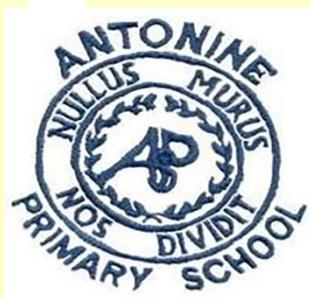


Antonine Primary School

November & December 2020

Headteacher: Mrs J McLaughlin



Welcome back to Term 2. It is a shorter term this year in what is always the busiest time of the year. We will continue to reinforce social distancing, hand washing and sanitising with the school community. Please continue to keep us up to date with your own families.

Mrs J McLaughlin



Reading Schools Accreditation – Scottish Book Trust

Developing a positive reading culture was something that we had identified to work on as part of our School Improvement Plan. As part of this we were given the opportunity to join the Scottish Book Trust in piloting a school accreditation programme. Work was started on this last year and throughout lockdown. We have further developed our reading focus for this year. The purpose of this is to ensure that reading skills, a reading focus and reading strategies are embedded in our daily curriculum as well as encouraging pupils to read for pleasure. We have worked on the accreditation points and have achieved “Bronze” level. We are extremely proud of this and what a brilliant start to the year. Our plan is to continue to build on this success to achieve our Silver award next.

“Can I just say again, how brilliant it has been for us to work with you and all your staff on this – the hard work and dedication you’ve put into the programme absolutely shone through your submission and it really is an incredible achievement. The impact it has had on your learners is wonderful to see – Antonine Primary School truly is an outstanding advocate for the programme!”

Scottish Book Trust, Oct 2020

Find us at:

<http://antonineps.schoolwebsite.scot/>

Follow us on Twitter:

@antonine01

Email us:

antonineprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk

Phone us:

01324 503140



Class Learning

Coming back after the summer our main focus was Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Well-Being. We will still place a big emphasis on this but pupils have been asking to begin to learn more topic work again. We agree this would be a positive step forward and so each class will be focusing on the following alongside their literacy and numeracy:-

P1 – The Christmas Story

P2 – Our Environment/Climate Change

P3 – The BFG/ECO focus – Keeping our community sparkling

P4 – Ancient Egypt

P5/4 ECO focus – saving our world from plastic

P6/5 – Myths and Legends

P7/6 – Spain and Spanish studies

P7 - Japan



Home Files

This was a new initiative launched last year and one that we will continue. We have made changes to how this will work to ensure that everyone stays safe and we stick to the advised guidelines.

Home files will come home on a Friday this year:

6th Nov

11th Dec

29th Jan

12th Mar

14th May

Home files should be kept at home for the full week. We will put the home files into a box for 72 hours and leave them there to ensure there is no cross-contamination from home to school.

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.

Rag Bag

The Rag Bag is being emptied more regularly now, if you are having a pre-Christmas clothes clear out then feel free to use. If it is full let us know. The school gets the profits from this recycling and uses the money to support ECO projects. Currently we are saving up for two new scooter parking zones for the playground.



Christmas Jumper Day

We love Christmas at Antonine and think Christmas jumpers are too expensive to wear for just one day. If your child has a Christmas jumper or top they can wear this to school as part of their uniform during the month of December.

Antonine Primary School

Health Focus Week

Following on from last year's successful Health Week pupils will participate in a number of health related activities beginning Friday 13th November. 'World Kindness Day' will kick things off on Friday 13th. This is an international event which was introduced in 1998 by the World Kindness Movement. On this day pupils will participate in a number of activities which will encourage good deeds and a focus on positive power and the common thread of [kindness](#).



Following on from this we will be Antonine's Anti-Bullying Week, with the theme this year being "United against Bullying". Pupils from the Rights Respecting Steering Group have planned a number of activities specifically for our children at Antonine. The event will start with an 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday 16th November to mark the first day of Anti-Bullying Week. Children will participate in a number of activities throughout the week that will include definitions and types of bullying, ways Antonine can be united against bullying and an emphasis on fostering positive mental wellbeing.

