



## Newsletter

Issue 34

August 2024



Welcome back everyone! It has been a pleasure to see everyone back at school with lots of smiles and looking super smart. A huge welcome to all of our new parents/carers too. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you all an insight into what is happening at Riverbank and give you advance notice of what may be coming up. This will be the only paper copy of this that you receive – the rest of the newsletters will be emailed out to you so please ensure we have your up to date email addresses.

### Homework

We are doing homework a little differently this year. We held a consultation last session as our way of doing



Creativity

Kindness



Love

Equality

Ready

Our Vision is to create a welcoming, happy ethos where all of our children feel safe and nurtured. Riverbank should be a place where everyone is respected for who they are and where they are from. We will offer learning opportunities that are creative, uses our outdoor spaces and that are inclusive to all in order to raise attainment at every level. We truly believe that our school community – staff, pupils and parents – are one big family and we aim to support each other and build each other up at every opportunity.

homework was not working. We have taken steps to change this and we will be in touch with you shortly to update you. Homework will therefore not be in place until the beginning of September.

### Staffing

We are delighted to welcome some new staff members to our team for the year ahead.

Miss Brown – P5a

Miss Hanna – P6b

Mr Michael – P4b

### Uniform

A reminder that our uniform is navy blue jumper/cardigan, grey trousers/shorts/skirt, white shirt, school tie and black shoes. On gym days a white polo shirt may be worn.

**Tartan dresses, grey jumpers and white trainers are not part of the uniform and should not be worn to school.** Please help us to uphold our uniform policy and show how proud we are to belong to the Riverbank family.

Remember you can order uniform from [www.schoolwearmadeeasy.com](http://www.schoolwearmadeeasy.com) All school ties will also

be available to purchase from here too.

Please ensure all school clothing have names on them. We already have a collection of un-named clothing built up in the school.

### **Parent Pay**

Please continue to pre-select your child's meal each night/morning for the day/week ahead. This will help reduce time spent in classes doing this. The new menus for meal selection are also available on our website.

Please ensure you have signed up to parent pay as all monies needed for school will be paid via here – as well as registration for after school clubs.

### **Parent Portal**

Please ensure you have signed up for Parent Portal. This is the online platform where you will register for Parent's Evenings and where school consent forms will be issued.

### **Diary Dates**

You will find a list of diary dates for the year ahead attached to this newsletter. These will hopefully help you to plan out the year

and enable you to attend various events. These dates can be subject to change and we will aim to give you as much warning as possible. We know from feedback that families found this diary very useful last session.

### **Communication**

Involving our families in our learning is hugely important to us. Class assemblies, open afternoons, report cards, Twitter, homework etc are all part of our school calendar.

### **Online Safety**

We have had a few concerns from parents over inappropriate materials being accessed through social media or chat rooms. We ask that you please regularly check phones/devices to ensure they are being used correctly. We are hoping to have a parent information evening with Police Scotland around online safety in the coming weeks. We will let you know when this is happening.

### **P.E.**

As per Scottish Government guidelines each child will receive 2 hours of P.E. each

week. P.E. days for classes are as follows:

P1a	Mon/Thurs
P1b	Mon/Weds
P1/2	Tues/Thurs
P2	Mon/Thurs
P3a	Mon/Tues
P3b	Mon/Tues
P4a	Tues/Fri
P4b	Weds/Thurs
P5a	Mon/Weds
P5b	Thurs/Fri
P6a	Mon/Fri
P6b	Tues/Weds
P7	Tues/Thurs

Please note that for P.E. children should bring appropriate kit for that day. No jewellery is permitted to be worn during P.E. as per Glasgow City Council guidelines. All earrings must be removed. If you child has had their ears pierced within the last 6 weeks then they will not be permitted to take part.

