



Dirleton Primary School

Dream it, Live it, Achieve it



School Newsletter

August 2019

Dear Parents

**It has been lovely to welcome your children back to school after the summer break!
We hope you managed some time to make magical memories over the long summer days.**

Be part of your School – Get Involved

☺ ALL WELCOME ☺

As part of the start to our new school year we wish to invite all parents/carers/families and local residents to join us for our first coffee morning - This will take place on Friday 6th September. We will open our doors at the earlier time of 11.20 to allow you to receive a slice of something nice whilst you catch up with old friends and maybe make some new ones. We hope to welcome new and existing parents and look forward to working with everyone over the course of this session.

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER AT THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES

We work hard as a school to make your children's time with us as happy and fulfilling as we can. 'Getting it right for every child' is our number one aim; On occasion, we seek the support of all children and families so that we can ensure that we are doing our best to 'get it right' for everyone.

It is with this intention that the school has insisted that we are a 'NUT FREE' school. We ask that all children and families do their best to avoid any nuts coming in to school at any time and we thank you for helping us with this. We now remind you to make careful consideration and take added precaution if providing playtime snacks or packed lunches; Breakfast bars or other similar types of snacks often contain nuts. PLEASE CHECK INGREDIENTS before sending these bars in to school.

Thank you in advance of your continued support with this.

Wrapper less Snacks

When considering what to provide for a playtime snack we ask all children & families to consider providing wrapper less snacks; snacks with less/no packaging, snacks provided in reusable containers. We are keen to reduce our waste

and lessen the possibility of litter in our playground and promote wrapper less snacks as a starting point to address these issues. All children in P1/2 are offered fruit each day so an additional playtime snack for our infants is not necessary and the lack of one may indeed encourage our younger children to take more fruit. As we consider our status as an environmentally friendly school, encouraging all children to bring a snack with less packaging is something we ask you to support and encourage.

If your child wishes to purchase a snack from our tuck shop there are three choices for them. They can choose breadsticks (5p), 5 small oatcakes(30p) or 5 small chocolate chip oatcakes(40p).

Primary 1

Our new P1s have made a wonderful start to their time at Dirleton PS. They have been enjoying getting to know their teacher, their buddies and the school in general. We look forward to a successful Primary 1 for all of them.

See the Class - Meet the Teacher

I would like to invite all families to informally pop in to see their children's class and say hello to their teacher. If you wish to do this, teachers will welcome you into their classrooms on Tuesday 3rd September; Mrs Bowers will welcome you into her class between 2.30 – 2.55 and all other classes/teachers will open their doors for parents between 3pm and 3.25pm. Please pop in and say hello.

Learning Meetings / Parental Consultations

Another opportunity to speak with teachers will be offered at the child/parent/teacher learning meetings. The first of these meetings will take place on Tuesday October 1st and Thursday 3rd October. These meetings will follow the same format as was introduced last session when learning and targets are shared during a 3 way dialogue involving the child, teacher and parent. A letter offering parents the opportunity to choose which date suits them best will be sent out in due course. Late appointments (5-8pm) will be available on Tues 1st and early appointments will be available on the Thurs 3rd (4-7pm). The expectation is that children attend this meeting and be part of the conversation.

Friday Achievement Assemblies

Please remember all parents & families are welcome to come along and share our success at Friday assemblies from 12-12.30

School Information / correspondence

We are keen to promote our school blog as an area for obtaining information about what's going on at school as we continue to try and reduce our paper waste.

Each class has a blog page where you will find information and pictures about what your children have been learning on a weekly basis. Please take time to look at the class blogs as there are many wonderful pictures of learning and as they say 'a picture paints a thousand words'.

The school improvement plan, standards & quality reports, school newsletters, school handbook, internet safety matters, term dates, curriculum information and parent zone can all be accessed through our school website at <https://www.edubuzz.org/dirleton/>

And, if you sign up by subscribing with your email on the website you will receive a notification when something new has been added to the site...**If you haven't checked it out recently please do so and sign up.**

EMAIL CONTACT

Mrs Mancey is in the process of updating the email contact addresses for our own school correspondence and has asked that all those families who are yet to sign up for email correspondence directly from school be reminded to do so, if possible. Mrs Mancey will contact you directly in the next wee while to obtain a contact address as we seek to correspond with all families in this manner.

