



Please ask for / Foighnich airson: Vicki Parfitt
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Date / Ceann la: 26.08.21

Dear Parents / A Charaidean Choir,

Welcome back to session 2021-22. Thanks to everyone for settling back so well and a special thank you to all of our new pupils who have settled in so quickly.

Staffing and Pupils / Luchd Obraich: The following staff will be working in Dunvegan Primary School and Nursery this session:

Mrs Vicki Parfitt ~ Head Teacher (Cluster with Edinbane)
Mrs M MacGregor ~ Teacher GM1-3
Mrs L Taggart & Mrs R Whatley ~ Teacher GM4-7
Miss L Kater ~ Teacher EM1-4
Mrs J Allan ~ Teacher EM1-4
Mrs L Salter ~ Teacher EM 5-7
Mrs M Sinclair ~ Additional Support Needs' Teacher (GM)
Miss D Mackenzie ~ Non-Class Contact Teacher
Mrs L Coull ~ Clerical Assistant
Miss H Moujib ~ Pupil Support Assistant
Mrs L Wood ~ Pupil Support Assistant
Miss M MacGregor ~ Pupil Support Assistant
Mrs S Wood ~ Pupil Support Assistant
Mrs A Campbell ~ Early Years Practitioner (Gaelic)
Mrs C Matheson ~ Early Years Practitioner (Gaelic)
Miss K Campbell ~ Nursery Assistant (Gaelic)
Mrs A MacVicar ~ Visiting Art Teacher (Fortnightly)
Roxinne Llewellyn-Porter ~ Visiting Strings Instructor
Allan Craig ~ Visiting Pipe Band Drumming Instructor
Mrs F MacAskill ~ School Cook
Miss A Blair ~ Cleaning Operative

Our English roll is 22 and our Gaelic roll is 21. Our Gaelic Nursery roll is 9.

In session 21/22, our main school improvement priorities will continue to focus on three key areas:

- Health and wellbeing
- Recovery of learning, teaching and assessment

- Attainment in session 21/22 (focusing on identifying new or widened gaps caused by the Covid-19 situation)

Ever ambitious, we are also keen to take forward our pupil learning profiles, develop our interdisciplinary topic planning and our interest in developing learning through play!

School Dinner Money / Airgead Dinneir: We are delighted to learn that free school lunches are now being offered to our P4 children.

For P5-P7 the cost of these will be £2.30 per day

2 days - £4.60

3 days - £6.90

4 days - £9.20

5 days - £11.50

Homework / Obair Dachaigh: Reading/homework journals will be given to all learners again this year and daily reading remains a priority. We would be very grateful if you could regularly add your comments to these records too. Please can you listen to your children read as often as you can and discuss the stories / events etc. afterwards. Please also continue reading to your child, this is so important at all ages.

In addition to regular reading and book talk, class teachers will send home spelling and time tables/number practice along with additional games and website recommendations for you to use. Older children may bring home project work.

Visitors / Neach-tadhail: If you are visiting the school for any reason, please report to the office on arrival. Thank you.

Absences / Neo-Lathaireachdean: If your child is going to be absent from nursery or school, please can you give this information to the school in advance. If your child is absent unexpectedly on any given day, please phone the school on 01470 521307 before 09.30am. If you suspect that your child has COVID related symptoms, please seek advice from Health Protect Scotland on hps.scot.nhs.uk or nhsinform.scot/campaigns/test-and-protect

Forest School & Outdoor Learning / Sgoil na Coille: Please ensure that your child has wellies and waterproofs in school all the time as these sessions will be running at different times through the week.

Clothing / Aodach: Please can you write your child's name on their clothing, especially school jumpers. This helps us so much when we are trying to return 'lost items'. Please could we ask all children to bring in a pair of indoor crocs, trainers or shoes that will only be worn inside the school building. This will help to keep our carpets, cushions, rugs etc. clean and dry. IF you prefer, wellies for outside play are a great alternative. While we have the hotter weather, you can send sunscreen into school with your child, but they will need to apply this themselves.

Music / Ceol: We continue to have music tuition for Pipe Band Drumming and Strings, both virtually and in school lessons. There will be a Strings Showcase on 2nd September while Roxinne the teacher is in school with us, to see if there are any other children interested in starting lessons. Lynne Brown will also be joining us for a Clarinet presentation on 27th September. We are also hoping to restart Chanter lessons on Tuesdays. Please let us know if your child is keen to begin a musical instrument. There is now no charge for these lessons.

