

Law Primary School



A very warm welcome to session 2019 / 20. It seems very strange welcoming you back to your school while I am the incomer and still learning the ropes! Thank you so very much to all the pupils, staff, parents, carers and family members who have made my start at Law so very welcoming. I'm learning more children's names by the day and no longer require a map to find my way round the school, so I'm beginning to feel at home.

It's lovely to see the children settle so well in class and renew old friendships whilst building new ones with the many children who have joined the school recently.

It's lovely to chat to so many of you in the mornings and I will be out in the playground, prior to the school day, as often as possible. Please take the opportunity to address any queries with me as soon as possible as most can be easily and quickly resolved.

The first newsletter always has a slightly different tone to others during the year as there are a lot of reminders and information to share, so here they are:-

Meet the Teacher



We look forward to welcoming all parents / carers to meet the teacher evening on Wednesday 11th September at 6.30pm. The doors will open for this event at 5.45pm where you are more than welcome to come in and chat with the community groups who will be running stalls to inform you of what is available in North Berwick. I will give a short introduction and then share the school improvement plan for the forthcoming session. Teachers will then be offering short 20 minute talks in your child's class / area where you can hear about some of the proposed topics and learning for the year. Teachers will offer this opportunity twice to cater for parents with more than one child.

Please enter by the school through the evening lets entrance which can be accessed from the turning circle. Unfortunately due to capacity children are not able to attend this meeting.

Playground

It's lovely to see all the children dismount of scooters and bikes as they enter the playground. This allows a safe area for all children and adults. No dogs are allowed in the playground.



As children continue to settle can I now ask parents / carers to step away from the lines when the bell rings. This affords all adults the opportunity to see their child safely into the school building and children to feel secure in their lines. If your child is still a bit unsure then please discuss with your class teacher.

The trading of Pokemon cards in school has created numerous problems and we have decided that the cards will not be allowed in school from Monday.

Contacting teachers

If at all possible please avoid talking to teachers first thing in the morning. Teachers want to welcome pupils into the school building and greet every child equally. If you wish to have a quick phone call or raise an issue about your child please email the school at admin@law.elcschool.org.uk or pop into reception or call us to request a phone call home. On most occasions this will be actioned on the same day but there are a number of days where teachers are required to attend training straight after school, and this may result in a slight delay.

Under no circumstances may parents / carers enter the school building to speak to a teacher at the end of the day without reporting to reception and making an appointment. As previously stated teachers have a number of meetings after school that they are required to attend and we must know who is in the building for fire safety regulations.

Nut free school



May I remind you that school is a nut free area due to children with allergies. Please remember that this includes Nutella. Some of our children have very severe allergies so we will be strict on this.

Learning conferences

I was delighted to read the feedback from the learning conferences conducted last session where the vast majority of parents and carers were in favour of the new format. It is pleasing to hear that you found them beneficial. For our new parents may I explain that the format of parent consultations moved last session from two individual ten minute appointments over the course of the year to three appointments lasting 15 minutes. The increase in time to meet with parents / carers and children came from a reduction in the length and depth of the written report the teachers used to complete at the end of the session. Teachers now only complete a very short report which is essentially a tick sheet detailing where your child is in relation to the national curriculum and new this session will be a very short personal statement to complete the report.

The dates for the first learning conferences for pupils / parents / carers for this year are

Friday 4th October 1.30pm till 4.30pm

Tuesday 8th October and Thursday 10th October 4.30pm-7.30pm.

Full details on how to book will be issued closer to the time.



Parent Council

The first parent council meeting will be held on 9th September at 7pm in School. All parents / carers are warmly invited. Members of the parent council will be on hand at the Meet the Teacher night to answer any questions regarding their role and how you can become involved.

May I take this opportunity to publicly thank the parent council representatives for offering me the privilege of joining the Law staff.

Parent Teachers Association



I would like to invite all parents / carers to the AGM for the Parent Teachers Association to be held on 26th September 2019 at School.

