. Thankfully we have been operating at full capacity since returning.

Changes however can happen and tend to be fast moving. Staff in school have been working on back-up learning timetables for 2 week isolation requirements and we will be in a position to share these soon. Seesaw remains a key platform for sharing learning and staying connected to classroom life.

As we move to colder weather, parents will undoubtedly be concerned over colds and flu viruses that will begin to circulate and the impact of these on school. Please remember to follow the NHS guidance on symptoms of COVID-19 and when to stay at home and seek a COVID-19 test. It is also important to check-in with your child's GP for advice on symptoms.

Surveys are being prepared for children, parents and staff to share their views on procedures and learning so far this session. Please be sure to take part in these surveys to provide us with as much information as possible. We will share results from surveys during PTC meetings.

In this edition you will find information on Reporting to Parents, PE in colder weather and some events coming up this term.

As always, I would like to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support,

Mrs P Walsh

Head teacher

Up and Coming Events!

P7 Competition – Last month, we shared that we would like the P7 children to design a new badge for Colgrain Early Years Nursery. P7 pupils will be given the opportunity to enter this competition on our return from October holidays. Keep posted for updates!



Halloween (Friday 30th October) – While trick or treating might not look the same this year in the community, we would like to keep the fun alive in Colgrain with children dressing up and having fun creating spooky crafts. This will be supported by the PTC who will be providing the school with **spook-tacular** activities for the afternoon to help dress the windows of classes! Children should come to school dressed in their costumes for the day. Props and face paints for costumes should be kept at home, however masks, hats and wigs are all welcome.



November Food Bank – Traditionally the PTC have hosted a Film Night in November where donations of food items are gathered to support our local food bank. We aren't able to have the Film Night in school, however we are all very keen to ensure donations are gathered for the food bank as we get closer to Christmas. Keep an eye out for more news from the PTC on how this will happen.

Book Week Scotland (16th – 22nd November) – This year we are looking for some extreme reading fun. We would like to encourage as many children and parents as possible to take a book and read it somewhere unusual! Make a reading den in the house/garden, find a good reading tree in the park, you decide! Please also look out for some additional activities to celebrate the week as we get closer to it! The school traditionally always invites the Book Fair Company in to allow children the opportunity to buy new books for their collections. The sales from the book fair provides the school with a small percentage of the profits which is then put back into class and school library books. This year we will run the Book Fair a little differently using online ordering. More information to follow!



Anti-Bullying Week (16th – 22nd November) – As we have settled back to school life, we have had some bumps along the way. Anti-Bullying Week is around the corner and there is no better time than this to look closely at what bullying is and how we stop it in its tracks. This year's theme is 'UNITED AGAINST BULLYING'. We will work on how we stand up for what is right and support our class and school to be a bully free zone.



#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Reminder: Online Payments for Nursery and School Lunches

If you would like your child to receive a lunch in school / nursery please use the online system for payments. To make processing payments easier, please pay the exact amount for lunches required

Payments for parents wishing to pay in advance for children (price per child) £2.30 per day.

19th October 2020 onwards:

STAGE	1 WEEK	2 WEEKS	3 WEEKS	4 WEEKS
NURSERY	£11.50	£23	£34.50	£46
PRIMARY	£11.50	£23	£34.50	£46

Parents are also now able to include money for milk. The cost of milk is 10p per carton. Please add on the 10p to the online payments (e.g. if paying for a carton of milk each day, add on 50p to the online weekly payment)

P1-3 pupils do not pay for school meals as part of the Government school meal funding system in place.



Reporting to Parents

During the recent PTC meeting, the school had discussed the need to change the way we carry out reporting by cancelling Parents Evening in its traditional form. Since then, we have looked carefully at ways to go forward with reporting progress and keeping parents involved in learning. Staff have agreed that the most positive way forward is to carry out phone call appointments with parents this term. Staff are very keen to connect with parents and build positive partnerships for children in their care to have the best experience in this unusual time.

We are currently creating a book in system to allow families to select a time and date that will be suitable to them. Parents will be contacted via phone call at their allotted time and have a 10 minute appointment. We will update everyone soon with the dates for these phone call appointments and how to book.

Colgrain Primary Red Hoodies

We are now able to offer branded school hoodies for all Primary stages. Please look out for an additional letter providing information on how to order a hoody for your child(ren).

This is not a compulsory part of school uniform and is offered as an additional piece of uniform that can be worn on a daily basis as colder weather arrives. Children will be able to wear these hoodies in class and around the school and will be a lovely item to wear for future sporting events as they begin again later this session.

PE in colder weather



As we move towards the winter season, our procedures around PE now need to be re-evaluated to adapt to the season.

Children this term will continue to wear their PE clothes to school on their allotted PE days. They should bring a change of clothes with them on these days in the event that they may be outside for PE and caught in wet weather that soaks their clothes through. Staff will work a system that allows children to change from PE clothes while wiping down areas for other groups to use next.

On days where there are weather warnings in place or the rain is too heavy for outside PE, we will make adaptations to the lessons to allow for PE to take place indoors.

Thank you!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Garrett and his team of parents who have transformed our infant playground. Alongside several of our ASN Assistants, Mr Garrett and the team have repaired our pirate ship, outdoor classroom and trim trail play equipment. We are extremely grateful. On behalf of the children and teachers.....THANK YOU!

