

Antonine Primary School and Early Learning Centre

September & October 2021

Headteacher: Mrs J McLaughlin



It's September already!

It's been a very busy start to the term and challenging for us continuing to manage the mitigations in place in school and ELC. We are mindful of rising numbers of positive cases, however we are being strict on hand washing, hand sanitising and mask wearing amongst adults and pupils.

Our children have settled quickly, a few P1 wobbles which can be expected, but once in school we have happy, excited, giggly pupils enjoying their experience of life in a new year at Antonine.

Mrs J McLaughlin

Lateral Flow Test

Breakfast Club

I have been given information that the Breakfast Club is to continue to open from 8.30am for the moment. This is not to change in the current climate. All pupils who are registered for the free school meal provision can eat at the breakfast club for free. (This does not apply to the universal free school meals for P1-P4)



Parent Council

We would love to have more parents involved both in the Parent Council and with the Events Committee. Our AGM is on **Monday 27th September at 7.00pm.**

This will be in the form of a zoom meeting. Please contact the school if you would like to be part of this meeting. Your details will be sent to Stephanie Wedgwood-Broadway, Chairperson and she will send you an invite.

This will be a good opportunity to hear about how school is running and the priorities for learning and teaching this coming year.

Community Choices - £24,800

Last week I made you aware that the Parent Council were successful in their grant bid. We will keep you up to date of the developments in spending this money. The first step is to meet with the Community Choices Committee and approach three companies to supply quotes for the works.

Antonine Gym Kit

We had asked this year that pupils wear part of their uniform on a gym day. Gym kit is leggings/jogging trousers/shorts with a plain t-shirt and either an Antonine school jumper or cardigan. If your child does not wear a school jumper than a plain black hoodie/jumper or zip up for P6/7 would be fine and a blue one for P1-5.

There is a large number of pupils wearing this it and we thank you for that. Please can we encourage all our families to ensure that Gym school uniform is still worn on gym days?



Home Files

Home files will come home on a Friday this year:

24th Sep

3rd Dec

4th Feb

25th Mar

20th May

Home files can be kept at home for the full week and brought back the following Friday or returned after the weekend if you have had time to look at them.

Home files are a lovely way for you to see your child's classroom work and for them to discuss a little of what they have been learning.

Active schools

Our Active School Co-Ordinator is Keith Bunyan. Keith organises sporting events and clubs for children to participate in.

I have met with Keith and we are planning to run some after school clubs this year for all age groups. This is something we have not been able to do since Feb 2020.

More information will be emailed and put on the app.



Antonine Primary School

House Captains

We are delighted to share our newest House Captains. They are excited to fulfill their role and be ambassadors for our school. It was a tough process this year having such a high quality of pupil interviews. The remaining P7 pupils will now be volunteering for their prefect duties and responsibilities.

Congratulations to all our P7 pupils – they will be an asset to the school.



Pupil Working Groups

Involving pupils in school decisions and being responsible for specific areas is a priority for us at Antonine. We have been restricted in our ability to do this over the last year and a half however we can now begin to set this up again.

Pupils can volunteer from Primary 1 to Primary 7 and the teaching staff have started discussing this in class. The working groups we will be running this year are:-

Antonine Anti-Bullying Ambassadors
Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors
The Gardening Crew
ECO Reps
Antonine Charity Team
The Voice (Pupil Voice in Action)

You will hear about the progress of the groups in our newsletters and at the Parent Council meetings.

Communication

Our main means of communication is through email and the school app – please check over carefully to ensure you are fully informed of news from school.

Twitter is used by classes to show some of what has been going on during the school day. No new information will be shared by Twitter.

You can phone or email at any time. If nobody answers the phone, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Well-Being Assemblies

Assemblies are important – they are a chance for the whole school to connect and come together. Whilst we physically have not been together, we have maintained our assembly programme through Microsoft Teams. As restrictions change we will work to having more opportunities for assemblies with everyone in the hall again.

Our weekly assemblies are held on a Monday afternoon, this is an opportunity for us to celebrate pupil successes, birthdays and explore various themes.



This year we have added 8 additional assemblies over the year – these will be known as Well-Being assemblies and will be on a different day to our usual assemblies. As a school we have prioritised Health & Well-Being over the last year and this is a new way to support pupils.

It will be an opportunity to connect and learn about our well-being and how it affects us. We will be looking at the Well-Being Wheel and exploring the SHANARRI indicators and learning some new songs. If you would like to find out more information about this please use this link:

– <https://www.gov.scot/policies/girfec/wellbeing-indicators-shanarri/>



Antonine Early Learning and Childcare Centre



Antonine Early Learning Childcare Centre (ELCC)



Welcome to all our families returning for another year and a special welcome to those joining us for the first time. We hope that you will feel part of our ELCC very soon.

We are all looking forward to another fun filled year at Antonine ELCC. Our new children are settling in well and are enjoying making lots of new friends and exploring the environment. Our returning children have come back to ELCC confident and happy and are enjoying accessing the whole playroom again.

Our Learning

We are enjoying accessing all areas of the ELCC as we are now longer in bubbles. We are becoming familiar with routines and are enjoying being together with all our friends. We have been very busy exploring the outdoor environment. We are particularly enjoying baking and cooking experiences and exploring the school grounds.