The team of parents are very keen to run a range of activities over the course of the year and have some exciting plans. The school is very grateful to the continuing hard work of this group and are delighted to take ownership of a full class set of tablets as a result of all the fundraising.

The staff are currently producing a wish list of possible resources that could be purchased this year along with discussions about some aspirational projects. Please do come along to the meeting to share any suggestions for fundraising activities or ideas for purchases.

Volunteering in school

We are already receiving requests from parents / carers who are keen to come into school to help out with a range of activities. We will be issuing new guidelines in the near future and then running briefing sessions for anyone eager to help. It's a real testament to Law Primary School and North Berwick to have such a healthy number of volunteers. The time at the beginning of term is allowing the children to build relationships with their teacher and new classmates.

School lunches

Just a quick reminder to all parents / carers that school meals should be pre-ordered using the SchoolPay system. All children from P1 to P3 receive a free school meal each day from government funding. Primary 1 children should have received their new codes and it would be beneficial if you could spend some time registering now, although there is no cost for Primary 1 lunches the system will be used for any other school payments throughout the year.

Free School Meals

The government use the number of children in receipt of Free School Meals to allocate additional funding to schools. This is through the Pupil Equity Fund.

Our school has a very low uptake on Free School Meals which means we receive very little funding from this grant. May I please ask all parents / carers who may be entitled to Free school Meals to please apply whether they are going to use the funding or not.

All parents in receipt of Universal Credit may be entitled to this fund. It allows children not only to receive a free meal if they are eligible to pay but also free milk and in some cases a clothing grant. All enquires will be dealt with in the strictest confidence. Children are not identified at any point during the school day as receiving free school meals.

Road Safety

May I please remind parents/carers not drive into the turning circle/old car park at the start or end of the school day for safety reasons. Nor should the new staff car park be used for dropping off or picking up. However, anyone with limited mobility/access requirements may use the new car park as necessary.

**Mobile phones reminder**

Mobile phones require to be switched off before entering the playground and must be handed in to class teachers for safe-keeping.

Lost property

We are already finding items of clothing that we cannot return to their rightful owner as they have not been labelled. Please label all items that come school.

**Future events**

We will be looking at the calendar of school events for the session in our forthcoming staff training and this will be issued as soon as possible.

May I wish you a very productive year and I look forward to our session together.

Jacqui Mackinnon
Head Teacher

Class Teachers for 2019-2020

- P1A Mrs Jane Allan
- P1B Mrs Jane Lyness
- P1C Miss Joanne Watson
- P1D Mrs Lorraine Johnston
- P2A Mrs Fiona Wilson
- P2B Miss Maureen Dagleish
- P2C Mrs Heather Antonelli
- P3A Mrs Jeanette Baxter
- P3B Mrs Penny Laurie-Pile (Mon/Tues) and Mrs Alison Smith (Wed/Thurs/Fri)
- P3C Miss Ferelith Mackintosh
- P3D Miss Amber Branley (NQT) and Mrs Fiona Lewis (Tues)
- P4A Miss Jill Irvine (NQT) and Mrs Ailsa Swinburne (Thurs)
- P4B Miss Siobhan Youngson
- P4C Mrs Gillian Lima
- P5A Mrs Shona Borthwick
- P5B Miss Ann Langlands
- P5C Mrs Gemma Luke (Mon/Tues) and Mrs Emma Andrew (Wed/Thurs/Fri)
- P6A Mrs Gillian Marr
- P6B Mrs Fiona Lewis (Mon/Fri) and Mrs Jackie Jack (Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- P6C Mrs Andrea MacKenzie (Mon/Tues & alt Fri) and Mrs Faye Morgan (Wed/Thurs & alt Fri)
- P6D Mrs Ailsa Kellagher
- P7A Mrs Heather Doyle (Mon/Tues) and Ms Suzie Gilkison (Wed/Thurs/Fri)
- P7B Miss Marie-Louise Santini
- P7C Miss Clare Brodie and Mrs Heather Doyle (Wed)
- P7D Miss Mhairi Brown (NQT) and Mrs Sally Penman (Tues)

