

HARRYSMUIR NATTERS

Leadership Team Edition

September 2024

Contact details: 01506 280034 email- wlharrysmuir-ps@westlothian.org.uk



HARRYSMUIR PRIMARY SCHOOL ~ WHERE THE MAGIC HAPPENS!

Ambition, Kindness, Respect, Responsibility

Hello to all of our families!

I hope that this issue of the Harrismuir newsletter finds you all well and enjoying early Autumn!

It has been lovely to welcome our new P1 pupils and also to welcome back all our learners in P2-P7. It is wonderful to see them engaged in learning experiences in and around the school. Please check our school Twitter feed regularly, to see photos of learning in classrooms and across school. ([@HarrismuirPS](https://twitter.com/HarrismuirPS)).

Staffing

We would like to give a warm welcome to Mr Stewart (P3S) and Mr Swan (P6S) who have joined the Harrismuir Teaching Staff this session.

Uniform

Thank you for your support with your children wearing their uniform since our return to school. They look really smart and it brings a sense of community, which was our whole school topic for the first 2 weeks back.

Each school has its own dress code, for the whole school, based on the Council's policy which all pupils will be expected to keep to.

School Uniform is compulsory in Harrismuir and can be purchased from the school office.

Our uniform consists of:

- Maroon sweatshirt or cardigan with pale blue polo shirt / white shirt with school tie.
- Black / grey trousers, skirt or pinafore.

As an ECO school we encourage recycling and that includes school uniform. If you have school uniform that your child has grown out of but is still in good condition, please drop it into the school. We already have some pre-loved school uniform available at the front entrance beside the Sharing Shed so please take a look. If you do not see the size you need ask for Miss Anderson or Mrs Robertson who will be happy to help.

A gentle reminder that the council will not be responsible for loss or damage to pupils' clothing and personal belongings including mobile phones. Valuable

items, including jewellery and expensive articles of clothing, should not be brought to school



P.E.

If your child would prefer not to change for P.E. please support our school uniform policy by wearing our P.E. uniform:

- School jumper/ school cardigan/ school hoodie (taken off for indoor hall sessions)
- Plain white T-Shirt/polo shirt or white t-shirt with school badge (available from the office)
- Black joggers /leggings /skorts / shorts (weather permitting)
- indoor gym shoes or trainers to change into

If your child would prefer to bring a change of clothes for P.E. they will be allowed to change in the Toilets if they wish to. Please make sure all clothing items are named, especially jumpers and jackets, in case they are misplaced. Football branded items are not allowed.

Class Teachers will let you know which day P.E. is on and if there are any changes throughout the year.

Breakfast Club

Our free Breakfast Club runs from 8am each morning. The club serves toast and cereal every day. On the first Wednesday of every month there will be pancakes! There are activities such as playing board games, reading and drawing until it is time to go out to play in the playground.

Lunches

Primary school meals **cost £2.57** per day. Please note: **all Primary 1 to Primary 5 children are entitled to a free school meal.** Unless in receipt of free school meals, Primary 6 and Primary 7 can pay online. Information is available here:

<https://westlothian.gov.uk/article/44151/parentsportal-scot>

Families on low incomes may be eligible to receive free school meals and milk for their children. There are also grants available to help towards the cost of school clothing. Click on this link for the application forms:

<https://westlothian.gov.uk/mealsandclothing>

Please contact us if you need any help with this.

Attendance and Timekeeping

Why is attendance important?

Excellent attendance at school is important as it gives your child the best possible start in life. As a parent/carer you are responsible for getting your child to school and making sure your child develops the habit of regular attendance.

We work closely with Sophie Graham, Attendance Worker for Inveralmond Cluster Schools. If you would like support with attendance, please contact us.

If your child is going to be absent from school parents & carers are advised to phone the school office on 01506 280034 from 8.00a.m. We follow a safe arrivals process if we do not have an explanation for why a child is not in school.

Please help us develop in your child good time keeping. If they are going to be late please let us know as soon as possible.

Meet The Teacher

Meet the teacher took place last week.

Please find below a link to the presentations which were shared.

