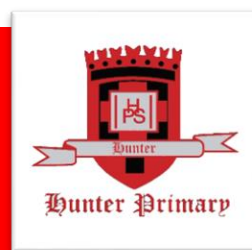


Hunter Primary Newsletter – September 2024



School Motto: ***Together we are the Heart of Hunter***

It's hard to believe we are already 4 weeks back into the new session. I'm delighted to welcome our 30 new Primary 1 children to Hunter Primary as well as some new children across other stages. We hope they report they are happy and enjoying their learning so far. Our children have returned to school enthusiastic and ready to learn and looking smart in their school uniforms. Thanks to all parents for supporting us with this! I have been visiting classes over the past few weeks and I am pleased to report all children are settled and are 'ready to learn'.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the 'Meet the Teacher' event on Friday 30th August. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to come in, see your child's class, meet the teacher, and see a bit more of the school. Our first formal Parents' evening will be held in October. More information will be issued soon.

Wishing everyone a fantastic session ahead!

Mr. Gary Campbell
Head Teacher

Our School Vision:

Here at Hunter Primary School we aim to be
**Happy, Understanding,
Nurturing, Truthful,
Equal and Respectful.**



Please follow us
on Twitter:

@HunterPrimary



If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school or by emailing one of the addresses below:

office@hunter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

headteacher@hunter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

gw07baddeleyeileen@glow.sch.uk

gw11mclaughlinashley@glow.sch.uk



Office email

Mr. Campbell's email

Mrs. Baddeley's email

Mrs. McLaughlin's email

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Staffing and classes update

We welcome **Mr. Lindsay** back to the Hunter staff team this year, who is currently covering for Mrs. Rasul's maternity leave. And a big congratulations to **Mrs. McLean** (formally Miss Laughland) who got married during the summer.

Mrs. McLaughlin will continue in her role as Acting Principal Teacher 2 over the course of this session. Mrs. McLaughlin will continue to be class committed on a Monday am, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Head Teacher	Mr. Gary Campbell
Principal Teacher	Mrs. Eileen Baddeley
Principal Teacher (Acting)	Mrs. Ashley McLaughlin

Primary 1 (Room 1)	Miss Laughland
Primary 1/2 (Room 2)	Mrs. Menzies (Mon/Tues) and Mrs. McHugh (Wed-Fri)
Primary 2 (Room 3)	Ms. McAdam
Primary 3 (Room 4)	Mr. Lindsay
Primary 4/5 (Room 6)	Ms. Holmes
Primary 5 (Room 7)	Mrs. McLaughlin (Monday am, Wednesday-Friday) and Mrs. Baddeley (Monday pm, Tuesday all day)
Primary 6 (Room 8)	Mrs. Hodge
Primary 7 (Room 9)	Miss Taylor
CCC Teacher	Miss Mooney (P.E. and Health and Wellbeing) (Mon-Thur)

Support Staff:

Mrs. Shearon - Team Leader
Mrs. Millar
Mrs. Hendry
Mrs. Black
Mrs. McCuaig
Mrs. Kelly
Mrs. Crawford
Mrs. Glen

Janitor:

Mr David Hughes



School communication: Twitter, School App, Google Classroom, ParentsPortal



South Lanarkshire Council endorses schools to use **Twitter** (or X as it's not known) to showcase pupil learning and share information. Please follow us on Twitter **@HunterPrimary** where we will regularly post school communication including photographs of learning, useful hints and tips, diary reminders, useful community links and many more.

School app – This is our primary means of communication, and we strongly encourage all parents/carers to download it to your smart phone. Please also share this with friends and family. With the use of the instant message service, we will be posting almost all school letters on the app where possible. This will help us with our Eco agenda and reduce the amount of paper being sent home. Keep an eye on the '**dates**' section within the app - this will include important up and coming diary events in school.

To download school app: In your smart phone app store, search 'School App for Parents' (see logo opposite), download and install. Navigate to locate 'Hunter Primary School' and type in the access code **2012**. Alternatively, please scan the QR code to take you directly to the downloadable link.