### **Parent Coffee and Catch Up**

In partnership with our family support worker Vincent we are trialling a new coffee and catch up every Monday morning in the school. Come along after dropping the children off and grab a coffee and a biscuit with us. A member of staff will be there too if you need to chat. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **School Improvement Plan**

Each year we have a set of targets we work on for school improvement. This follows on from evaluation from last session in consultation with our families, staff and pupils. The main areas for improvement this session are:

- Consistent approaches developed towards meeting the needs of all learners
- Achieve our Language and Communication Friendly award
- Celebrate our diversity more often and ensure equality is achieved through our values and becoming a Rights Respecting School

We will be asking for your support/feedback with these over the coming year.

### **Pastoral Care and Safeguarding**

Due to our increased roll this session we have divided up responsibilities for classes amongst the management team. If you have a query or issue you would like to raise with one of us then please contact

the following people in the first instance:

P1-P2 Mrs Whyte

P3-P4 Mr Kenny

P5-P6 Mrs Clark

P7 Mr Hynes

For all Child Protection concerns Mr Hynes remains the Child Protection Coordinator so please contact him if you have a concern. In his absence please contact Mrs Whyte.

In reviewing our safeguarding procedures we have decided to assist a group of parents/carers in gaining a PVG certificate to help supervise class trips. This certificate means that parent/carers will be checked by the police to ensure safety is our priority. We will be in touch soon with more information about this.

### **Medications**

If your child has an inhaler, epi pen or other daily medication to take then this must be brought to school now and relevant paperwork completed at the office. You must have two inhalers at school for your child – one for the classroom and one for a spare just in case.

Please note – due to some children having a nut allergy we are a nut free school. This includes not having Nutella or chocolate spread based products. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Healthy Choices**

Please ensure you give your child healthy options at snack time. A small packet of crisps along with some fruit or a small chocolate bar is fine in moderation. At no point should a child have a full-size tube of crisps or full-size chocolate bars.

Please note that take away food is not a suitable option for lunch times and is not allowed for pupils.

Water is the only drink allowed in classrooms. No diluting juice or fizzy drinks should be in water bottles. Our Oral Health nurse Elena has noticed a number of our children had juice last year and has urged us to share this message with you all. Thank you for supporting your children's oral health.

### **Pick Up/Drop Off**

Our school roll is ever increasing and at the time of writing is at 355 children.

This is a long way from the 160 we had when we opened 5 years ago. With this comes an increase in traffic and people at drop-off and pick-up times. Please follow these steps below to ensure safety for our pupils.

- If possible do not drive down Auckland Wynd. Park your car elsewhere and walk if you are picking up at this gate. If you must drive down it please drive at 5mph and be courteous to families.
- When standing at gates for pick up please stand well back so class teachers can see who children are going to. This is especially important for P1 families as we get to know you better.
- If you have more than one child please ensure they know which gate they are leaving from to alleviate any stress at the end of the day.

At Riverbank we ask that parents/carers do not enter the school playground. This is to ensure our children's safety. Thank you for your support with this.

If you have more than one child at the school please arrange with the older sibling about which gate

you will collect them both from. This means the older sibling can collect the younger sibling and then go to the gate you are waiting at.

Please ensure dogs are kept away from school gates at all times.

### **Open Afternoons**

On the diary dates list you will see we are having Open Afternoons in classes. Here you will get to visit your child's classroom and hear from the class teacher on the plan for the year ahead. You will also have a chance to work with your child on a task. We hope you enjoy these visits.

### **Mobile Phones**

Mobile phone usage by children is not allowed within our school. Only children from P5-7 are allowed to bring mobile phones to school and this is only if they are walking a long distance to school by themselves. All phones must be switched off on arrival at school and given to the class teacher where they will be stored away until 3pm. If any children are caught with a mobile device that should not have

it then you will be contacted to collect the device. Please help us to ensure the safety of our children by following these rules.

### **Outdoors**

At Riverbank our children will be outdoors in all weathers. A bit of rain does not prevent us from having fun! Children should come to school dressed appropriately for Scottish weather. A rain jacket with a hood is essential. The only time children will not be outdoors is when there is a risk to life e.g. high winds, lightning etc. Outdoor Learning is a priority for us here and we have invested in waterproofs for children at all stages. Thank you for your support with this.

As always if there is anything we can help with please get in touch at the office.

Mr Hynes