Outdoor Learning Day

Due to current restrictions we can't organise Outdoor Classroom Day on 5th November as we would like. We do however appreciate that time outdoors – on Outdoor Classroom Day and every day – makes children happier and healthier. It helps them develop a love of the natural world, which means they are more likely to grow up wanting to protect it, thus linking to Learning for Sustainability. The theme this year is "Love the Outdoors".

Remembrance Day

Friday 11th November 2020

We will have poppies in school from Monday 2nd November. We cannot go around the classes so will use the tannoy to call each class separately. Children's donations will go straight into the collection box and not be handled by anyone else.

As there will be no Remembrance Service at the Memorial Gardens on Remembrance Sunday this year the school will place its own Poppy Wreath with two members of staff and the house captains on the Friday morning of the 11th November.



Dates for your diary

We have added new dates to the diary below – please take a note of these.

Parent Council Meeting 2

We only organise one meeting per term and we are using zoom for these meetings at the moment. We would love more parents to join us to listen in and be involved in our on-going conversations. If you would like to join in with the next one and haven't before please email the school and we will pass on your details. Previous participants will be automatically invited to the next one. The next meeting is on **Tuesday 1st December at 7.00pm.**

Events Committee

Fundraising this year is very difficult, the Events Committee are trying to think of some really creative ways to raise funds for the school.

They are organising the 50:50 raffle which will have a brilliant cash prize. Watch out for further news on All About Antonine.

We are trying to raise funds to install a new adventure trail in the playground.

Change of Date – P7/6

P7/6 class assembly – was due to be in November however we have moved this to Term 4 in May 2021

Support for Families

It has been a very difficult year for many families with lots of uncertainty around employment and the furlough scheme. Families can apply for free school meals at any time of the year. There is also a clothing grant available to help support the buying of school uniform. All information is available on the Falkirk website but if you would like help with this then please phone

Our local foodbank "Roots" have been very supportive with families over the past few years. This year they have Christmas food boxes available for five families in our community. If your family would benefit from some support with a food box just before Christmas please contact Mrs McLaughlin or speak directly with the charity "Roots". All requests will be confidential and only dealt with by Mrs McLaughlin.



Antonine Early Learning and Childcare Centre



Antonine Early Learning Childcare Centre (ELCC)



We would like to begin this newsletter by welcoming all of our new children and also Louise Sutherland, our new ELC Assistant. This term we are also pleased to welcome Dionne Turpin, Cindy Rose, Danielle Brown and Danielle Arnott who will be completing a placement from Forth Valley College with us.

Social Bubbles

In line with national guidance the ELCC playroom continues to be divided into two separate zones to support social bubbles. All children have adapted really well to these changes and continue to explore similar learning experiences within both. Following both staff observation and consultation with the children, we have made the decision to no longer rotate the zones within the playroom every week. With all children being allocated one particular zone, children are now more settled, any confusion has been reduced and greater opportunities have been created to take children's learning and interests forward. Please see the table below to find out which zone your child has been allocated.

| Group | Zone 1 (Left Hand side of playroom and outdoors) | Zone 2 (Right hand side of playroom and outdoors) |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Yellow, Green and Orange | ✓ | |
| Red, Blue and Purple | | ✓ |

Children's Interests

Within Zone 1 the children have expressed an interest in Fairytales and Stories. Together, we have been exploring lots of different stories and characters. Autumn and seasonal changes have also been explored, with the children exploring changes in the outdoor environment, trees and weather.

Within Zone 2, Autumn have also been of similar interest to the children. Naturally some children are keen to discuss their Halloween stories – we will support children who would like to explore this further. The children within this zone have also been keen to learn how to ride their bikes and explore numbers within their environment. This has led to the children looking more closely at the numbers on doors, cars and in baking recipes.

Outdoor Play

Outdoor play is an integral part of the ELCC day. As children are outdoors in all weather, they can, at times, become a bit messy. Can we therefore, please ask that all children bring with them a suitable outdoor jacket, welly boots and a change of clothes please? Can all items of clothing please be clearly labelled with your child's name?