School App for Parents



Google Classroom – All pupils will now have been issued with Glow and **Google Classroom** information. In order to access Google Classroom, you are required to sign into Glow. Google Classroom is an excellent tool for a range of learning activities in and out of school. Class teachers will post weekly homework activities, as well as showcasing the class learning journey via the use of photographs and in some instances, video.



Google Classroom

Please note: we ask parents/carers **not to** contact the class teacher through this platform as not all staff access this part of the classroom. Please instead contact your child's teacher via school office in the first instance.

ParentsPortal – All SLC schools have now moved to this platform which will allow parents/carers to do a variety of things including completing permissions, viewing end of session reports. Thank you for your continued patience in setting this up. If you continue to experience any difficulties, please contact the school office for help. Further information can be found at www.parentsportal.scot

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School Uniform

Uniform is expected for all Hunter pupils. Our uniform continued to be plain **black or grey** trousers/skirt/pinafore and a **white shirt** and tie. **A red/white or grey polo top/cardigan** (with or without school badge) can also be worn. **A black/red or grey jumper/sweatshirt** can also be worn.



Indoor shoes

To help maintain our clean carpets, we ask all children to **bring a pair of soft indoor shoes** to change in and out of at break times. These will be stored safely in the cloakroom areas. Please help us by labelling shoes with your child's name and room number.

Physical Education

Children will receive 2 hours of quality P.E. per week. On P.E. days, we encourage children to come dressed wearing their red polo shirt and have their shorts on under their school bottoms/skirt or access space to change, instead of wearing a shirt and tie. **Strictly no football colours.** It is helpful if older children bring trainers (as their soft shoes/P.E.) due to a slippery games hall floor. **As always jewellery should be removed as a safety precaution.** It is extremely helpful from a Health and Safety perspective that your child **does not wear earrings** on P.E. days. If you cannot remove your child's earrings, **please provide your child with Micropore tape.** This can be stored in school. Acrylic nails are **strictly not permitted** in school. Pupils will be unable to take part in any P.E. activities. Please note, in times of good weather, classes may have both indoor and outdoor sessions. PE days for each class are listed below.

<u>Primary 1, Room 1</u>	Monday	Thursday
<u>Primary 1/2, Room 2</u>	Wednesday	Thursday
<u>Primary 2, Room 3</u>	Tuesday	Thursday
<u>Primary 3, Room 4</u>	Monday	Friday
<u>Primary 4/5, Room 6</u>	Monday	Wednesday
<u>Primary 5, Room 7</u>	Monday	Friday
<u>Primary 6, Room 8</u>	Tuesday	Thursday
<u>Primary 7, Room 9</u>	Wednesday	Friday



Primary 1

We are so proud to see our Primary 1 children in their school uniforms and they are enjoying getting to know the routines for each day. A reminder that indoor shoes are required for the children to change in to each day. They have had a lovely first few weeks getting to know their teacher and their P.7 buddies!

A few reminders-

- Children should know if they are a school lunch or a packed lunch, please go over the menu with your child each day to ensure they are choosing a meal that they will eat (*see school app for daily lunch menu choices*).
- Snacks for playtime should be separate from the packed lunch to avoid any confusion for the child.
- A labelled water bottle.
- Please ensure **ALL** items are labelled with your child's name including all clothing.



The school day at Hunter Primary

Breakfast Club: 8.15 – 8.45 am (all children welcome)

Start: 9.00 am **Interval:** 10.30 – 10.45 am **Lunch:** 12.30 – 1.15 pm **End:** 3pm

Wet Weather arrangements



In the event of inclement weather, we will bring the children into school before the 9.00 am bell. As always this is dependent on staff supervision. **Two bells will** sound to indicate a wet start/break. Children will go straight to their classes in the event of a wet morning where they will be expected to change their shoes, wash their hands and then sit at their desk with a private reading book or chatting quietly until their teacher arrives. Each floor will be supervised, and senior monitors will be on hand to assist younger children. We ask that on days where weather is an issue then **please bring your child to school as close to the 9.00 am start time as possible** and refrain from dangerous parking for drop off. We also ask that unless a child is late for school that they are not brought to or dropped off at the main office. A waterproof jacket and sensible footwear is advised in the event of any delay to the wet weather bell.

