



**ARROCHAR PRE-5 UNIT
NEWSLETTER
January 2020**

Dear Parents

Happy New Year to you all. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas.

Could we start this newsletter by thanking Melanie Tonks, from the 3 Villages Café for providing a lovely lunch for our Pre-5 pupils when we walked across to the Post Office last month. It was very kind of her and we really appreciated all the effort she went to.

Our topics this month are:

- ❖ Winter
- ❖ Scotland

If you have any information books or stories relating to our topics, please bring them in and share them with us. During our topic on Scotland we will be learning about Robert Burns, hearing some of his famous poems and songs and tasting a selection of different Scottish foods.

The children's evaluations from last month were:

- ❖ Rowan – “I liked seeing all of the things on the wall and seeing Santa on our trip”
- ❖ Leo – “I liked seeing Santa and getting a shark from him”
- ❖ Alyssia – “I enjoyed making my snowflake”
- ❖ Niamh – “I liked going to see Home Alone 2 at the cinema with The Generation Group”
- ❖ Hattie – “I liked putting the decorations and tinsel on our tree in nursery”
- ❖ Adriana – “I liked decorating the Christmas tree in nursery”.
- ❖ Isla – “I enjoyed making the snowflakes”.
- ❖ Nicole – “I liked putting the fairy on top of the Christmas tree”.
- ❖ Ally – “I liked attaching the nose on to Rudolph in the game ”
- ❖ Elsbeth – “I liked dressing up as Rudolph and playing in Santa's sleigh”
- ❖ Flora – “I enjoyed my Christmas lunch, it was yummy”.
- ❖ Evie – “I liked playing in the sleigh”.
- ❖ Hazel – “I liked making my Santa clock”.
- ❖ Sonja – Sonja enjoyed painting her Robin using paints and her hands.

Pre-5 Parent Contribution

The £10 fee for this term is now due. Could you please send it in as soon as possible. This money is used to provide a healthy snack for the children, to purchase presents/food for parties and to purchase any required materials.

Appointment of Miss Kirsty Corder

We would like to congratulate Kirsty and welcome her to the Pre-5 team. Kirsty will be working as an Additional Support Needs Assistant in the Pre-5 Unit.

Seesaw – Pre-5/Home Communication

Seesaw has been working well as another means of communicating with Parents. It is lovely sharing some of your child's photographs with you, via this secure app. If you have yet to join Seesaw please see a member of staff, who will give you the necessary information. Thanks to all the parents for the lovely feedback comments on the app.

Clothing

As part of our daily routine we will be playing and learning outdoors. Could you please ensure your child comes to nursery dressed accordingly for a typical wet/cold Scottish day.

Lunches

If you are providing a packed lunch for your child, could you please remember to include a cool pack with it, this will ensure their lunch is kept at an appropriate temperature. Please also cut grapes, tomatoes and other small fruits and vegetables into small bite size pieces for nursery aged children. If you could also remember not to send in any products containing nuts and kiwi fruits as we have pupils and staff in the school with severe allergies

P1 Transition Visits

The Pre-school children will be working with Mrs Hendry and P1/2 twice a week as part of our transition. The pupils will be working on Health and wellbeing activities and thinking strategies.

NHS Highland Guidelines

Please find below, advice from NHS Highland on some of the main common childhood illnesses and their associated exclusion periods from school:

Disease	Normal Incubation Period	Minimum Period of Exclusion
Diarrhoea and / or vomiting (unknown cause)		48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. Should be excluded from swimming pool for 2 weeks following last episode of diarrhoea.
Measles	8-13 days	5 days from onset of rash
Slapped Cheek	4-20 days	None, though consider if fever present
Ringworm	2-6 weeks	None once treatment has started but restrict activities involving physical contact
Chickenpox	11-21 days	5 days from onset of rash, or until spots have dried up
Impetigo		Until lesions are crusted or healed
Conjunctivitis	24-72 hours	Exclusion only considered in outbreaks. Contact school.
Glandular Fever	4-6 weeks	None

If your child contacts an illness not listed above, please contact the Health Protection Team on 01436 704886 for advice and information. Please do not send your child to school during the exclusion period for any of the above illnesses.

Dates for your Diary

Snappy Sounds

Susan Tighe from Snappy Sounds continues to visit on the first Monday of every month for a music workshop. She will visit on Monday 6th January and Monday 3rd February.

Soft Start

This terms soft start sessions will take place on Thursday 30th January, 27th February and 26th March, from 8.45am – 9.15am. Please join us if you can to share in your child's learning.

Registration week for starting school in August 2020

If your child is due to start Primary 1 in August 2020, please register your child during the week starting Monday 13th January. Please call in to the school office, any day, Monday – Friday from 9.15am – 12 noon and 1.15pm – 2.45pm.

Oral Health

The Oral Health team will visit the Pre-5 Unit on Tuesday 21st January to evaluate our toothbrushing program.

Scottish Celebration

The Pre-5 pupils will be involved in celebrating our Scottish day on Thursday 30th January. They will be involved in singing Scottish songs and learning some short poems alongside the school pupils and the Generation Group.

Dress Down Day

Our next dress down day will be based on our Scottish theme and will be on Thursday 30th January. Please send your child in dressed in something Scottish and with £1. All money raised will be spent by the school Pupil Council.

School Bus

The school bus is now no longer a service bus, this means that only school pupils can travel on it. Unfortunately this also means that parents/adults can now not travel across to the school on the bus. If you are finding it difficult to get your child across to nursery because of this change perhaps one of the other parents with transport could help out.

Playgroup

Playgroup continues to be held in the school every Friday from 11am – 12.15pm. If you know of any pre – pre-5 children, please encourage them to come along.

The Pre-5 Unit will close on Friday 7th February and will re-open on Monday 17th February at 8.50am.

Regards

Pre-5 Staff

Arrochar Primary Pre-5 Unit
Comments and Suggestions – January 2020

Please hand this in to a member of staff or e-mail your comments/ suggestions to the school:
enquiries-arrochar@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Name _____

Comments/ Suggestions