

**PAISLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS  
November 2020**

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big welcome back to all of our children and families after the half-term break. Our priority continues to ensure the well-being, health and safety of all our children and families. We continue to live in unprecedented, uncertain times, but, please remember that we are here for all of you. Please do not hesitate to contact us, should you need any help, advice or support. Unfortunately, due to risk assessments, we are unable to host our parents consultation evenings and many of the seasonal events we normally do in the run up to the festive period. However, at the start of December, you will receive a written report from your child's class teacher on how well they have settled back into school since the September reopening and how they are progressing in English, Mathematics and other curriculum areas. We are so proud of how our children have returned to school, post-lockdown and how positive and resilient they have been revisiting previous learning and acquiring new learning and skills. We continue to make sure our curriculum is engaging and exciting for all of our learners. We are also aiming to ensure that each child makes the best possible progress, and, further intervention groups will also begin this half-term to ensure that each child covers any gaps in identified lost learning.

We did have some children last half-term, who were not fully 'kitted out' for school. Please ensure that your child has a coat, indoor shoes, a PE kit, book bag and a water bottle. A reminder that small stud earrings and a sensible watch are the only items of jewellery allowed. Also, some of our girls were coming to school wearing nail polish, so, please ensure that this is removed for school.

Unfortunately, again, due to our risk assessments, the required staffing and the need to guarantee social distance, we have, regrettably, made the decision to close our Paisley Pick and Mix weekly shop for the time-being. Please be assured that the Pick and Mix shop will reopen as soon as we are able to.

Our school is now operating on a cashless basis for all payments. This means that payments for the Breakfast Club and the After School Club are also online, via the Eduspot School Money system. Bookings for the After School Club must be done online.

Letters on curriculum events and other activities will be sent out to you in due course this term. I need to make you aware that Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December is a teacher training day, so, the last day the children will be attending this term is Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. There are also two further teacher training days after the Christmas holiday on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. The children will return to school on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Take good care of yourselves. On behalf of the whole Paisley team, I send you, as always, my very best wishes.

*Mrs. Hird*

Mrs. Hird  
Headteacher

### **OUR RECOVERY CURRICULUM AND CATCHING UP ON ANY LOST LEARNING**

Our Recovery curriculum went ahead as planned the first half of the autumn term. The children settled in very well back to school life and routine. There was a strong focus on emotional well-being and we continue in this vein. There was an assessment period at the end of September, where the school assessed every child's current ability in reading, writing and mathematics and identified any gaps in skills and knowledge, post-lockdown. Please keep reading with your child at home and practising times tables. A strong emphasis on basic skills: phonics, reading and mathematics was gradually reintroduced in October. PE, Music and our Jigsaw personal development lessons played a strong part in helping our children's physical and mental well-being and these, and other subject areas are gradually being reintroduced through topic work, as we work towards the reintroduction of a broad and balanced curriculum, particularly from this half-term and throughout the remainder of this academic year.

### **REMOTE / HOME LEARNING**

Our school continues to provide home learning every week on our website. On the website homepage you simply click onto your child's year group, and, for each lesson, there is a hyperlink, which you click on to view current learning in English, Mathematics and other areas of the curriculum. As well as for homework, the children are able to carry on and go over learning, should your family have to self-isolate. If you find yourself in this situation and do not have access to a device and the internet, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We are here to help. Should there be an extended lockdown situation in the future, the school is currently organising the provision of live lessons from our teachers. The children will be told how to access these lessons on the website. Further details and instructions on this for parents will be provided in a letter from Mr. Dunlin this week.

### **READ, WRITE, INC., PHONICS**

Last term, we successfully introduced the Read, Write, Inc. Phonics scheme in Paisley. The children have been learning and practising letter sounds and blending these together to progress with their reading skills. Miss Leach has sent a letter to all parents regarding this phonics scheme and the books and/or flash cards, which children will be bringing home to practise. On our website, under the curriculum tab/phonics, there is further information for yourselves to help your child progress in phonics. There are useful links to the Oxford Owl site with video guides on blending and on the correct pronunciation of sounds.



**ENJOYING READING AND RESEARCHING AT PAISLEY!**