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Breakfast Club

A reminder that **all pupils** are welcome to come to the Breakfast Club. This runs daily and is available **8.15 – 8.45 am**. There is no charge for this, and children will be offered the choice of **Weetabix/toast/fresh fruit and a cup of water/milk**. Pupils attending should report to the member of staff in charge to be registered in the building. Pupils will be dismissed into the main playground at 8.45 am.



Hunter Primary **School Improvement Priorities 2024-25**

As we continue to progress into our 2024-25 session and reflect on all the work that was undertaken last session, please see below our 3 main strategic priorities for this year:

Priority 1: Raising Attainment (Literacy Writing)

Engage in 'Creating the balanced writer' programme as a whole school approach to develop clear and consistent pedagogy, including high quality learning and teaching experiences in Writing.

Priority 2: Raising Attainment (Numeracy and maths)

Raise attainment in Numeracy and maths through rigorous self-evaluation of pedagogy to inform improvement. Devise a plan for roll-out of 'Maths Recovery' following whole-staff training.

Priority 3: Curriculum: STEM

To embed high quality teaching and learning experiences in STEM with a particular focus in Technologies, linking to SLC Skills Framework.

Our Standards and Quality report for session 2023-24 will be posted on our app and school website shortly.

Maintenance Agenda 2024-24

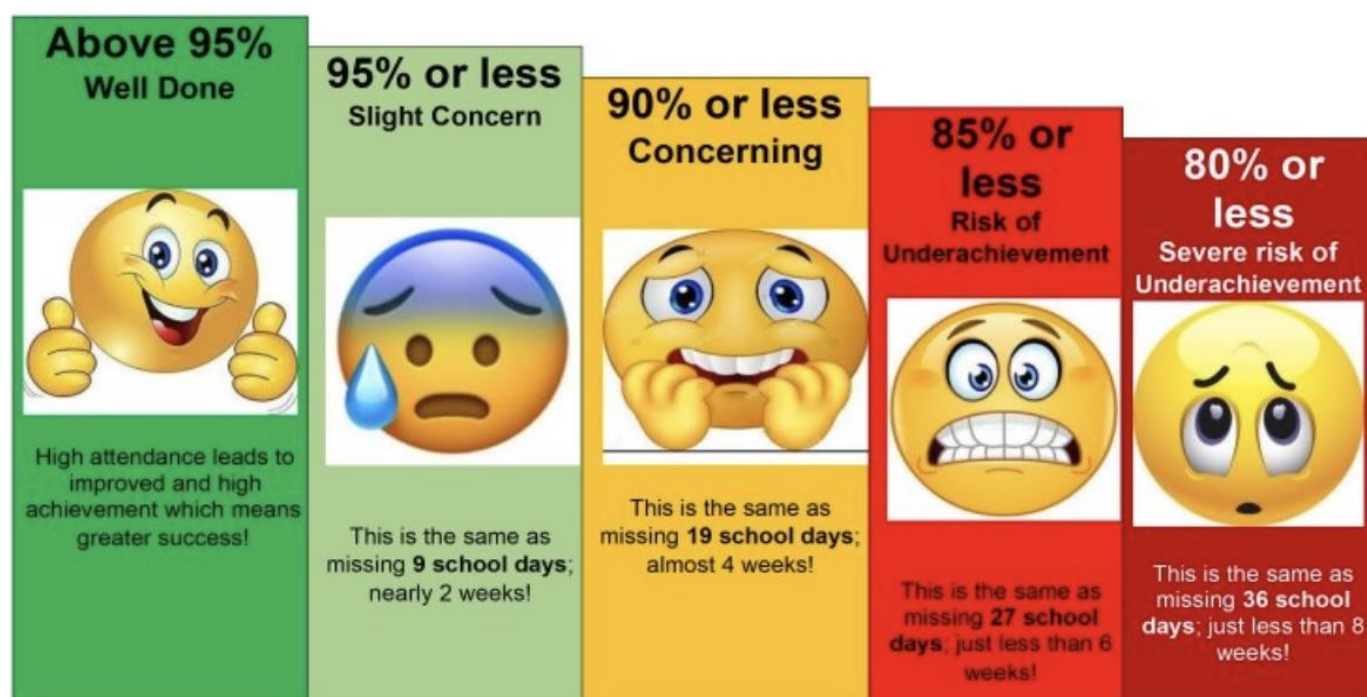
- UNCRC implementation across the school in Health and Wellbeing and whole school assembly (Rights Respecting Schools).
- Continue to develop Play Pedagogy in Primary 1, and begin to develop this further into Primary 2.
- Implement SLC Skills Framework across the school which raises the profile of skills including DYW.
- Continue Reading Schools accreditation journey.
- Continue Pupil Voice activities that include Sports Award and Eco Flag.

