

WEST LINTON PRIMARY

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

24TH August 2018

WELCOME BACK 2018-19

We wish you all a very warm welcome back after a lovely long summer break. We hope you enjoyed the glorious weather and if you were away, we hope you had a lovely relaxing time.



You will find diary dates for the year ahead attached to this e-newsletter. There will, of course, be other dates which will be added through the course of the school year, but we will always do our best to give you lots of notice if these dates do involve your children.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

During Session 2018-19, we will be altering our Golden Time provision to include 'Masterclasses' in areas or activities our pupils are interested in.



With this in mind, we wondered whether you have any skills or abilities you may be able to offer the pupils. Are you a dab hand at baking or finger knitting for example? Do you enjoy a particular sport or have a coaching qualification? If so we'd love to hear from you. Look out for a letter coming out to you next week.

STAFFING UPDATES

We are delighted to share with you that Mr Walter Scott, who has worked in our school for some time was successful at interview for our janitorial vacancy. I know you will join me in making him feel very welcome.

Mrs Laura Denson joins us this session; originally to cover Mrs Motley's management day, however until Mrs Turner returns, has agreed instead to deliver Support for Learning on a Wednesday and Thursday (pm.) Mrs Ruth Scott, a familiar member of our staff will be working with Primary 4 on a Wednesday. On Mrs Turner's return, Mrs Denson will revert back to working with Primary 4 on a Wednesday.

Mrs McMenemie has sadly left West Linton Primary School. She has been working with us on a temporary basis and has obtained permanent work with another Local Authority.

Mrs Maria Quinn, one of our Nursery workers, will be reverting to her maiden name this session and will be known as Ms Cabello.

We would like to make you aware that Mrs Sanderson will be working with Primary 2 on a Monday and Tuesday and Dr Todd will work with the pupils on a Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

In a further restructuring of office and admin staff across SBC, our office will now be open from **8:30 – 3:30 Monday –Thursday and will be closed for lunch between 1:15 and 2:00. On Friday the office will be open from 8:45 – 12:45.** We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Finally, we wish to congratulate Mrs Smith, who is expecting a baby. She will begin her maternity leave on 15th October, meaning her last day with us will be 4th October. We hope to interview in the near future to ensure a smooth transition between teachers.

VISION, VALUES & AIMS

As part of our ongoing review and improvement agenda, it is time for our School Vision, Values and Aims to be revisited and refreshed. The initial staff consultation for this took place on our inservice day. Our staff engaged in self-evaluation related to our personal and professional values and how these translate into a school Vision for future improvement. For a school Vision to be sustainable and embedded in school life, it is also imperative that the Vision is shared by all stakeholders including you, our parents and our pupils. With this in mind, we would like you to have your say!

In the school foyer, there is a Whiteboard and a variety of post-it notes, we would very much like you to use these post-it notes to share with us your top three priorities for your children at West Linton Primary School. These priorities could be related to values you would like them to leave Primary School with or alternatively hopes and wishes for your children to obtain in their Primary School career.

If you would prefer to discuss these more fully and in consultation with Mrs Saxon and Ms Curson, then there will be two Vision, Values & Aims sessions on the evening of the Meet the Teacher Event (17th September) at 6:30pm and 7:00pm.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

If your child gets the school bus you will shortly be receiving a request form to fill in, indicating which days your child will be using school transport. Please return this promptly in order for us to make sure we have the correct pupil information.

In addition we would respectfully ask that if there are days when your child is *not getting the bus as planned that you let the school office know by lunchtime*. The children are supervised on and off the bus daily therefore it is imperative the school has up to date information. Thank you.

PEEBLESSHIRE NEWS P1 PHOTO

The Peeblesshire News will be coming to school on **Monday 27th August** before morning break to take a photo of all our Primary 1 pupils. The photo will be published in the paper's edition on 14th September along with photos of P1 classes from other Tweeddale schools.

PUPIL ENTRY & EXIT TO/FROM SCHOOL

Almost all pupils have changed classrooms this year, so we felt that it was important to confirm where the children should be lining up in the morning and where they will exit the school building at the end of the school day.

Primary 1 and 2/1 will line up at the door at the bottom of their corridor and closest to their classrooms. Primary 2 and 3 will line up at the entrance closest to our ELC. Our Primary 4 and 5 children will line up at the bottom of the upper school corridor. Primary 6 and Primary 7 will line up at the entrance in the middle section of the playground. The children will line up in their House Groups and coloured cones have been placed in the playground this week to help the children identify where they should line up.

All children will exit from the doors in their classrooms. This avoids a bottleneck on exit from the school and ensures that the class teacher can see that children exit the building and are returned to their parents/ carers safely.

OUR IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

During session 2018-19 our improvement agenda includes three main priorities:

- Development of Early Level Literacy methodology
- Implementation of Languages 1+2 (French)
- Further development of Personal Learning Profiles (PLPs)

As well as these school priorities, staff will have leadership roles in taking forward Tweeddale Cluster priorities in:

- Raising attainment in mathematics, through the development of learning pathways.
- Ensuring the health and wellbeing of our pupils through engagement with restorative practices.
- Continue to build professional capacity in the moderation of reading, through engagement with and professional dialogue across the cluster.