Staff and children have been developing our nurture room and have been accessing this more regularly. This is a lovely quiet space away from the main playroom where we have been enjoying lots of small group activities.



Absence/sickness procedure

As we return to more normality we are likely to see common childhood bugs going around. We understand that there may be times when your child will be absent from ELCC. We would be grateful if you can notify us if your child will be in later or if they will be absent from ELCC. This would support us greatly in organising our day including ordering our lunches. To do this please phone into the school office on 01324 503140.

- Please note if your child has a sickness or diarrhea bug – they should not return to the ELC environment until they have been clear of this for 48 hours.
- We have a child who is immunosuppressed – please notify us immediately if you are aware of your child having chicken pox, scarlet fever, hand/foot and mouth viruses.

Pick up/drop off

We are currently still using two entry and exit points. The green, orange and yellow group are entering and exiting through the garden gate. The blue, purple and red groups are entering and exiting through the main ELCC door.

Pick up/drop off during session – out with usual opening and closing times we would ask all families to use the school main entrance to pick up and drop off children. This is for the safety and security of all our children.

Scottish Government Guidelines

Please remember that social distancing and mask wearing is still essential for all adults using the school and ELC services. Even if you are outdoors and on the path – we still are required to ask for your cooperation. All staff will be required to continue to wear masks in the setting.

Information

Please note that you can follow us on Twitter. Staff regularly post pictures showing what the children are learning in nursery. Our twitter handle is @antonineps_nurs.

Dates for your diary

Term 1 – Aug to Oct 2021

Homework and reading starts Week beginning 30th Aug 2021

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Training session in school – Tuesday 7th Sep 2021

September holiday

Monday 13th Sep 2021 – School and ELCC closed

Home File Week

Home files home on Friday 24th Sep 2021

Marvelous Maths Day

Celebrating all things Maths on Tuesday 28th Sep 2021

Poppy Scotland Bus

Visiting Antonine on Tues 28th and Wed 29th Sep 2021 for P5-7

Harvest/Charity Assembly

Mon 27th Sep 2021

Global Goals Assembly

Launching Learning for Sustainability and COP 26 Mon 4th Oct 2021

October Holiday

Mon 11th to Fri 15th Oct 2021- School and ELC closed

In-Service Day

Mon 18th Oct 2021 – School and ELC closed

Term 2 – Oct to Dec 2021

Back to school and ELC

Tues 19th Oct 2021

Parents Evening

Wed 20th Oct and Tues 26th Nov – more info to follow

COP 26 Conference

The official start of COP 26 Mon 1st Nov 2021

COP 26 National Learning Day

Fri 5th Nov 2021

COP 26 Community Day

Sun 7th Nov 2021 – more info to follow

Anti-Bullying Week

Mon 15th Nov 2021

School Photographer

Wed 17th Nov 2021

Flu Vaccinations

Tues 23rd Nov 2021

Home Files Week

Home Files home on Fri 3rd Dec 2021

Homework and Reading stops

Fri 10th Dec 2021

Primary 1 Nativity

Monday 13th Dec 2021 – more info to follow

P6 and 7 Party

Tues 14th Dec 2021 - morning

P5 and 6/5 Party

Tues 14th Dec 2021 – afternoon

ELC Christmas Sing-a-long

Wed 15th Dec 2021 – more info to follow

P3 and P4 party

Mon 20th Dec 2021 – morning

Christmas Assembly

Mon 20th Dec 2021

P1 and 2 Party

Mon 21st Dec 2021 – afternoon

ELC Party

Tues 21st Dec 2021 - morning

School and ELC closes at 1.30pm

Tues 21st Dec 2021

December Holiday

Wed 22nd Dec to Tues 4th Dec 2022- School and ELC closed

Back to School

Wed 5th January 2021



What is COP 26?



COP stands for Conference of the Parties, and will be attended by countries that signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) - a treaty agreed in 1994.

The 2021 meeting will be the 26th meeting, which is why it's called COP26.

The last conference, COP25, was held in Madrid, Spain, in November 2019 with Greta Thunberg giving a big speech at the event.

The COP meeting in Madrid finished with lots of big issues unresolved, but an agreement was made about cutting carbon dioxide - a gas that causes global warming.

Each nation agreed to devise a plan to cut their carbon emissions by the next conference in Glasgow.

At the heart of discussions over the last few years has been the Paris "rulebook".

The Paris Agreement is a big international agreement to tackle climate change, which was agreed by leaders back in 2015 when 195 countries attended COP21 in Paris.

What does the Paris agreement say?

It says nations must:

- Reduce the amount of harmful greenhouse gasses produced and increase renewable types of energy like wind, solar and wave power
- Keep global temperature increase "well below" 2C (3.6F) and to try to limit it to 1.5C
- Review progress made on the agreement every five years

- Spend \$100 billion dollars a year in climate finance to help poorer countries by 2020, with a commitment to further finance in the future.

What does this mean for Antonine?

This year we have a whole school focus on “Learning for Sustainability” linked to the discussions around the COP 26 conference. We will be linking with schools and countries across the world and will develop an “Antonine Commitment” to reducing our carbon footprint. Each class will use age and stage appropriate resources to learn and develop an understanding of how we can work together to improve our world for future generations. We will do this using a “storyline” approach in which pupils will develop their learning by creating an imaginary street called “Global Goals Street”.