



Dates for the Diary – Term 1

Thurs 5 th Sept	P7A Hoddom
Tue 10 th Sept	P7B Hoddom
Mon 9 th Sept	London 2020 Meeting 6pm – Newington
Tue 17 th Sept	Super 4's Moffat (Race 1)
Thurs 19 th Sept	Mini Triathlon – Open to P7's - Annan Academy
Tues 1 st Oct	Road Relay at Everholm
Fri 4 th Oct	Tag Rugby Festival for P7's at Violet Bank
Mon 7 th Oct	Parental Consultation – 3.30pm – 8.30pm
Fri 11 th Oct	Big Me 3
Fri 12th Oct	School Closes for October Break at 3.05pm

Term 2

Mon 28th Oct	School Resumes for Term 2
Wed 30 th Oct	Halloween Disco – further details to follow
Wed 6 th Nov	Super 4s at Everholm Annan - 4pm (Race2)
Mon 11 th –Wed 13 th Nov	Potential P6 residential trip to Lockerbie Manor

Clubs

We are very lucky to have such a full and varied range of clubs available free of charge for our pupils. A huge thanks for this must go to the staff who give their time to support the various activities.

Details about the clubs will come out over the year from the various organisers. Keep checking school bags permission slips and our school website for information.

If an after school club has to be cancelled, we will try to contact parents in advance via the school App.

Newington Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Head Teacher Introduction

August 2019

A very warm welcome to a new term and new year for our school! I hope the 'mixed bag' of weather didn't stop everyone from enjoying the break and getting out and about. It would be great to get a few weeks of good weather to see us settled into another year of opportunities and challenges for our school. From last session our termly newsletter and most of our other written communication to parents/ carers was be sent out via our new School App. This has provided us with a quick and cost effective method of sharing school news with our parents/ carers. The App has been very well received by families as grandparents, childminders etc. can also download the App and be kept up to date with clubs, news etc. Details of how to access the App has already been sent out to families, please download this. The school App is supported by our school website as our main methods of sharing school news with parents/ carers. Make a regular visit to www.newingtonprimary.uk.org to find out about school success, to find out about your child's class activities and news about ongoing school activity.

We will continue to send home occasional letters which require signed consent for trips etc and paper copies of newsletters will be kept in the office but our hope is that the 'App and Website' will greatly reduce the printing and paper cost for the school and provide a speedier and more efficient method of keeping our families informed.

Please note parents/ carer's if you have any specific concerns or questions, please contact the school on 01461 205326 to discuss things with myself or a member of the Senior Management Team. Parents/ carers can also e-mail me directly at gw08torbettirvine@ea.dumgal.sch.uk and I will try to reply as quickly as I can.

Once again, I am looking forward to working with all the members of our school community over the coming year. We will always achieve more for all our pupils by working together.

Irvine Torbett, Head Teacher

Staffing

Please see below a list of all teachers and their stages for this coming session 2019/20:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Class</u>
Miss Hollis	P1A
Mrs Murray	P1B
Mrs Bell/ Mrs Carruthers	P1/2
Mrs Marrs	P2
Mrs Ferguson D.H.T / Mrs Graham	P3A
Miss M ^c Ewen	P3B
Mrs Swan	P4A
Mrs Jones	P4B
Miss Simonian	P5A
Mrs Jefferson / Mrs Magnay	P5B
Miss Mutch/ Miss Nicholson	P6A
Mr Schoolar / Mrs Robison	P6B
Mr Armstrong D.H.T / Mrs Magnay	P7A
Mr Kilpatrick - (Mrs Duignan returns Oct)	P7B
Mrs Bingham / Miss Nicholson	Learning Zone
Mrs Gallagher	Nursery

Absence from School

If your child is absent from school, please contact us by text on our designated absence line on **07860029432 text only**. If you are unable to make contact via text, please telephone the school office to advise.

The office staff will look to contact families directly if we have had no information about why a pupil isn't in school. The SEEMIS system will also direct us to contact parents if a pupil's absence level falls to an unacceptable level. A child's attendance at school is crucial to their progress.

