

Innellan Primary School Newsletter

September 2017

Welcome back to everyone and I hope you all had a good summer break. It was really good to see all the children returning looking so well and happy to be back at school.

I would especially like to welcome – Solomon, Roan, Bradley, Agatha, Violet, Annie, Clodagh and Sofia. They have all settled well into school life at Innellan and are enjoying learning, exploring and working together. I know you will all welcome our new pupils, parents and staff and help them to feel at home.

As always, if you have any concerns about anything please get in touch.

Lauri Radford

Acting Head Teacher

PE – weekly at Innellan School

Pupils from Toward will be transported to Innellan School every Thursday morning for PE lessons with Mrs McLean. In order to maximise the amount of PE time, lessons will be shared with Toward as will the cost of the PE teacher's time (this in effect allows us to double the amount of time as each school is paying for 1 ¼ hours each). Children will have a second PE slot on a Wednesday afternoon and we ask that they bring their PE kits to school on these days, or leave suitable gym shoes in school (non marking shoes). Pupils PE bags should contain gym shoes, shorts and t-shirt. All pupils should change out of their PE kit and into school uniform at the end of the lesson. Mrs McLean also asks that all pupils with long hair have it tied back in order of health and safety.

Nut Free Zone

Due to the number of pupils and staff who have nut allergies we request that you don't give your child nuts as part of their play piece or lunch. This includes nutty spreads.

Lunches

Menus are handed out a week in advance and we would appreciate it if you could complete and return them to the school, with payment, as soon as possible. Purses or envelopes should have your child's name on them as we collect everything first thing in the morning. Mrs Reynolds throughout the morning records, files and places orders and if your child's name is not clearly marked it is easy to get confused. It would be appreciated if those pupils who are having packed lunches have their lunch boxes clearly labelled so that we can try and ensure that they take the correct lunch box home. (If things are not labelled they will deny ownership. ²⁵This applies to clothing as well – please write your child's name on everything.)

Equipment/toys

We would appreciate it if you could ensure that your child did not bring expensive items into school. It is very difficult for us to ensure that they do not lose or damage items and we are not insured for

the loss or damage of personal items. If they do bring things into school staff cannot ensure that they are kept safe nor do they have the luxury of time to search for items that children misplace.

Pick up / drop off

We are very conscious of your child's safety and it is important that you inform us if someone different is going to be collecting your child from school or if they are going home with someone else. We also ask that you do not bring your car into the car park during pick up and drop off times, as the car park is for staff only. Due to the increase in number of pupils and staff within the school this is to ensure the child's safety. We also have a number of children whom cycle to school and this is also to ensure their safety. Thank you.

Photographs

If you are taking any photos of your child within the school grounds and during school time, please do not take pictures of other pupils or members of staff unless you have full permission to do so from other parents/members of staff. This also applies for posting photos on social media/internet.

WOW Wednesday

Every Wednesday we are going to be working together as a whole school, allowing and promoting the children to socialise, learn and develop a variety of skills from one another. During this time we will also have school assemblies to develop our Growth mindset and other health and wellbeing outcomes. On our working Wednesdays we will be continuing our outdoor learning sessions, if all children could come to school with waterproofs, wellies, and suitable jackets. It is also helpful if your child has some spare socks or trousers in their bags on this day. We will be starting this the week Mr French arrives, which will be **Wednesday the 20th September**.

Local Area Study

During your child's time at Innellan Primary, they will be participating in a variety of Curriculum for Excellence topics, which may require them to go for short excursions into the local area e.g. beach or forest, to further develop their understanding of subjects covered and to enhance their learning. Permission to local area studies was included on the enrolment forms.

Attendance

Please can all parents/carers inform the School Office by 9.30am (either by telephone/email) on the first day of their child's absence. If no telephone/email contact has been made the school will contact the parents to obtain a reason for the absence. All pupils should be sent in with a note on their return to school confirming the reason for absence.

Communication

Argyll and Bute have put a new communication system in place, all information will be sent through emails or letters in the children's bags (please check daily). SMS will only be used occasionally. The school website will also be updated and share any important information you need. Reminders of any events, clubs or upcoming events will be through the Class Dojo and Expressions App. I have attached a copy of the previous letter about the new system.

After School Clubs

This term we have a couple of after school clubs starting.

Sports club will start on Wednesday the 6th of September 3pm - 4pm. Pupils should bring with them their £2 and suitable shoes for the gym hall.

Craft club is starting on Thursday the 14th September 3pm -4pm.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 6th September – Sports Club Starts 3pm - 4pm

Thursday 14th September – Craft Club Starts 3pm- 4pm

Monday 18th September - Mr French joins us.

Tuesday the 19th September - Parent open afternoon 1:30pm (you are invited to join your child in the classroom to share and experience what they have been learning. Teacher's will also be available for informal discussions at this time.)

School closes for October Break - Friday 6th October at 3pm.

School Reopens - Monday 23rd October

Thursday 2nd November – Parents Night

Wednesday 22nd November – Flu Immunisations



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Groupcall Xpressions App

Receive notifications from your child's school on your mobile phone!

Groupcall Xpressions is a new service created by the award-winning school communication company Groupcall Limited. This exciting new service is now available for parents to ensure communication for everyone is easier and more effective.

The app is completely free of charge to you and can be installed on your mobile phone or tablet. It currently supports both Apple iOS and Android devices (with Windows mobile to follow) and you'll be able to receive information from your child's school.

If you have children in different schools within Argyll and Bute you will be able to receive information on multiple children within the same app.

What do I need to do now?

Please download the app from your usual App store. You will be prompted to enter the email address and mobile phone number that your child's school currently hold as contact details for you. If your details don't match the App won't download. Simply email your details to **enquiries@innellan.argyll-bute.sch.uk** and wait for a confirmation from the school that your details have been updated. It can take up to 48 hours for changes to take effect. You'll need to make sure you keep contact details up to date in future to maintain access to the Xpressions App.

You can access information and support at the following website
<http://parents.groupcall.com/>

Communications to parents will primarily be by email or push notifications using the Xpressions App, when the communication is standard to all parents, such as advising of school holiday dates or charity days in the school. Where we need to communicate individually with parents the method will be determined by the nature of the message.

Please note – the Xpressions App requires you to be connected to wi-fi or data in order for the push notification to be downloaded. You may incur costs if you do not have a data package or exceed your data limit on your mobile device. However you can amend settings within the Xpressions App to download the notifications when connected to wi-fi only.



If you have any questions about the use of this app or future communications from us please contact the school office on **01369 830560 / enquiries-innellan@argyll-bute.gov.uk**