

Simpson Primary

News

June 2019



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News from Miss Ferris

Our Values



End of term preparations are well underway!

We have been busy confirming our staffing for next session and undertaking our recruitment process.

Primary 7 had a successful transition week at Bathgate Academy and are preparing their Leavers' assembly to entertain parents/carers – get your tissues at the ready!

P1-P6 children are excitedly awaiting news of their new teacher for next session. Meet the Teacher for pupils will take place within school time on Wednesday.

School reports have been issued today. Please complete the return slip to let us know that you have received it. If you have not received a report please contact the school office.

Staffing News

We have been busy confirming our staffing for next session and are nearing the end of our recruitment process.

As we say a fond farewell to Mrs Campbell, Principal Teacher, we would like to congratulate Mrs Plenderleith who was successful in the appointment of Acting Principal Teacher as her replacement. We would also like to welcome Mrs McQuarrie who will be joining our team as Acting Principal Teacher replacing Mrs Dandie who is currently Acting Depute Head Teacher.

We welcome Miss Centrangolo to our team as a new member of staff and we also welcome back Miss Bennie and Mrs McGregor who will be returning from maternity leave. They will share a class next session. Mr Brice and Mrs Clark have also changed their work pattern and will also share a class commencing next session.

Mrs Carral and Mrs Paradies are currently still on maternity leave. We have two appointments outstanding. I will update you further in due course following interviews.

Our Senior Leadership Team now comprises;

Head Teacher – Miss Ferris

Acting Depute Head Teacher – Mrs Dandie

Acting Depute Head Teacher – Mr McCallum-McKay

Acting Principal Teacher – Mr Weir

Acting Principal Teacher – Mrs Plenderleith

Acting Principal Teacher – Mrs McQuarrie

Our school class structure for session 2019-20 will be as follows;

P1a – Mr McPherson
P1b – Mrs McCallum
P1c – Mrs Lurinsky
P1d – Mrs MacLean
P2/1 – Mrs Davies
P2a – Miss Cetrangolo
P2b – Ms H Brown
P2c – Miss Butler
P3a – Miss McGregor
P3b – Miss Blyth
P3c – Mrs Dunsmore
P4/3 – Miss Hunter
P4a – Mrs Smith
P4b – Miss Azam
P4c – Mr Brice/ Mrs Clark
P5a – Ms Kirk
P5b – Miss Scott
P5c – Miss Bennie/Mrs McGregor
P6a – Mrs Wallace/ Mrs McQuarrie
P6b – Vacancy (Ms Plenderleith)
P6c – Mrs Rutter
P7a – Miss McKinlay
P7b – Mr Aitken
P7c – Miss Clarke

RCCT – Mrs MacKenzie, Mrs Macandrew

PE Specialist - Mr Tennant

Support for Learning – Mrs Rendle

School Meals

Details of the menu options for each day, plus recommendations for packed lunches and healthy recipe ideas to use at home can be found on our school website.

From 1st April 2019 primary school meals will cost **£2.11 per day** for the primary school menu.

Please note: all Primary 1 to Primary 3 children are entitled to free school meals.

We would be grateful if all parents/carers could pay any outstanding payments for school lunches on iPayimpact prior to the end of term.

Open day for Nursery New Starts

Letters were distributed to pupils who will be starting Nursery at Simpson Primary Nursery Class in August. This contains details about our Nursery Open Day which will take place on Friday 21st June at 11.30am to provide further information in preparation for next session.

Parent/Carer West Lothian Council Ethos Survey

Thank you to everyone who has completed this survey. We have had a response rate of 20.10% so far. If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete this please follow the link below;
<https://www.esurveycreator.co.uk/s/9a2f12c>

Additional In-service Days

The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills proposed providing teachers with two additional in-service days in the academic year to support professional learning.

At the Education Executive on 11th June, the additional in service days of Tuesday 20 August 2019 and Monday January 6 2020 were approved.

The link to the report is
<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/viewSelectedDocument.asp?c=e%97%9Dh%8Ep%7E%8E>

In light of this change all Simpson Primary School and Nursery pupils will start school on the following dates;
Term 1 – Wednesday 21st August 2019
Term 2 – Tuesday 7th January 2020

Playground Markings

We would like to say a big thank you to all parents/carers who have contributed to our Parent Council's fundraising this session. A fantastic sum in the region of £5000 has been raised to go towards improving our school playground. We have designs selected and hope to have these completed for the new term.

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, with many of you investing a significant amount of your own time to enhance the work and life of the school. You have made a huge difference and on behalf of the staff and pupils I thank you for that.

Have a wonderful summer, relax, enjoy the sunshine and get ready to face an exciting new school session in August!

GENERAL INFORMATION / REGULAR REMINDERS

Absence

Please be reminded to contact school by 9.30am at the latest, should your child require to be absent from school. This practice needs to be repeated each day that your child is absent. We will follow up any unreported absence and should we fail to be able to contact parents/carers, information will be passed to appropriate authorities who will then pursue the reasons for absence.

Traffic Issues

Please be reminded that the **school car park is not a drop off/pick up zone** and that clear signage is in place indicating this. **Let's keep our children safe.**

Allergies

Please remember that due to having a number of children in our school who have a severe nut allergy, we are a **nut free school**. Your support with this would be much appreciated. Thank you.

Personal Data

Please advise the school office, as soon as possible, of any changes to home/ mobile telephone numbers, address or other personal details. This will ensure that our records are up to date at all times.

Uniform

Please be reminded that our uniform comprises navy trousers/skirts with sky blue shirts/polo shirts and navy sweatshirts/jumpers/cardigans. Footwear should be black or navy. The school uniform for class photographs and formal events (when children are representing the school) will be navy trousers/skirts, sky blue shirt and school tie.

As we are quickly approaching the summer, we thought it timely to remind parents/carers of requirements before uniform items are bought.

Healthcare and Medicines in School

If your child requires medicine in school or has any other healthcare need, please let us know so that we can issue the appropriate request forms for completion and ensure your child's needs are met. No medicines are permitted to be administered in school without these. Prescribed medicines should be provided in the original packaging from the GP with the prescription label showing the child's name and expiry date. Medicines should not be brought into school by children. Full guidance and copies of the request forms can be viewed at:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/8865/Individual-Health-Care-Plans-and-Forms>

IMPORTANT DATES



Please refer to the **Simpson PS Parental Engagement Calendar** and West Lothian Council Session Dates, for details of up and coming events/ holidays. This information is also on our school website. West Lothian Council Session Dates can also be found on the Council website following this link: <http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/schoolholidays>

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
Wed 19 th Jun (within school time)	Meet the Teacher – pupils visit their new class for next session
Fri 21 st Jun – 9.30am	P7 Leavers' Assembly for parents/carers
Fri 21 st Jun – 11.30-12.15pm	Open day for Nursey New Starts due to start Nursery next session
Wed 26 th Jun – 10.00am / 2.00pm	Nursery Leavers' Assembly for parents/carers – details to follow
Fri 24 th Jun	Last day of session
Mon 19 th Aug 2019	In-service Day – school closed to pupils
Tues 20 th Aug 2019	Additional In-service Day – school closed to pupils
Wed 21 st Aug 2019	1 st Day of term – school open to pupils
Tuesday 27 th Aug 2019	Parent Council AGM – all parents/carers welcome