



Twechar Primary School

August/September

Newsletter



Dear Parent/carer,

A very warm welcome back to school life and a special welcome to all our new families. We hope that your child's time at Twechar Primary will be happy and rewarding.

I hope you all managing to remember all the new times, procedures and routines!

The children are settled into the new normal routines of school life and the P1 children are very much at home already.

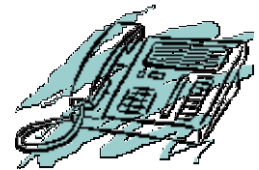
We have some news items for you at the beginning of a very different school year, one when our traditional activities and events may not happen as they did previously, and we will have to adjust and change accordingly.

Data form, flu vaccine, excursion consents, internet, photograph consents

Your child has brought home their data forms etc for you to check and update and internet and photograph consents to return. As you know, it is very important that we have accurate and up to date information for all the children. (Please check mobile phone numbers especially) I would be obliged if you could return all forms to the school as soon as possible and by Monday 31st August at the latest. The annual flu vaccine is planned for December.

Absences from school

It is important that you telephone the school on the morning of any absence before 10 am to let us know why your child is absent. Failure to do so will trigger phone calls to you, emergency contacts and may result in a visit from the attendance officer. The school office is open from 8am every school day, tel. 0141 955 2331. We will also check with you if your child has COVID symptoms and if you intend to get them tested, and we will follow up on the outcomes of testing.



Breakfast club, tuck shop and snacks

Our free Breakfast club runs every day from 9-9.15am and children can have a healthy start of cereal and milk.



Sweets and fizzy drink free zone

The school is a sweets and fizzy drink free zone Monday to Thursday and we really appreciate the support of parents in this healthy eating and healthy teeth campaign.

Friday is our weekly treat day, when children may have snacks of any kind. Chewing gum is not allowed in school and I would really appreciate your support in this matter.

Gym days

As you know we are having gym outdoors for the time being so please send your child to school in clothes for outdoor gym on their gym day. Each class will also be walking a "daily mile" (approx) in the playground, weather permitting.

Uniform

Names on items of clothing - especially shirts and sweatshirts - really helps us to make sure children go home with their own clothes.

Water in school



We encourage the children to bring in a bottle or flask of water each day. Drinking water is available in classes and in the dining hall and children may drink water at anytime in class. Drinking more water keeps us hydrated, healthy and ready to learn!



Cycling at school

We have cycle racks and shelters in the playground for the storage of bikes if children wish to cycle to school. **Please provide a padlock and chain or other security.**

Dress down Fridays

On the last Friday of the month we usually have non-uniform day when children may wear casual clothes - Dress down Friday - and we collect £1 for school funds - starts tomorrow!

Staff news

We are pleased to welcome Miss Clark and Miss Lamond, newly qualified teachers, to the staff team.

Our teachers this year are:-

Mrs Smith and Miss Clark	P1
Mrs McKay and Mrs Queenan	P2
Mrs McMahan	P3
Mrs Bagley and Miss Devlin	P4
Mrs Laidlaw and Mrs Mulgrew	P5
Mrs Longstaff	P6
Mrs Hepburn and Miss Lamond	P6/7

Mrs Ainsley has a learning support and outdoor education role this year.

Miss Stewart, Principal Teacher, is our Learning Support Co-ordinator as well as having a Senior Management role.

In addition, we are pleased to welcome back Mrs Russell as Support for Learning Assistant.

And finally, you may have heard that I am retiring soon. My last day will be October 9th which means that after the October break there will be a new Head teacher. The local authority will be proceeding with this appointment and I will keep you informed of any developments.

The last 15 years have gone by in a flash, with lots of great times, and I feel grateful and privileged to have been Head teacher in this community. Thank you for all your support.

School Improvement Plan

Each year we write a Standards and Quality Report and an Improvement Plan for the school . Copies in full of both these documents will be made available from the school office or on the school website in due course. Below is a summary of the key priorities for development over the next session, for your information:-

Priorities for the School Improvement Plan 2020-21

- Health and Wellbeing, particularly nurture;
- Family engagement;
- Transitions;
- Continuing to ensure equity and excellence including educational continuity:
 - Learning loss;
 - Continuing to raise attainment and achievement;
 - The blended digital learning model: In school and home learning provision. This provision will support the further development of digital learning and will support contingency planning should there be any further disruption to learning due to Covid 19.



Diary

I'm attaching a diary for the coming weeks and months, including holiday dates, for your information.



Twechar Primary School August / September Diary



August 28	Non-uniform dress down Friday
September 25	Holiday
September 28	Holiday
October 8	School closes for October holiday for children (teachers' in-service day October 9 th)
October 19	School re-opens
December 21	School closes for Christmas holidays at 2.30pm.
January 6 2021	School re-opens
February 8	Holiday
February 9	Holiday
February 10	Holiday- teachers' in-service day
April 1	School closes for Easter holiday at 2.30pm.
April 19	School reopens
May 3	Holiday
May 28	Holiday
May 31	Holiday
June 24	School closes for Summer holiday.