Ms Suen – [Primary 1S](#)

Mrs McDermott & Mrs Carr – [Primary 1M & 1/2C](#)

Mrs Duff – [Primary 2D](#)

Mrs Davies & Mrs Gibbons – [Primary 3D](#)

Mr Stewart & Mrs McLachlan – [Primary 3S](#)

Miss Hanlon & Mrs Goodfellow – [Primary 4H & 4/5G](#)

Miss Buchanan & Mrs Ralston – [Primary 5B & 5R](#)

Miss Pringle & Mr Swan – [Primary 6P & 6S](#)

Miss Armstrong & Miss Thomson – [Primary 7A & 7T](#)

Reading Ambassadors

The Reading Ambassadors are about to embark on an exciting project with a well-known Scottish author- more details will follow!

Remember 'The Little Free Library' is available in the area at the front of the school. Please feel free to help yourself to a book or donate a book for others to enjoy!

Hedgehog Friendly Schools

We have some fantastic news to share! Harrysmuir Primary School have been awarded **Gold** Hedgehog Friendly Schools Status. Well done to everyone for achieving this amazing award. A special thanks to Mrs Carder who led the Hedgehog Ambassadors! Miss Armstrong is looking forward to taking this forward this session.



Parent Council

We looking forward to working in partnership with our Parent council this session and we will continue to work together to promote communication between school and our Parent/Carer body.

The Use of Mobile Phones

There has been an increase in pupils using their mobile phones during school hours. It is very important that pupils do not use their phones to communicate, access social media or take photos when in school. We have issued contracts to pupils in Primary 4-7 regarding appropriate and responsible use of devices. We ask that these be returned as soon as possible and appreciate your on-going support with this.

Credit Union

West Lothian Credit Union welcomes you to join our Credit Union and save every **Thursday at 9am during school term time at Harrysmuir Primary School.**

Save from as little as £1.00, get your child to get the habit of lifetime saving for the special things in life or maybe see how quickly a little put away each week grows.

Joining is quick and simple. Parents/Carers will require to fill out an application form (one per child) available from the school and return it to the school with your child.

Every child who joins will receive a piggy bank.

More information can be found at

<https://www.westlothiancreditunion.co.uk/>

Family Events

We are in the process of creating a Family Engagement calendar based off some of the suggestions provided during Meet the Teacher.

Maths Week Scotland takes place from the 23rd September – 27th September and as part of the celebrations we would like to invite you to a **Family Bingo Night on Tuesday 24th September from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm**. More information to follow!

Reminders:

- Water bottles: All children should be encouraged to bring a full bottle of **water** to school each day please.
- Waterproof jackets and footwear: Please ensure that children come to school wearing a waterproof jacket and appropriate footwear.
- Head lice: Please continue to check children’s heads regularly for head lice and treat as necessary.
- Safe parking and stopping: Please do not park in the school car park or stop on the turning circle at any time. The car park is for the sole use of staff members and parking is prohibited on the turning circle for safety reasons.

Monday 12th August 2024: Staff resume
 Tuesday 13th August 2024: Pupils resume
 Thursday 12th September 2024: All break (last day)

Wednesday 18th September 2024: All resume
 Friday 11th October 2024: All break (last day of term)
 Monday 21st October 2024: Staff resume
 Tuesday 22nd October 2024: Pupils resume
 Friday 20th December 2024: All break (last day of term)

Monday 6th January 2025: All resume
 Friday 7th February 2025: All break (last day)
 Monday 17th February 2025: Staff resume
 Tuesday 18th February 2025: Pupils resume
 Friday 4th April 2025: All break (last day)

Tuesday 22nd April 2025: All resume
 Friday 2nd May 2025: All break (last day)
 Tuesday 6th May 2025: Staff resume
 Wednesday 7th May 2025: Pupils resume
 Monday 19th May 2025: Spring holiday
 Friday 27th June 2025: All break (last day)

Information on term dates and school holidays can be found online here:

<https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/78393/School-Terms-and-Holidays-2024-2025>

Date	Event	Time	Event for Parents Y/N
16th & 17 th Sep	School Holiday		
24 th Sep	Family Bingo Night	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Y
25 th Sep	Flu Vaccine		N
26 th Sep	School Photographs		N
2 nd & 3 rd Oct	Parent Consultation		Y
11 th Oct	All Break (last day)		
21 st Oct	Staff In Service Day		
22 nd Oct	Pupils return to school		