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Attendance and Absence reporting

Children should come to school unless too unwell to attend. Our school attendance rates are usually very good however we see a direct correlation between attendance and attainment. Pupils with lower attendance rates fall behind their classmates, are less resilient and confident. All pupil attendance is monitored regularly and where an attendance rate falls **below 90%**, this is monitored weekly. Where there is a pattern of poor attendance the Head Teacher will contact the parent/carer to discuss whether there are any supports that can be put in place. It is also helpful to contact the school should you have any attendance concerns regarding your child. It is our priority to work together in partnership to ensure the best outcomes for all children.



If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school office and leave a message on the answer facility (**option 1 to report a child's absence**). Please tell us your **child's name, class and specific reason for absence**. Please note a specific reason is needed to authorise your child's absence.

Attendance is recorded as either 'authorised' or 'unauthorised'. **We are unable to authorise holidays taken during term time unless you are able to provide a letter from your employer (on headed notepaper) to explain your reason for your holiday.** Absence through illness or appointments are 'authorised' where we have the exact reason for absence.

We thank you for your continued support with this.

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Working together...

Parental partnership is very important to us in Hunter, and we work very hard to build positive relationships with all our parents/carers, in order that we can work together to support all our children to reach their potential and feel happy and safe in school.

We are always here to help so, in the first instance, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher via the main school office with any queries or concerns. I would ask that in all instances you contact the school directly and avoid posting any concerns you may have on social media, as in our experience, many worries can be easily resolved with a quick conversation.

Myself, Mrs. Baddeley and Mrs. McLaughlin are also here to help. Our door is always open, and you can contact us using our email addresses on page 1 of this newsletter, or by giving the school a call.

If you have a skill or talent that you would like to share, and would like to get involved in the life of the school, please contact Mr. Campbell. We would welcome any parent/carer who would be keen and interested in running an extra-curricular club.

I am very much looking forward to continuing to build on the already strong partnership we have in our school community. Here's to an excellent year in Hunter Primary!



Diary Dates - September

Remember to keep an eye on the 'Dates' section of the school app as this can change weekly.

Tuesday 2nd September	-	6.30 pm – Parent Council meeting
Thursday 5th September	-	P.6 Swimming session 3
Thursday 12th September	-	P.6 Swimming session 4
Monday 16th September	-	School photographer for P.1 and P.7 individual/family photographs
Wednesday 18th September	-	Beat the Street East Kilbride commences
Thursday 19th September	-	P.6 Swimming session 5
Wednesday 25th September	-	Flu Immunisations
	-	Selected senior boys to Football Festival 1
Thursday 26th September	-	P.6 Swimming session 6
Friday 27th September	-	HOLIDAY
Monday 30th September	-	HOLIDAY

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Spotlight on Learning



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