



AUGUST '21 NEWSLETTER



WELCOME BACK!

A very warm welcome back to our Eastbank family and a big Eastbank welcome to all of our new staff & children.

We hope you have all enjoyed a lovely summer break and been able to enjoy the amazing warm and sunny weather, not to mention a little more freedom!

THE EASTBANK TEAM 2021/2022

Head Teacher	Mrs Minnis
Acting Depute Head Teacher	Miss McCabe (Key Stages P5 & P6)
Principal Teacher	Miss McLaughlin (Key Stages P3 & P4)
Acting Principal Teacher	Mr Kiernan (Key Stages P1, P2 & P7)
Primary 1A	Mrs Milligan
Primary 1B	Mrs Angely
Primary 2	Miss Steele
Primary 3/2	Mrs Lawson
Primary 3	Mr Cairns
Primary 4	Mrs Fleming (Mon-Wed & Fri) / Mrs Campbell (Thurs)
Primary 5/4	Mrs Fraser (Mon-Wed) / Mrs Pentland (Wed-Fri)
Primary 5	Miss Hoy
Primary 6	Miss Crichton
Primary 7/6	Miss MacLachlan
Primary 7	Mr Kiernan (Mon) / Mrs Clark (Tue-Fri)
	Mrs Campbell – Literacy Raising Attainment Teacher
	Miss Hensman – Digital Literacy and Numeracy Raising Attainment
Miss McIntyre (am)	Child Development Officer
Mrs Kelly	Clerkess
Mrs Henderson	Clerkess
Mrs Baird	Support for Learning Worker
Mrs Kelly	Support for Learning Worker
Mrs Krybus	Support for Learning Worker
Mrs Tobin (am)	Support for Learning Worker
Mrs McGrory	Support for Learning Worker
Mr McNeill	Janitor



ATTENDANCE - Glasgow City Council Policy

Pupil Absence

Within Eastbank Primary School good attendance is encouraged at all times and children rewarded accordingly, **parents are asked to contact the Pupil Absence Reporting Line (0141 287 0039)** if their child is going to be absent. This should be done before 9.30am on the first day of absence. If your child is going to be absent for some time, it would be helpful to know at the earliest opportunity. We use daily text messaging and follow-up phone calls to inform parents of their child's absence if no contact is made. All unexplained absence is investigated by the school and appropriate action taken.

The Pupil Absence Reporting Line (PARL) service has been created to provide an efficient flexible way for parents/carers to report absence. It is recognised that in some circumstances, for example, to report or discuss a sensitive issue, you may still require to speak directly with the school. The following guidance should be applied:

Please phone the Pupil Absence Reporting Line to report the following absences:

- **Sickness absence:** if the absence lasts more than one day, parents and carers are required to call on subsequent days to provide an update. A letter should be provided to the school when the child returns from their absence.
- **Medical or dental appointments:** Parents and carers should call the PARL to report absences for medical or dental appointments. The school requires a letter or appointment card as evidence of the appointment to ensure permission is given to be absent from class.

To make sure you receive the right support you require, parents and carers should still contact the school directly to report absences of a sensitive or personal nature, for example:

- Bereavement
- Serious illness, for example, an absence which is going to last more than one week
- Injury, for example, broken limb
- Contagious diseases or illness

Due to current government guidelines.

Do not send to school if they have

- Continuous cough
- Temp
- Change in taste or smell

At these uncertain times we advise that if you are unsure about your child's symptoms contact your doctor or NHS 24.

The pupil absence service is provided by Education support staff. The information you provide to the team is updated in the school's system when you call, so that we are immediately aware of all absence information.

- Please inform the school by letter if your child is to be absent for any reason at all inclusive of medical and dental appointments/procedures, holidays and weddings etc.
- Please provide a note on his/her return to school confirming the reason for absence. Please give the following information:
 - a) Name and class of pupil
 - b) Inclusive dates of absence
 - c) Precise reason for absence or late coming
 - d) Signature of Parent or Carer



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our pupils have returned to school looking extremely smart in their new school uniforms. We work hard to ensure this continues throughout the year and plan to do this once again. Remember Be Cool And Follow The Eastbank Uniform Rule! Thank you for your support. **We would appreciate it if all parents and carers could ensure all items of clothing and footwear are CLEARLY LABELLED to ensure that if any are misplaced they can be returned promptly to their owners and to ensure hygiene procedures are in place. JOGGING TROUSERS and LEGGINGS are NOT school uniform! Thank you!**

*** Please ask about our Uniform Bank located in the School Entrance Hall – all uniforms are in good condition and are freshly laundered.**

CAR PARKING



Each year we receive calls from concerned local residents to share that parents/carers are parking irresponsibly on the zig zag lines on Gartocher and Shettleston Road across driveways at the corner of Gartocher Drive, and along the residential streets of Eastbank Drive. The Community Police will continue to make unannounced visits to ensure safety first and as you are already aware will **issue fines.**

I would like to remind all adults to park safely away from the school and **WALK** with their children to the gates.