Christmas Party

The ELCC Christmas party will take place on Wednesday 16th December. The children will participate in party games and have a festive snack within each of their zones. The children are most welcome to come to ELCC dressed in their party clothes on that day if they wish to do so.

Last Week of Term

As the ELCC will close at 1.30pm on Wednesday 23rd December 2020, earlier than normal, ELCC sessions will be extended during the last week. On Monday 21st December 2020 and Tuesday 22nd December 2021, all children can attend the ELCC from 8.30am to 3pm. On Wednesday 23rd December 2020, the ELCC will be open from 8.30am until 1.30pm.

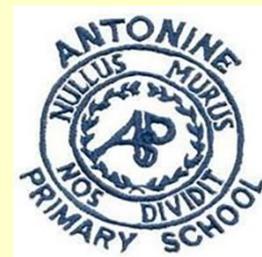
Absence

If your child will be absent from the ELCC, please call the school office on 01324 503140 and ask to speak to a member of ELCC staff. This greatly supports us with our daily provision and also enables us to monitor any illness.

Information

Please note that you can follow us on Twitter and Facebook. Staff regularly post pictures showing what the children are learning in nursery. You can also find information on the school website www.antonine.falkirk.sch.uk

Dates for your diary



Term 2 – 2020

October

Back to school Monday 26th October 2020

Dress Up/Dress Down Day Friday 30th October 2020

November

P6/5 Class Assembly Monday 2nd November 2020 – video shared with home

Home File Home Friday 6th November 2020

Outdoor Classroom Day Thursday 5th November 2020 (we will be taking part all week)

World Kindness Day Friday 13th November 2020

Rights Respecting Schools/
Anti-Bullying Week Week beginning Monday 16th November 2020

December

Homework and Reading stops Friday 4th December 2020

Home file Home Friday 11th December 2020

P1 Nativity to school Monday 14th December 2020 (this will be videoed for everyone to watch, families of P1 children will receive a link to watch anytime at home – more details to follow)

P4 Christmas Party Monday 14th December 2020 – AM

P5/4 Christmas Party Tuesday 15th December 2020 – AM

P7/6 Christmas Party Tuesday 15th December 2020 – PM

ELCC Christmas Party Wednesday 16th December 2020 - AM

P7 Christmas Party Wednesday 16th December 2020 – PM

P6/5 Christmas Party Monday 21st December 2020 –PM

P2 Christmas Party Tuesday 22nd December 2020 – AM

P3 Christmas Party Tuesday 22nd December 2020 – PM

P1 Christmas Party Wednesday 23rd December 2020 – AM

Christmas Assembly Monday 21st December 2020

School and ELCC closes at 1.30pm Wednesday 23rd December 2020

Christmas Holidays Wednesday 23rd December 2020 to Tuesday 5th January 2021

Term 3 – 2021

January

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Back to School and ELCC | Wednesday 6 th January 2021 |
| Scottish Focus Week | week beginning 18 th January 2021 |
| P7 Year Group Burns Supper | Monday 25 th January – video shared with home |
| Home File Home | Friday 29 th January 2021 |

February

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| National Storytelling Week | Week beginning Monday 1 st February 2021 |
| School and ELCC closed | Friday 12 th February 2021 & Monday 15 th February 2021 |
| In-Service day | Tuesday 16 th February 2021 |
| Parents Consultations | Wednesday 17 th February 2021 & Thursday 25 th February 2021 |

March

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Literacy Focus Week | week beginning 1 st March 2021 |
| P4 Class Assembly | Monday 8 th March 2021 – video shared with home |
| Home File Home | Friday 12 th March 2021 |
| P2 Class Assembly | Monday 15 th March 2021– video shared with home |
| P5/4 Class Assembly | Monday 22 nd March 2021 – video shared with home |
| Easter Assembly | Monday 29 th March 2021 |

April

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Easter Holidays | Friday 2 nd April 2021 to Friday 16 th April 2021 |
| Back to School and ELCC | Monday 19 th April 2021 |