Class blogs / Blog na Clàs: We are aiming to post at least once a week in our class blogs, sometimes more than that so you can see what we have been up to in class, whether that is a specific blog, or closed Facebook group. More information to follow from class teachers.

Afterschool Clubs / Club na Sgoile

Jaggy Thistles: Nan will be starting up her Jaggy Thistles music group (For age 6 +) on a Monday from 3.15pm – 4.15pm. If your child would be interested in learning the Tin Whistle or Recorder, please let us know and come along and join in.

‘Sunday School Club’: On Thursdays 3.30-4.30pm Mrs Allan will be running an afterschool club in her classroom, P2-7 for the first term and after the October break P1-7. It will be exploring the Christian faith through song, dance, craft, games, drama and most importantly ...fun!.

Nursery / Sgoil Araich: Our nursery is open full time hours, from 9am – 3pm each day.

- Please can children have a pair of indoor shoes (NOT slippers), a change of clothes and a waterproof jacket each day.
- If you would like to send sun cream into the nursery for the hotter days and smidge for the midge days, please do so along with written permission from home that nursery staff are allowed to apply this.
- There will be no set ‘Forest Schools’ session for our nursery this term. The children will spend a lot of time exploring the outdoors during their sessions every day.
- If you have any issues or queries about the nursery, then please feel free to email Catherine on catherine.matheson@highland.gov.uk or Alison on alison.campbell3@highland.gov.uk anytime.

Car Wash / Nighe Charaichean: The school is organising a Car Wash fundraiser on Friday 17th September, from 4-6pm. More details to follow.

National Pirate Day / Latha nan spùinneadair: National Pirate day is on Sunday 19th of Septembers, so we will celebrate this in school on Friday 17th, children can come dressed as a pirate to school that day, if they’d like!

Library / Leabharlann: The Library has been moved to one of the new units and is now in use. We will post some pictures on our Facebook page soon.

Polycrub / Taigh-ghlainne: The Polycrub is currently an ongoing project, and we have another day pencilled in for working at it: Saturday 4th September, if anyone is keen to help, please get in touch with Anna Campbell our Parent Council chair and she can liaise with you.

Parent Council / Comharile nam Parantan: The next meeting will be in September after the Stakeholder meeting about the new school. Date & time will be posted on the school’s Facebook page.

End of the School Day / Deireadh an latha sgoile : Please can all parents / carers that are collecting children at the end of the school day please adhere to the following protocol:

1. Nursery children leave at 3pm
2. Taxis leave
3. Bus leaves
4. Children being collected are sent out to cars
5. Cars leave

This is to make sure that the end of day traffic is handled in as safe a way as possible and we do appreciate your help.

Headlice / Mialan: Please can you check your child's hair on a regular basis.

In-service Days / Latha Treanadh: Nursery & School will be closed on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th September for staff training.

Term Dates 2021-22

Highland School calendar 2021/22 Please note - Dates may be subject to change

August 2021							September 2021							October 2021							November 2021										
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31							1	36		1	2	3	4	5	40					1	2	3	45	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
32	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	37	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	41	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	46	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
33	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	38	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	42	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	47	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
34	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	39	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	43	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	48	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
35	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	40	27	28	29	30				44	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	49	29	30					
36	30	31																													

December 2021							January 2022							February 2022							March 2022										
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49						1	2	3	1						1	2	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	
50	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
51	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	3	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	8	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
52	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	4	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	9	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	13	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1	27	28	29	30	31			5	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	10	28							14	28	29	30	31			
								6	31																						

April 2022							May 2022							June 2022							July 2022											
wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
14						1	2	3	18							1	23			1	2	3	4	5	27					1	2	3
15	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	19	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	24	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	28	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
16	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	20	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	25	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	29	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	21	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	30	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
18	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	27	28	29	30				31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
								23	30	31																						

School holidays
In-service days

Please call or email any time. Your support makes an incredible difference to our school and we consider you all a part of our team.

I look forward to seeing everyone over the course of the term.

