

Seafield Primary School Newsletter August 2023



Welcome Back!

We are delighted to have welcomed everyone back to school this week. It has been lovely to see the children again and to see lots of happy faces. We are very much looking forward to another fantastic year here at Seafield PS!

Staffing News

ELC – Welcome to Miss Evelyn Kitchin, our new Early Years Officer who has now started with us and also to Miss Rachael Greig who has joined us as one of our Early Years Practitioners. They have both been busy getting to know our children and the rest of the nursery team and look forward to working with children and parents in the weeks ahead.

School – we are delighted to have welcomed Miss Megan Cooper and Mrs Jane Donald to the staff team. They are looking forward to meeting parents and carers at upcoming school events.

School Uniform

Parents/carers are asked to ensure that children wear school uniform as far as possible. School uniform consists of:

- Navy or red jumper (with or without school badge)
- Red or white polo shirt or white school shirt and tie
- Black or grey skirt/trousers

On PE days, children can come to school wearing active uniform. This is not a dress down day, children should wear:

- navy or red jumper (without or without school badge);
- a plain white t-shirt or polo shirt and plain black, navy or grey joggers or leggings.
- **Children should not wear branded tracksuits or hoodies on P.E. days and we thank you for your support in ensuring that your child sticks to our active uniform code.**

Thank you to our Health and Wellbeing Family Champions, Mrs Kellock and Ms Markey who ran our sustainable uniform initiative during the summer and to everyone who donated or used the service. Look out for further events of this type in the coming year.

P.E. Days

Our PE days for this term are:

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| P1/2 | PE on Mondays and Tuesdays |
| P2/3 | PE on Tuesdays and Wednesdays |
| P4 | PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays |
| P5/6 | PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays |
| P6/7 | PE on Wednesdays and Fridays |

Outdoor Learning

We will be continuing to deliver a programme of outdoor learning this session. From August until December, we will be working with Kids Gone Wild again. For our new P1 parents, Kids Gone Wild are a company who support outdoor learning sessions and each class will have 3 sessions between now and December. In addition to this, each class will have a weekly slot identified where class teachers and pupil support staff will take the children for an outdoor learning session. In order for us to be able to give the children the best experience, we require the support of our parents/carers in sending them equipped for being outdoors. Pupils should wear/bring:

- Clothing which is ok to get dirty and muddy
- Boots or wellies which can get dirty and muddy (we do have a stock of wellies in school for any children who don't have these)
- Appropriate coats/jackets for the weather conditions, again these are likely to get muddy
- When we get to the colder weather, children may need hats, scarfs and gloves
- A change of clothes (including socks) in case anyone gets especially wet!

Regular weekly outdoor learning days

P1/2 Thursdays

P2/3 Thursdays

P4 Wednesdays

P5/6 Tuesdays

P6/7 Mondays

Kids Gone Wild (KGW) sessions will take place on a Monday (in addition to class sessions)

P1/2 KGW on 25th September; 13th November; 4th December

P2/3 KGW on 11th September; 6th November; 11th December

P4 KGW on 4th September; 30th October; 18th December

P5/6 KGW on 28th August; 13th November; 27th November

P6/7 KGW on 21st August; 2nd October; 20th November

Playground

P1 – P3 arrive and are dismissed from the bottom playground (nearest the school office.) We would ask that parents/carers do not come into the playground in the morning however you can come into the playground at the end of the day to collect your child/children. In order to make sure that teachers can see who is collecting each child, please stand back from the doors.

P4 – P7 arrive and are dismissed from the top playground. Parents/carers should not come into the playground in the morning or at the end of the day where possible. If you are entering the playground at pick up time, please stand well back so that teachers are able to observe pupils leaving safely however most parents/carers will arrange to meet children outwith the school grounds if they aren't walking home by themselves.

If there are any changes to your child's usual end of day arrangements, please contact the school office to advise us of these. Staff are unable to allow your child to go with any other parent without prior knowledge and will always check before allowing them to go with anyone else.

