



**ARROCHAR PRE-5 UNIT
NEWSLETTER
August/September/October 2020**

Dear Parents

Welcome back to all the children. We hope that all our new children and their families enjoy being in the Pre-5 unit and that they settle quickly with the help of our older children and Pre-5 staff.

As you are all aware at the moment we are working under certain restrictions due to Covid-19. We have had to adapt the Pre-5 space and the resources we use, however we have worked hard and continue to make the space welcoming and a fun place for your child to attend. We hope that your child doesn't actually notice any difference, the staff are always here to support and help them. If your child is feeling unwell could you please keep them off Pre-5, until they are feeling better. This will hopefully stop colds and upset stomachs spreading. If your child is displaying a high temperature, has a new continuous cough or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste, please get your child tested for coronavirus as soon as possible. Stay at home, do not have any visitors, do not send your child back to Pre-5 unless the result is negative or after self-isolation has finished. Could we also ask if you go on holiday abroad that you follow the current government rules regarding quarantine on your return. The Pre-5 unit and school always love having parents involved in the life of the school. Be it at drop off/pick up, soft start, open days, parents meetings, parent council, PTA, sponsored walk etc. Sadly at present we are not allowed to have any parents on the school grounds which means we can't have many of the above activities. We will try and find some solutions to these instructions but at the present we have to abide by the rulings. Remember we can be contacted at any time by email or phone.

NHS Guidelines

As you have been aware, there has been a lot of viruses doing the rounds and many people have been affected by them. Please try to follow the NHS guidelines, below. We know that some things do not need periods of exclusion however we ask that if you believe your child is unwell that you keep them home until they are feeling better.

Please see below, guidance on exclusion periods from the NHS:

Disease	Normal Incubation Period	Minimum Period of Exclusion
Diarrhea and / or vomiting (unknown cause)		48 hours from last episode of diarrhea or vomiting. Should be excluded from swimming pool for 2 weeks following last episode of diarrhea.
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 nursery.
Glandular Fever	4-6 weeks	None

Our newsletter will contain lots of information to inform parents of what is happening in the Pre-5 unit. The newsletter will be emailed to every family. Remember you can also use the Pre-5 Handbook which you were given when you enrolled to find out lots of everyday information and procedures about our unit.

Over the next couple of months we will be talking and learning about ourselves and how to lead a healthy lifestyle. Our planning information will be sent out soon.

Pre-5 Unit opening and closing times and drop off/pick up arrangements. Please note the session times of Arrochar Pre-5 unit session times are:-

- Monday – Friday – drop off after 9am.
- Monday – Friday - pick up between 2.30 & 2.45pm.

Please discuss with nursery staff if you would like to alter your child's hours, as well as notifying staff if there is to be a change in the person collecting your child.

Please note at the moment there are no split placements between two indoor nurseries allowed. An indoor and outdoor and indoor and childminder are however currently allowed. Please speak to staff if you require more information.

Sun Protection/Midges

Please remember to apply sun cream to your child each day, before they come to nursery, even if it is cloudy in the morning. The weather changes quickly and we want to be safe when playing and learning outside. Some parents have placed a bottle of sun cream in their child's bag which we can help your child to apply if necessary, although we would still request that all children arrive with cream on daily. Thank you. It may also be beneficial to use insect repellent as well (if you use it), as no doubt you will be aware how bad the midges are at present, especially in the school grounds.

Pre-5 Fund

The £10 termly donation is now due. Please send this in with your child in an envelope with their name on the front. This is used to provide daily healthy snacks, materials to make play-doh etc.

Snack

The Pre-5 staff provide a healthy snack for all the children daily and offer milk and water to drink. Children don't need to bring in snacks or drinks unless for medical reasons. We always have a jug of water and cups readily available each day for any of the children who are thirsty during the day.

Footwear and Clothing

Please can we ask that appropriate footwear is worn by the children each day for indoor and outdoor play. We prefer shoes/trainers for playing in the nursery (preferably no laces, to help the children manage shoes on their own). Please can your child wear an appropriate jacket for our changeable weather and if possible could a pair of wellington boots be kept at nursery, as we intend to spend a large amount of time outside playing.

Childsmile Tooth Brushing

Tooth brushing will be postponed until further notice,

Attendance

The procedure regarding absence from nursery is as follows, you should telephone the school office on the first morning of absence to let us know the reason that your child is off, no later than 9.15am. Although attendance in nursery is not compulsory, we need to be aware of absence. If we do not hear from you by 9.15am, a text message will be sent or a phone call made to establish the reason for absence/ensure all is well.

Toys

Please can you refrain from letting your child bring their own toys to nursery. This is something that we normally ask at the beginning of each school year but particularly so during the current climate.

Seesaw

We will continue to communicate with you via the seesaw app. If you are still to register please download the app and use QR code given to you by the staff.

Dates For Your Diaries

Snappy Sounds

We will have a music session from Susan Tighe on Monday 7th September and Monday 19th October 2020.

Holiday Dates

Term Dates For This Session

Early Learning and Childcare Unit Holidays – 2020-21

<u>TERM 1</u>	
11 th August	In-service days
12 August 2020	Children return
2 October 2020	Pre-5 Unit closes
19 October 2020	Pre-5 Unit re-opens
26 November	School closes
27 & 30 November 2020	In-service days
1 December 2020	School re-opens
23 December 2020	Pre-5 Unit closes

<u>TERM 2</u>	
7 January 2021	Pre-5 Unit re-opens
5 February 2021	Pre-5 Unit closes
15 February 2021	In-service day
16 February 2021	Pre-5 Unit re-opens
1 April 2021	Pre-5 Unit closes

<u>TERM 3</u>	
19 April 2021	Pre-5 Unit re-opens
28 May 2021	Pre-5 In-service day
1 June 2021	Pre-5 Unit re-opens
30 June 2021	Pre-5 Unit closes

Regards
Pre-5 Staff

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

Please email your comments/ suggestions to the school: enquiries-arrochar@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Name_____

Comments/ Suggestions