Tapadh Leibh / Thank you,

Vicki Parfitt

Head Teacher / Ceannard
Dunvegan Primary School / Bun Sgoil Dhun Bheagain

Current Covid Regulations/ Updates August 2021

- Face coverings should be worn by adults wherever they cannot keep physical distance with other adults. There is no requirement for strict physical distancing between children and young people in schools, although maintaining distancing between secondary school pupils is encouraged where possible.
- The revised approach to contact tracing means that groupings (sometimes referred to as “bubbles”) are no longer required to be maintained in schools.
- Children and young people can now engage in all drama, music, PE and dance activity in schools, indoors and outdoors.
- After school clubs run by staff can be conducted. The outdoors should be used, where possible.
- Adult visitors to schools should be strictly limited only to those that are necessary to support children and young people or the running of the school.
- Young people aged 12 and over are required to wear face coverings. This means that children aged 5-11, who were previously asked to wear face coverings, no longer need to do so.
- Supply staff and other visitors e.g. visiting teachers, psychologists, nurses, social workers, youth workers, outdoor learning specialists, HEI tutors and those providing therapeutic support, can move between schools where necessary.
- Parental volunteers may support staff for outside activities.
- if parents/carers are dropping off children, they should wear face coverings.

Contact Tracing

From 9th August, the approach to contact tracing of U18s, including in the school environment will be adjusted better to reflect the evidence and data re: risks of infection and transmission amongst close contacts in this age cohort, and in the school environment.

From 9th August, only those close contacts aged under 18 who are at the highest risk of being exposed to infection will be directly contact traced by Test and Protect, and asked to self-isolate until they have received a negative PCR test. Test and Protect will focus on identification of household, overnight (sleepover) or clear, prolonged close contacts.

From 9th August, schools and ELC settings will no longer be as extensively involved in supporting contact tracing. They may be requested by Test and Protect to support identification of any adult, staff or clinically vulnerable U18s who are not fully vaccinated and who have had unusually close or prolonged contact with an index case, so that tailored public health advice can be provided as per the policies described above.

The approach of requiring whole classes or groupings of pupils to self-isolate as close contacts will no longer be followed in normal circumstances. However, to ensure that any potential lower-risk contacts in the school environment are provided with public health advice on vigilance for symptoms and other key matters, schools and ELC settings should send “warn and inform” letters to staff, parents/carers and young people in relevant classes or year groups when they are made aware of a positive case. Those lower-risk potential contacts in the school/ELC environment will not be advised to self-isolate or seek a PCR test.

The “warn and inform” letter that schools should send to parents/carers and staff in the event of a positive case should advise them of the facts and:

- make clear there is no requirement to self-isolate unless contacted by Test and Protect and advised otherwise
- advise recipients to be particularly vigilant for symptoms and to self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test if they become symptomatic

- ask them and their children to follow particularly closely the mitigations in guidance

Under 18s who are identified by Test and Protect as close contacts of positive cases should:

- self-isolate immediately and book a PCR test. They should continue to self-isolate while awaiting their results
- if the test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate in line with NHS guidance. This states that they should remain at home and should not go to work, school, public areas or use public transport. They should not go out to buy food or other essentials
- if they need support, and cannot get this from friends or family, the National Assistance Helpline is there to help and can be reached on 0800 111 4000
- if the test is negative, and the child or young person remains without symptoms, they may end self-isolation and resume their daily lives (including returning to school), even if they have ongoing contact with the index case (e.g. a household member)
- close contacts should remain vigilant and if symptoms newly develop at any time, they must follow NHS guidance and self-isolate immediately
- if an under 18 close contact has had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days, they do not need to do another PCR test to be exempt from self-isolation provided they remain asymptomatic

From 9th August, exemptions from testing will apply to close contacts who are aged under 5, or who for medical reasons are unable to be tested or are exempt. For these groups, a PCR test will not be required to end self-isolation. However, children under 5 who are close contacts may be encouraged to take a PCR test where possible. This reflects the lower risks of infection and transmission in this age group, and the fact that younger children may find it harder to tolerate testing.

If a child, young person (or their parent/carer if under 16 years) or staff member is contacted by Test and Protect and identified as a high-risk close contact while at school, the person should leave school and travel home avoiding the use of public transport wherever possible and, if possible, they should wear a face covering en route. They should then follow the guidance on self-isolation and PCR testing provided by Test and Protect. The Scottish Government has published advice around how to self-isolate, including advice for employers on how to support people who are asked to self-isolate.