The School Day

School activity begins at 9am and ends at 3.05pm for all pupils. We need all pupils in school on time for the start of the day. Too many regular faces appear after 9am and this has an impact on the start of the day for all pupils. Late arrivals will be recorded in SEEMIS and parents will be contacted if this becomes an issue.

Pupils will be dismissed from 3.05pm and I would ask that parents/guardians are here on time to collect their children. If you are going to be delayed, you must first try to arrange for your child to be picked up by a responsible adult and advise the school office of the change. If you are unable to make any emergency pick up arrangements, please contact the office staff ASAP and we will look at keeping your child safe in school. Please discuss with your child their end of school arrangements this will encourage independence and responsibility.

The P1 and P2 staff would also like to be informed when someone different is collecting your child so they can check this. You can either put a note in your child's school bag or advise the staff in the playground of any changes and they will relay this message to the teachers.

All pupils will continue to leave school via the usual exits, collection points for the coming session.



Information Sharing with Parents

All our pupils will work on their 'Profiles' again over the coming session, setting targets for learning and recording success and achievements over the year. Some of the teachers may send the initial information pages home to complete, we would appreciate your support with this.

Parent consultation will take place on **Monday 7th October 2019**. Consultations details will be sent out nearer the time.

The pupil end of year report will go out on Friday 5th June 2020

Class Topics

Class Topics provide the stimulus for lots of cross-curricular activities, structured play and research work. Our website will carry details about current class topics and suggestions for websites etc. to support home research where possible.

As always, we would welcome your support and encourage parents to discuss with the children what they've learned about a topic or what made them go wow! Children may well have 'knowledge organisers' home to study each week or term so they can do some self-quizzing!

Class topics for the start of this session are as follows:-

- P1A/ P1B / P1/2 - Autumn
- P2/ P1/2 - Transport
- P3A & P3B - Forces & Magnetism
- P4A & P4B - The Human Body
- P5A & P5B - Mary Queen of Scots
- P6A & P6B - Europe
- P7A & P7B - Plants for Wildlife/ History of Scottish Independence
- Learning Zone - Animals
- Nursery - Settling In & Friends

Car Parks and Parking

Another item raised by parents was concerns about parking and traffic around our school. This continues to be an issue and a worry...and it is one that can only be solved by ourselves.

Work has been done to keep our pupils and families safe but we rely on all our parents adhering to the traffic markings, crossing restrictions etc. to ensure this works.

As a school community we are the ones that must resolve this.

Please help us keep our pupils safe!!!!



Uniform/Equipment

Our school uniform colour is **Red** sweatshirt, **Red** poloshirt, dark trousers/skirts and when worn by all our pupils looks very smart. A uniform order form will be coming out in October and again in May. Please could we ask parents to take this opportunity to order any required uniform items at this time as office staff only keep a small stock of uniform for new enrolments. We work hard as a school to reinforce the importance and the role of our uniform and we appreciate parental support with this.

Could I also remind parents to ensure their child has a shoe bag for keeping shoes stored during the class day and also ensure their child has appropriate jackets/footwear for their 'Daily Mile'

Pupils should bring P.E. kit for their P.E sessions. Staff will inform them if this will be indoor or outdoor. We do have spare kits in the office for pupils who occasionally forget, but we will make parents aware if forgotten P.E kit becomes an issue.

At the start of the new session parents should put their child's name on all items of clothing, lunchboxes and equipment. Each year we have items of clothing, lunchboxes etc. left in school which eventually must be thrown out.

Could I ask all parents to help support us with this matter and encourage children to be fully prepared for school.

School Meals

The current school meals menu will continue until after the October Break at a price of £1.90 for the hot meal of 'Take 4' option each day.

P1-P3 pupils will all continue to have access to free school meals.

I would like to remind parents/ guardians **we are a 'Fizz & Nut' free school.**

Could I ask all parents/ guardians to help the kitchen team in the coming session by ensuring meal payments are made on the day or in advance for the week. Hours of valuable kitchen time are being lost following up missed payments and this can't be allowed to continue.

Please send money with the children and remind them to make the payment.