School Meals & School Pay

Is your child eligible for free school meals, and if so, have you registered?

Schools receive additional funding of £1,200 from the Scottish Government for every pupil in P1 to S3 who is registered for free school meals. This is called Pupil Equity Funding, and schools use this additional money to help fund a wide range of initiatives to support achievement and provide the best possible opportunities for children's learning.

How do I know if my child is eligible for free school meals? Please visit our website www.eastlothian.gov.uk to check your eligibility and download an application form. Even if your child does not wish to take up the option of having a free school meal every day, we would encourage you to register so that we will receive the Pupil Equity Funding allowance to support their learning.

We also encourage all families, including those in P1-3 (who do not pay for lunches), that they are able to pre-order the choice of their child's lunch on a daily or weekly basis.

Many families are now using the school pay system regularly and we now encourage all families to register and use schoolpay. This facility makes things much easier for both families and our school office and throughout the course of this session it is our hope that this system for payment becomes used by all.

PE Kit >> A reminder of what we do at Dirleton

I would like to take this opportunity at the start of term to reinforce the expectations of children wearing appropriate PE kit when attending PE on a Mon & Tues. Most children come to school dressed for PE really well on a Mon & Tues but it is really important that all children should also bring indoor gym shoes to school on a Mon & Tues. During the poorer weather when we have to do PE indoors it is really important that **ALL** children change their footwear from their outdoor shoes that they wear to school to the indoor gym shoes they wear when participating with PE, this helps to avoid copious amounts of mud and dirt on the floor and therefore protects the gym hall floor. **All children should wear their school sweater** and appropriate tracksuit/jogging bottoms (black/grey jogging pants if possible) with an appropriate PE kit underneath on a Mon & Tues. **Please remember PE days are not dress down days, thank you for your continued support with this.**

A note from the Dirleton School Partnership (DSP)

We hope you all had a wonderful summer, have recharged the batteries and are ready to get back involved with our school. The date and time for the DSP's initial meeting this year is still to be confirmed but will be communicated shortly.

We wanted to take this opportunity to remind our school community what the DSP do and how you can get involved.

The DSP is the school's parent council – our main role is to represent the views of parents but we also support the work of the school, especially by volunteering time and fundraising.

We help fund – among other things – the school discos, Christmas parties, pantomime trips, French club as well as help maintain the Orchard, provide P7 leavers' hoodies and end of term trip. Parents are also able to support the school through volunteering their skills and talents in a variety of ways to support children's learning.

Please remember that we can affect the success of our school by all that we do and involvement from parents really makes a difference, so... please get involved – a little or a lot – if you can. We hope to see you all at the **coffee morning from 11.20am on Friday 6th September.**

A heads up that we will be looking for volunteers to help at the Orchard Festival. This is organised by the DSP and planned with school staff every year and held in the Orchard toward the mid-term break. Keep your eyes open for more info...

And finally, I am very pleased to be back in school after a lay off due to surgery and look forward to another successful year when we continue developing the partnerships that make our school such a wonderful place to learn. Your support is invaluable and always appreciated.

*B Moody
Head Teacher*

Dates for your Diary

August:

Friday 30th **North Berwick High School Open Day for P7/S1
1-3pm**

September:

Tuesday 3rd **Meet the Teacher - 2.30pm to 2.55pm – P1
3.00pm to 3.25pm – P2-7**

Friday 6th **Coffee Morning from 11.20**

Friday 27th **Macmillan Coffee Morning 11.20pm to 12.30pm**

October:

Tuesday 1st **Parental Consultation 5.00pm to 8.00pm**

Thursday 3rd **Parental Consultation 4.00pm to 7.00pm**

Monday 7th **Flu Vaccination**

Friday 11th **School Holidays begin**

Monday 21st **In Service Day**

Tuesday 22nd **In Service Day**

Wednesday 23rd **Pupils return to school**