

West Barns Primary School

September Newsletter

Just a Reminder...

School Uniform

The School, in line with all other East Lothian Council Schools, has a dress code, which follows East Lothian policy. Our reasons for promoting school uniform can be summarised as follows:

- **School Security** - uniform allows visitors/strangers in the school to be immediately identified.
- **Cost** - school uniform provides a level playing field for students regarding clothing.
- **School identity** - a recognisable and well-monitored school uniform can reinforce a sense of community and pride in the school.

Our **West Barns Primary** uniform:

- White or blue **polo shirts** with or without school logo
- Blue school **sweatshirts/cardigan** with or without the school logo (purple for P7 pupils)
- Black, navy or dark grey **trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafore**.
- Blue checked **school dress**
- Plain black **shoes**.
- Black gym shoes for indoors

All pupils wear school uniform, some of which can be purchased through the school, including items for PE. **No jeans, rugby tops or hoodies are to be worn.**

For **PE**, your child should bring a **t-shirt, shorts, black joggers or leggings** and appropriate **footwear** (e.g. black plimsolls for indoor activities and training shoes for outdoor games). Parents should also provide a gym bag or similar to store the PE kit in at school. Please label all your children's items of clothing and footwear as this can save a lot of confusion in our small cloakroom areas.

SCHOOL UNIFORM RECYCLING - WE HAVE A LARGE QUANTITY OF GOOD QUALITY SECOND HAND SWEATSHIRTS, SKIRTS, PINAFORES AND TROUSERS HANDED INTO SCHOOL. THESE ARE IN THREE BOXES WHICH ARE SITTING IN VESTIBULE AT SCHOOL OFFICE. A SMALL DONATION FOR ANY ITEM TAKEN WOULD BE APPRECIATED. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO HAVE A LOOK.

Meet the Teacher

Come along at 9.15am until 10.15am on Thursday 13th September to meet your child's class teacher and let your child show you what they have been doing in maths.



Traffic Around the School



We would like to remind everybody to take care when driving and parking around the school. Please make sure that you:

- **park** in an appropriate place. We have been asked by residents to remind parents **not to park on the private land in front of the garages** next to the school.
- reduce your **speed** when driving in the built up area around the school
- use the **one-way system** during drop off and pick up times.
- Watch out for children walking, cycling or scooting to and from school

This way we can keep all our pupils and their families safe and our neighbours happy.

Attendance and Arriving Late at School

Staff have recently become concerned regarding the growing number of **absences** and **late arrivals** at School. There is a strong body of evidence which clearly shows the detrimental effect not being in school for at least 95% of the school year. Even having 18 half-days off impacts on your son or daughters' education and consequently their life chances. Arriving 10 minutes late will mean that your child will miss registration, ordering their lunch and the beginning of their first lesson.

The Dunbar cluster of schools we working to raise attendance and reducing the number of children arriving late. Can we remind parents that your child should be in school for **8.55am**. If they arrive after **9.00am** their school attendance record will be marked as Late.

Can we remind parents that if your child is **absent from school** for any reason please could you phone the school **before 9.30am** to let us know. If we do not hear from you we will try and contact you to make sure that you know that your child is not in school that day. We do this to ensure the safety of our pupils. Please help us by ringing in early.

West Barns Primary School

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Reminders for Parent/Carers

- Could all **dinner money** be paid weekly (preferably on a Monday) (£8.00) or daily (£2.00) **in advance**.
- Please could you ensure that **pupil belongings**, especially lunchboxes, school sweatshirts, t-shirts and cardigans are **clearly named**. 
- Regularly check our **lost property box** in reception for missing items. Each year we are left with a pile of clothing, bags, lunch boxes and toys that pupils assure us do not belong to anybody!
- We collect old clothes, shoes, handbags and belts through the **recycle bin** in the school playground to raise funds for the school.
- If your child is sick and unable to attend school or Nursery please could you phone us and let us know **before 9.30am**
- Please could you ensure that your child has a **water bottle** at school. We encourage children to drink water regularly during the day to help concentration and keep them hydrated.

Don't Forget

The school will be closed Friday 14th September and Monday 17th September for our September break. We will reopen for pupils and staff on Tuesday 18th September. Hope you all enjoy the weekend.



Staffing Update!

Ms Gordon has been teaching P6/7 whilst Mrs Whiteley-McPhee has been ill. We hope that Mrs Whiteley-McPhee will be back in class full time next week.

Our Principal Teacher, Mrs Hay will be going on Maternity Leave at the end of November. We will be recruiting for an Acting Principal Teacher after the October Break.



Dates for Your Diary

Terms 1 & 2 2018

Maths open morning	Thursday	13th September
September Holiday	Friday	14th September
September Holiday	Monday	17th September
Pupils return to school	Tuesday	18th September
Rag Bag collection	Thursday	11th October
Harvest Assembly	Thursday	11th October
Nasal Flu Immunisation Programme	Friday	12th October
School closes for October break	Friday	12th October
October Break	Mon – Mon	15th–19th Oct
Pupils return to school	Tuesday	23rd October
School Photographer	Thursday	25th October
P5-7 Author visit	Wednesday	31st October
P7 pupils to Risk Factory	Monday	5th November
Masterclass Day	Tuesday	6th November
Children in Need	Friday	16th November
Parent's Evening & Curriculum Evening	Tuesday	13th November
P6/7 Rugby Festival	Wednesday	14th November
Parent's Evening & Curriculum Evening	Thursday	15th November
Learning Journeys returned to school	Friday	30th November
Book Fair	TBC	
P1/2 & P3/4 Christmas Show	Tuesday	11th December
Christmas Panto	Tuesday	11th December
Christmas Dinner	TBC	
P1/2 & P3/4 Christmas Party	Monday	17th December
Nursery Christmas Party	Monday	17th December
P4/5/6 & P6/7 Christmas Party	Tuesday	18th December
Christmas Assembly	Thursday	20th December
Finish school for Christmas	Thursday	20th December
Pupils return to school	Monday	7th January

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Help with Music Tuition

From this session East Lothian Council will be charging pupils who have brass instrument tuition with Mr Farren.

If you are struggling to pay the tuition fees then please contact the school. The school now has a special fund, donated by a local family, to help children who want to play but whose family are finding playing the fees difficult. Contact the school for further details