Family Welcome Breakfasts

Last year, we introduced our family welcome breakfasts as a way for parents/carers to have the opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and to get the chance to visit their classrooms. This was very popular and so we are going to run these again this year. A maximum of 2 adults can attend to have some breakfast with your child. Children should come to school as normal at 8.55am as they require to be registered and order lunches. Adults will be admitted via the main office door at around 9am (or as soon as we are set up.) Please remember that grandparents or other family members are welcome to attend as we know that not all parents are able to manage along due to work or other commitments.

Primary 1/2 Tuesday 12th September

Primary 2/3 Friday 8th September

Primary 4 Wednesday 13th September

Primary 5/6 Wednesday 6th September

Primary 6/7 Thursday 7th September

Reporting your child's absence

We would ask all parents/carers to contact our school office on **(01506) 6539216** or to text our Groupcall number **(07860 049745)** to report if your child is going to be absent from school or nursery. West Lothian Council policy advises that parents should contact the school to inform of an absence by **9am for school and AM or Full Day nursery pupils and by 1pm for PM children**. If no contact has been made, a groupcall message will be sent asking parents to get in touch with the school. If we are unable to contact you, Head Teachers are required to make the decision about whether to contact the council's Safe Arrivals team to seek support in contacting families to ensure that children are safe. The Safe Arrivals team have the authority to make home visits and, in some cases, involve the police.

These measures are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children and it is of great importance that parents contact the school if your child is not attending. Please either state that your child will be off for a specified number of days, or contact the school on **each day** of absence. We appreciate your co-operation.

West Lothian Council have an "Attendance and Engagement at School" policy which all schools follow. If your child's attendance falls below 90% you will be contacted to advise you of this. If there is no improvement or where your child's attendance drops further, you will be invited to a meeting to discuss any supports that could help improve attendance. In most cases, schools see improvements following these steps however if attendance continues to be a concern, West Lothian Council's Inclusion and Support service will become involved. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact school to discuss.

Contact with school

If you need to speak with a member of staff, your first point of contact will nearly always be your child's class teacher as they are the people who are in the classrooms with the children and are most likely to be able to answer your query. If you wish to speak to a member of our School Leadership Team, ELC – P3 parents should contact Mrs Egan and P4 – P7 parents should speak with Mr Hamilton.

Our school office hours are:

Monday – Thursday 08.30am – 3.45pm (closed for lunch from 1pm – 1.45pm)

Friday 08.30am – 12.30pm

Kindness Cupboard

A reminder that we have an online order form for anyone who needs to access our school Kindness Cupboard. All forms will be treated confidentially and sensitively, we are more than happy to support anyone who needs to use this. <https://forms.office.com/e/990rR1UBPp>

After School Clubs

Mr Hamilton is currently working with our Active Schools co-ordinator to set up clubs for the new session. He will be in touch when these are finalised.



Diary Dates

21 st August	P6/7 Kids Gone Wild session
28 th August	P5/6 Kids Gone Wild session
4 th September	P4 Kids Gone Wild session
6 th September	P5/6 Family Welcome Breakfast
7 th September	P6/7 Family Welcome Breakfast
8 th September	P2/3 Family Welcome Breakfast
11 th September	P2/3 Kids Gone Wild session
12 th September	P1/2 Family Welcome Breakfast
13 th September	P4 Family Welcome Breakfast
13 th September	Rev Boyd to visit P4; P5/6 and P6/7
15 th September	School Closed – Mid term break
18 th September	School Closed – Mid term break
19 th September	School Closed – Mid term break
20 th September	School staff and pupils resume
25 th September	P1/2 Kids Gone Wild session
2 nd October	NHS Flu Vaccinations for school pupils
2 nd October	P6/7 Kids Gone Wild session
4 th October	Rev Boyd to visit P1/2 and P2/3
4 th October	Parent Consultations - To be confirmed
5 th October	Parent Consultations - To be confirmed
6 th October	School closes for October break (12.30pm)

