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Dear Parents/Carers

## SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION FOR 2017 SESSION

As many of you will know, each year a maximum intake cap is set for schools. This is to ensure school capacity is not exceeded now or in the future and that we are compliant with 2014 Scottish Government Guidelines on working capacity and the maintenance of teaching spaces to enable us to deliver a full and effective curriculum.

This year our school intake has been capped at 64 taking our roll for August 2017 to 438 and our staffing to 20

Throughout this month staff will be working together to organise the children into classes for August.

We will have 16 classes next session as follows:

P1a, P1b, P2/1, P2a, P2b, P3a, P3b, P4/3, P4a, P4b, P5a, P5b, P6/5, P6, P7a, P7b.

It is always necessary to change the make-up of classes P1-4 due to the regulations on class sizes. Where there needs to be changes and movement of children to different class groups we make every effort to keep children with others from their current class and ensure they are working at similar levels.

We will write to you before the end of May to advise you of your child's class and teacher for the new session.

## NEW P1 INTAKE INDUCTION DAYS

Now that decisions have been made on placing requests we are able to invite our new P1 pupils into school for their first induction visits where they will meet their teacher and new classmates. The children will be invited in on one of three dates in May in their new provisional class groups. Parents will have the opportunity to order uniform with our supplier Logo Express on these days.

The visits are planned for the afternoons of 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May at 1.30pm. This allows us to meet the children one class at a time and reduces the queue for sizing uniform.

The families of all children who have a P1 place with us will receive a letter in the post advising of the date of their visit.

## SPRING FAIR

Our Fundraising Committee are organising this year's Spring Fair which will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May from 10am until 12pm. Lots of exciting stalls and events are planned for the day including football, slides, hot food and lots more. If you feel you can offer any help on the day call our school office who will pass on your details to the committee. A flyer with more detailed information on the day will be sent home with children soon and further details will be posted on our website.

## Diary Dates

1<sup>st</sup> May - School Holiday

2<sup>nd</sup> May - Tempest  
Photographer Family &  
Individual Pictures

2<sup>nd</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> May - Travelling Books

4<sup>th</sup> May - Council Election -  
School closed for pupils

10<sup>th</sup> May - Zoolab visiting P2

10<sup>th</sup> May: P1 Induction Parents'  
meeting at 6.30pm

16<sup>th</sup> May / 17<sup>th</sup> May / 18<sup>th</sup> May  
New Entrants Induction  
Afternoons

18<sup>th</sup> May - Hoots Owls P2

23<sup>RD</sup> May - P1-P3 Sports Day

24<sup>TH</sup> May - P4-P7 Sports Day

25<sup>th</sup> May - P7 Fair Legacy  
Games at Emirates Arena

26<sup>th</sup> May - 29<sup>th</sup> May - School  
closed for Bank Holiday  
Weekend

31<sup>st</sup> May - P7 Go Yellow at  
Bellahouston



## TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Tempest will be in school on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May taking individual and family photographs of children. Please make sure children are wearing full school uniform (shirt and tie) on the day. If you have more than one child which attends Garrowhill Primary then please let us know if you require a family photograph as well as individual by Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 10am.



## PRIMARY 7 END OF YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

Primary 7 will be invited to attend induction days at their chosen High School this term.

Children attending Bannerman High in August will shortly receive a letter from the school inviting them to attend for 3 days on 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of June.

Children attending an alternative High School will receive notification directly from the school with dates of induction days for their establishment.

Our P7 leavers Service will take place in Mure Memorial Church on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 1.30pm. Maximum of two tickets per child will be allocated as we must comply with the church guidelines on capacity. Parents/carers attending church on this day are invited to join us in the school hall at 3pm for a buffet with the children. A separate letter has been issued to P7 parents with details of this.

The P7 Disco will take place 7-9pm on the evening of Monday 26<sup>th</sup> in our assembly hall.

## COLLECTING/DROPPING OFF AT SCHOOL

If when dropping off at school you prefer to wait around the perimeter fence to observe your child in the playground, please make sure the pavement is not blocked for other children arriving. A busy footpath can be intimidating to some children even when they are with an adult. Too many adults on one spot on the pavement increases the risk to children as they may have to walk too close to the kerb to pass. Please be observant and leave plenty of space for children to walk to school and access our gates safely.

When collecting from school it is important that all pre-school children are supervised and remain with an adult at all times. The grass embankment around the playground has a steep slope towards the fence. Young children cannot control their momentum if they start down this hill and they are then at risk of colliding with the fence or being jagged by nettles at the bottom of the slope. We would also ask all adults to stay back from the building and the windows when waiting for children and keep the exit pathways clear. It is better to spread out towards the grass verge and watch for your child from there. The pathway to Maxwell Road must be kept clear as many of our older children have to negotiate a very large crowd of people to leave the premises and again, this can be very intimidating.

Unfortunately we have had had recent instances of aggressive and unacceptable behaviour towards staff who are trying to see children off the premises. All of our staff have the right to feel safe in their workplace and we will take action against visiting adult who breach our security arrangements.

## MAY/JUNE ELECTIONS AND CLOSURES

Please remember that our school is used as a polling place on 4<sup>th</sup> May. This is an in-service day for staff and children should not attend.

It is likely that the 8<sup>th</sup> June will also be an in-service day due to the General Election announcement. This has yet to be confirmed by Education Services and we will let you know when we receive that confirmation. Following consultation with the Constituency Manager, it has been agreed that the main access for voters is the dining hall door



off the playground. This is a suitable point of access for wheelchairs. An alternative wheelchair access will be sign posted from the car park if needed. **The school main entrance is not a point of access for voters.**

### **STAFFING UPDATE**

Congratulations to Mrs Chatham who has been appointed Acting Principal Teacher. Mrs Chatham will lead our planned work to improve Digital Learning in the school.

We are also very pleased to see Miss Carr back with us after a very long illness.

### **PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAMME**

As you may be aware for many years the schools swimming programme has focused on teaching P7 to swim. We are now working towards a programme where swimming instruction takes place at P5. In August 2017 children in our P6 classes will be advised that they will start a block of swimming lessons and consent to participate will be sought. When the P6 lessons are complete the P5 classes will then start their swimming lessons.

### **BOOK FAIR**

From Tuesday 2nd May - Monday 10th May the school will host a book fair from Travelling Books. Children will have the chance to view books and take a brochure home with guidance on how to order should you wish to buy one. This is a 100% commission meaning the school will receive books for our library to the value of any purchases.



### **ANNUAL REPORTS**

Staffs are currently completing the annual written report to parents/carers and we will issue these to families at the beginning of June

### **LUNCH ARREARS**

If you receive a text from the office regarding breakfast/lunch arrears payment must be made to the School Office. Arrears cannot be paid by topping up your child's card.

### **HOLIDAY REMINDER**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May is the May Day bank holiday and school will be closed.

School is closed on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May for the Council Elections

School is closed on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May

**SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR THE SUMMER ON Tuesday 27th JUNE AT 1.00 PM AND RE-OPENS ON Tuesday 15th AUGUST.**



Yours sincerely,

Linda Logue  
Head Teacher.