P1-3 have allocated areas at the fences and P4-7 should meet at a safe distance from the school.

Parents and Carers are kindly asked **not to use the staff car park** for picking up and dropping off.

Thank you for your support with this matter!



EXITING PROCEDURES

Thank you so much for your support and patience regarding our P1, 2.50pm and P2-3, 3pm exit procedures. As agreed our existing exit routine of P1-P3 passing school bags over the fence at our Infant Gate and P4-P7 exiting from the Senior Gate will remain unchanged. Your co-operation with keeping the Infant Gate area clear following our 'pick up & go' advice and P4-P7 pupils exiting from the Senior Gate has made all the difference and for that we are truly grateful. Children with a younger sibling can leave through their sibling's gate.

Many of you have shared how much better and safer this process now feels and we really appreciate you changing your daily routines to make this happen.

An area of improvement which still remains is unsafe parking across from our school before 9am and at 3pm. Several parents have shared their concerns around cars "mounting the pavement" very close to where children and parents are walking. Please, please consider safer parking alternatives moving forward. Please also consider our local residents.

Whole School Soft Start Continues!

As part of our COVID response, our soft start will continue this session. All children are encouraged to go straight in to class from **8.50am – 9.15am** to get ready for the day and of course enjoy some 'play' and social time with their friends as well as fun challenges.

Any children entering after 9.15am should enter through the School Office Entrance Hall and make their way to class themselves.

ANNUAL DATA CHECKS/SOCIAL MEDIA PHOTOGRAPH/ICT PERMISSION

Please complete the annual data check form carefully – making any necessary updates and changes to ensure our records are correct and current. Social Media, Photography and ICT Permission letters are now only required to be issued once during a primary career, therefore, those returned previously will suffice. Please let us know of any changes with regards to twitter and website photography permissions. Thanking you in advance for your support in returning the forms.

Nut Free Zone



Just a wee reminder please do not bring nuts or products containing nut traces into school as all Glasgow City Council Schools are nut free zones.



SNACK ATTACK!

As you are all aware we are a Health and Wellbeing Award winning Primary School and we always recommend a healthy snack! Please be mindful of healthy snacks as we start the new session – fruit, cereal bars, fruit juice and water please!

Thank you for your continued support!

Please support our **FIZZY DRINKS BAN!** (Introduced in line with all Eastbank Learning Community schools in 2015).

NB: We encourage our children to drink water throughout the day. Please provide a water bottle labelled with your child's name which can be kept and filled in school.



HEAD LICE

We do sometimes have unwelcome visitors in our school! Please be vigilant and check your child's hair regularly. I would advise all pupils with long hair to tie it back in a neat pony or plait. If head lice are found, please contact the school to let us know and consult your pharmacist or health visitor for advice.

P.E.

As you know we are committed to providing as many sporting experiences for our pupils as possible. We will continue to follow Scottish Government guidance on this. Each class will participate in 2 hours of quality PE lessons each week. PE can now be delivered inside or out.

As stated in Master Safety File 34P PE Code of Practice and Risk Assessments the following procedures should be followed:-

- Pupils should change into suitable clothing and footwear for the activity
- Pupils **must** not work in stocking soles and bare feet should only be allowed when conditions are suitable.
- Personal effects (e.g. jewellery, body piercing, items of religious significance, watches, hair slides and belts) constitute a hazard and may cause injury if worn whilst participating in Physical Education and must be removed.

We appreciate your support in providing your child with a T-shirt, shorts and lightweight sandals or trainers. Pupils are invited to bring their kit in a tote bag which can stay in school and be brought home periodically for washing.

P1A	Tuesdays and Thursdays	P5/4	Mondays and Thursdays
P1B	Tuesdays and Thursdays	P5	Wednesdays and Fridays
P2	Mondays and Wednesdays	P6	Tuesdays and Fridays
P3/2	Wednesdays and Fridays	P7/6	Tuesdays and Thursdays
P3	Wednesdays and Fridays	P7	Mondays and Thursdays
P4	Mondays and Thursdays		

PE 'days' may change throughout the session to accommodate sports coaches.

- Personal effects (e.g. jewellery, body piercing, items of religious significance, watches, hair slides and belts) constitute a hazard and may cause injury if worn whilst participating in Physical Education and must be removed.
- It is a good idea to allow children to keep a kit in school as PE days can change throughout the session depending on the availability of Sports Coaches. Teachers will aim to let you know about this via Seesaw where possible!

COMMUNICATION

Please remember to check your child's bag each day as many letters will be hiding there...especially over the next few weeks! Thank you!

