



Customer Services

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Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to you, I hope this newsletter finds you all well.

Remote learning certainly isn't the ideal way to start a new year, but we are where we are, so let's do our best to get through this challenging time, by working together to make home learning as good as it can be. I appreciate it is incredibly hard when you are working from home to juggle your work and also to ensure your child/children are keeping up with the work the teacher is providing, but please do your best to keep up with as much of the work as you can, without it adding too much stress to family life.

The Scottish Government and local authority have now placed a responsibility on schools to ensure that pupils are engaged in learning at home. We have been asked to carefully monitor participation and engagement and to report back on this. Therefore, can I ask that your child is engaged daily in the work provided by the class teacher, can they also follow the instructions given when returning work for marking, assessing and comments. Please ensure they post this evidence on Seesaw or on Google Classroom, please don't just tick the handed in button as this will not count as evidence. If you are still unsure on how to do this please let us know and we will do our best to help you.

We have also been asked to monitor pupil attendance, if your child is unwell or absent from learning for any reason, you should report this by either emailing or phoning the school before 9.15am. You can also message your child's teacher via Seesaw or Google Classroom. Every morning we would like your child to join Seesaw or Google Classroom and say good morning to their teacher and friends, a bit like registration. If they do not do this, and you have not contacted the school, we will get in contact with you, to ensure all is well.

If you have any questions or if you are experiencing any difficulties with remote learning please get in contact and we will do what we can to help out. Although we are having to monitor and report to the authorities on attendance and engagement, we are also human and realise that this is not an easy time for families. If you log in each day, attend the Google Meets and do your best to complete as much of the work provided, that is all we can ask for.



The BBC have also provided some daytime lessons for children, we have some great websites and Home Learning information on our school website which you might also find useful. Ross Cadie and his colleagues at Blairvadach Outdoor Centre have also produced Blairvadach Bytes which give great ideas and videos for outdoor activities.

Before we went in to our latest Lockdown, we established the resources our families would need to allow them to get the most out of home learning, we issued 13 school iPads to families to ensure they had the appropriate technology to access their learning, if you require any additional items, please let us know. We also have two boxes in the village where the pupils can collect, if required, paper or jotters to complete their work. If supplies in either Karl's cosy cabin or the box outside the Three Villages Hall are running low, please let us know and we will address this.

The Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust have also been in contact to say they have some older computers in the 3VH which can also be borrowed, if they are needed. The hall is now closed, except for a few hours on a Monday for the post office, so if you would like to borrow one of their computers please get in touch and I'll arrange this. They have also offered the WIFI password which will enable you to connect to the hall internet, just outside the front door, if you would also like this, please get in touch.

During this lockdown, school meals will not be delivered to pupils entitled to free school meals. If your child is entitled to a free school meal, £15 per child per week will be deposited into your bank account to allow you to buy food to cover lunches. If you are struggling in any way to provide for your family, please let me know and I will help out or direct you to support, or you could phone 01700 502 784 and ask about the Argyll and Bute Flexible Food Fund.

Primary 1 registration takes place online week beginning 18th January 2021, please see the information at the end of this newsletter. If you are wishing to defer your child's entry to school please still complete this form as there is an option to defer.

Early Learning Centre registration takes place online week beginning 25th January 2021, please see the information at the end of this newsletter.

The school will be closed from Monday 8th of February for the February week holiday, the school will also be closed on Monday 15th of February for staff In-service training. The school will reopen on Tuesday 16th of February. Hopefully for face to face learning, but if not for more home learning.

The next Parent Council meeting will take place, probably online, on Thursday 25th of February at 6.30pm. Jean Mustarde will get the joining codes out nearer the time.

In the meantime, take care, stay safe and try your best to engage with home learning.

Alison

Alison Palmer
Head Teacher



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EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 1980

**CHOICE OF SCHOOL AND
REGISTRATION OF INFANT BEGINNERS IN
PRIMARY SCHOOLS
SESSION 2021/2022**

All children who reach the age of five years between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 should register for education during the week commencing 18 January 2021.

Usually children attend their local school however parents can make a request to place their child in any school under the management of the education authority. This is known as a placing request.

P1 registration, including placing requests for starting in August 2021, will take place online using the council's website. Details of the link will be published using social media and on the website. If you are unable to access the online registration form please call your local school week beginning 18 January 2021.

A list of all schools and documents relating to registration can be found on the council's website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/placing-your-child-school, this includes:-

- Gaelic Medium Education
- Denominational Schools
- Non-denominational Schools

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REGISTRATION FOR EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE (ELC)

SESSION 2021/2022

Children who reach the age of three years between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 should register for ELC during the week commencing 25 January 2021.

ELC registration, starting from August 2021, will take place online using the council's website. Details of the link will be published using social media and on the website. If you are unable to access the online registration form please call the Early Years Helpline on 01369 708503 week beginning 25 January 2021.

A list of all Early Learning and Childcare settings can be found on the council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/content/childcare-and-pre-school-education and documents relating to registration at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/registering-your-child-nursery

