



# Newsletter October 2018 *Respect, Responsibility, Resilience*

September has been a very busy month as everyone has been settling into the new school year. It is lovely to see how well our new P1 pupils have settled in and enjoying their exciting learning experiences. Our new playground equipment has been a huge hit and everyone has been enjoying the fantastic new facilities. Further playground improvements to follow in October so watch this space!

## School Car Park

It is disappointing that some people are still using the car park in an irresponsible manner. Many parents choose to drive their children to school and this means that the car park can become very congested and it can be difficult for the buses to actually enter and drop children off safely. This car park is not officially managed by the school but it is the main SBC designated car park for school transport to safely drop off children travelling by bus.

We would encourage all parents and carers to walk their child to school or to adopt a park and stride approach.

Please note that there is no parking for parents provided on the primary school campus. The car park at the top of the hill is for staff only. There is **no access** to the road leading up to the swimming pool / school staff car-park **between 8:30 to 9:00am and 3:15 pm to 3:45 pm (Monday to Thursday) and 12:45 until 1:15pm (Friday).**

SBC and Police Scotland will continue to monitor the situation and we urge everyone to consider the safety of our

children and to give priority to our school buses.

## Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Taylor who has started teaching in P2B. We also welcome Mrs Lewis our new teacher to support our Enhancement of Learning Team. (Support for Learning)

## School Equipment

Children require a water bottle, snack and coat everyday. Now that the weather is changing please ensure your child comes to school with a coat every day. Unless the weather is extremely wet children will be outside at break and lunch.

To help with lost items of clothing and lunch boxes it is helpful if these are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. We have a range of items which are unlabeled and haven't been collected by parents. We will be setting up a stall in the near future where parents can donate/collect items they might need.

## Child Sickness

To minimise the spread of any bugs please note that children should not return to school for 48hrs after the last bout of sickness/diarrhea.

## School Security

To ensure the safety of all pupils we have strict security procedures in place. All parents and carers **must enter the school via the reception**, which is located at the front of the building opposite the swimming pool. A member of staff will then grant access. All visitors must sign in and ensure they are wearing a visitor's badge. Please note there will be no access inside the school building via any other door. This includes the double doors at the back of the building facing BHS. At the end of the day we would appreciate it if parents and carers do not enter through this door.

## Christmas card Orders

These have been sent home with order forms. Well done to all our children for their fantastic Christmas card designs. All orders should be return by **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October.**

Duns Primary is a Rights Respecting School



Article 28: Children have the right to an education

### Halloween Disco

This will take place on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October**. Further information to follow.

### School Photographs

These will take place on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October**. This year there will be no individual photographs taken of each sibling. Only family photographs and individual photographs of pupils with no siblings will be taken. Please can all children come dressed and prepared for photographs to be taken on both dates as organisation of family photos within the school may be subject to change at short notice. We would also like to take photo of the whole school to display in our entrance hall. Weather permitting.

### Class Assemblies

Over the course of this year each class will be leading an assembly showcasing their fantastic learning to which all parents, carers, family and friends are warmly invited. Our assemblies take place on Wednesday afternoons at 2:30pm. Parents are invited to join the staff from 2.00pm for tea, coffee and a blether. Below is a list of dates for class assemblies this year.

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018- P5  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov2018- P7A  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018- P4  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019- P6A  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 - P4/5  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb2019- P3B  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Mar 2019- P6B  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Mar 2019- P7B

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019- P3A

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019- P2A & P2B

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019- P1A & P1B

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019- P7 Leavers Assembly.

### Attendance

As you are aware, we are required to monitor pupil attendance throughout the year. Regular attendance is a contributory factor to pupils reaching their potential in school and also helps to promote a sense of 'belonging' within a class and social group.

We monitor attendance on a weekly basis and those children whose attendance falls below 90% becomes a cause for concern

90% Attendance is roughly the equivalent of:

$\frac{1}{2}$  a day off per week,  
19 days off per year,  
247 days off over a school career of 13 academic years,

Which is **equivalent to over 1 year lost education**  
**Consider what this equates to for 80% and 70% attendance.**

### Financial Education

During the week beginning the 26<sup>th</sup> November we will all be learning about finances and budgets. If any parents run their own business or work in the finance sector and are able to do a short talk for children, please get in touch with school.

### Happy Holidays

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October** school closes. Holiday Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. All children resume Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Oct

### Dates for Your Diary

#### Autumn term

**Thursday 04 Oct 2018** - Last day for pupils and staff - mid-term holiday

**Monday 15 Oct 2018** - All resume

**Tuesday 06 Nov 2018**.....

**Wednesday 07 Nov 2018**.....

**Thursday 08 Nov 2018** - Staff in service day

**Friday 09 Nov 2018** - Staff in service day

**Monday 03 Dec 2018** - St Andrew's Day holiday

**Friday 21 Dec 2018** - Last day of term for pupils and staff

#### Winter term

**Monday 07 Jan 2019** - All resume

**Thursday 14 Feb 2019** - Last day for pupils - February holiday

**Friday 15 Feb 2019** - Staff in service day

**Wednesday 20 Feb 2019** - All resume

**Friday 29 Mar 2019** - Last day of term for pupils and staff

#### Summer term

**Monday 15 Apr 2019** - All resume

**Friday 19 Apr 2019** - Good Friday, school closed

**Friday 03 May 2019** - Staff in service day

**Monday 06 May 2019** - May Day holiday, school closed

**Monday 27 May 2019** - Holiday

**Tuesday 02 Jul 2019** - Last day of term for pupils and staff



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