However, as 79% of you agreed that Seesaw and other digital sources was an effective way to communicate we will continue to update and share learning experiences through this platform. I will share the results of our recent surveys in the next newsletter along with details of our Improvement Plan Priorities.



ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES

If your child requires to be given any form of medicine during the school day inclusive of inhalers it is necessary to complete a medical form from the office before we can administer it. **NEVER store medicines in your child's school bag!**

Please also let the office know if your child has stopped / started taking any long term medicines over the summer period. It is vital that our Health records are kept up to date.

Also, we ask that any "3 per day" antibiotics be issued before and after school.

PARENT COUNCIL

Our Parent Council would like to invite all parent/carers to their Annual General Meeting on **Tuesday 7th September at 6.00pm.** Our Parent Council are a very important part of the Eastbank Team and we would ask you to try to join the AGM to find out what they do and consider the possibility of joining their team! We will issue a zoom link to allow everyone to join in, we look forward to seeing you online.

MOBILE NUMBERS / E-MAIL ADDRESSES



Please ensure that we have your most current mobile telephone number & e-mail address to allow you to receive text updates. Also, please remember that if you wish your child to bring a mobile phone to school then a consent form must be signed and returned to the Class Teacher. Over the past number of years the number of mobile phones brought to school by the children has drastically increased. Please consider carefully if your child requires to bring a mobile device to school. Mobile phones **will** be stored in the classroom between 9am and 3pm at the **OWNERS OWN RISK**. Please use the main telephone line to contact your child and/or the school at any point. Thank you for your support.

PATHS

We are pleased to let you know that our school will continue to participate in the PATHS® Programme. This programme consists of whole-class PATHS® lessons in which children will get the opportunity to take part in lots of fun activities in line with the Health and Wellbeing Curriculum, whilst following the key PATHS® concepts:

- Emotional Understanding
- Self-Control
- Social Problem-Solving
- Positive Relationships
- Self-esteem

As part of this programme a child will be chosen each day to be the 'Pupil of the Day'. This means they will receive special treatment and be given a list of compliments from some of their peers and their teacher to bring home. We would appreciate it if you could discuss this sheet with your child, add your own compliment, sign it and return it to school.

We look forward to sharing our learning with you.

TWITTER

Don't forget to follow us on twitter @EastbankPri for the latest updates and good news stories / or just google Eastbank Primary Twitter to have a look at our twitter page. We have over 1700 followers. Many thanks.



AND FINALLY....

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the continued importance of positive home/school relationships. We hold an open door policy, albeit over Seesaw or the phone during these times and will endeavour to respond to any parental queries as promptly and thoroughly as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at school, no matter how small or insignificant you feel it may be!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you so very much for the wonderful feedback and suggestions we received via our parent questionnaires. I will share the collated responses and our plans for school improvement in our September Newsletter.

We hope to continue to return to more normality as the year goes on but bear with us as we adapt to our ever changing guidance.

We all want the very best for our children and don't forget **Together Eastbank Achieves More!**

Looking forward to another great year ahead!

Kind Regards

Gayle Minnis
Head Teacher



Promoting Positive Behaviour



Rationale

We at Eastbank are committed to promoting the health and wellbeing of all children in our care. We aim to develop the knowledge and understanding, skills, capabilities and attributes required to achieve mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing through our pro-active approaches and programmes of study, supportive school ethos and commitment to Promoting Positive Behaviour. We set high expectations and encourage our children to give their best at all times, conducting themselves in a reasonable, responsible and safe manner through our Eastbank Expectations.

Approach

We worked diligently throughout sessions 2012 - 2014 and then further in session 2019 - 2021 to promote a culture of values and citizenship thus creating a set of shared values which would come to underpin the relationships and ethos of Eastbank Primary.

All stakeholders gradually progressed through the various stages of auditing, educating, voting and promoting our values resulting in a cohesive set of values democratically elected by the entire school community of Eastbank:-

Fairness is showing an awareness of all points of view.

Honesty is always telling the truth.

Politeness is using good manners to live together in harmony.

Respect is treating everyone and everything with consideration and care.

Responsibility is making good choices for yourself and others.

We continue to use a wide range of **strategies** and **techniques** in order to promote and encourage our values:-

- ❖ Our school motto TEAM – Together Eastbank Achieves More is reinforced every single day and during assemblies.
- ❖ We have proudly painted our Values Characters on our school wall to share the values with the wider community.
- ❖ ‘Values Codes of Conducts’ and Values Characters and key phrases are displayed in every classroom and communal area.
- ❖ We operate a ‘Go Green’ managing system from P1-P7 which provides a fair and consistent approach to managing positive and unwanted behaviours. ‘Go Green’ works in conjunction with our Above & Beyond and Golden Time treats....a special 15 or 30 minute slot which children can enjoy each week by choosing a fun game or activity to participate in.