



September 2018

Welcome back to another school year to all our families of Hillhead School. The children have now been back at school for just over 3 weeks and are setting into new classes well. Our new entrants, are settled and enjoying school life and are now in for full days.

School Staffing for this Year:

Jennifer Murray	Head Teacher
Sarah Muotune	Depute Head Teacher
Julie Mackie	Principal Teacher
Yvonne Creaney	P1
Emma Azzopardi	P2
Germaine McGuinness	P3
Kay Bell	P4
Julie Mackie/ Graham Bowman	P6/5A
Shona Storr/Jen Murray	P6/5B
Lisa Murray	P7

Catriona Henderson, Shona Storr, Lauren Mulherron and Tom Holmes will all provide Support for Learning across the school.

We have 7 classes this session with a total roll of 136.

Our school nurse is available for you to contact confidentially on any health issue. She can be contacted on 0141 355 2307.

All our Support for Learning Assistants and Classroom Assistants remain with us this session and they provide support to children in class and at playtime and lunchtime.

Louise Watt	Lesley Molseed
Jane Evans	Claire Blair
Christine Coghill	Sharon Rooney
Alison Hegarty	Claire Love

We are currently recruiting for a 0.5 additional Support for Learning Assistant.

All work of the school and the nursery is supported by the clerical team of **Laura Macfarlane, Helen Pryde, Katie Montgomery, Elizabeth Shaw** and our site co-ordinators are **Sandra Nicol** and **Alan Winchole**.



School Photographs

The school photographer will visit the school on 8th November 2019 to photograph P1 and P7.



Free School Meals

Can I remind all parents/carers of children in P1-P3, that free school meals for all children, regardless of income, remains in operation.

School Lunch

A school lunch costs £2.25 or £2.08. Children have the choice of a large variety of hot and cold options, daily fresh fruit and a drink. A new menu for school lunches will be issued in October by Connect Services and will be given to every child to allow you to help your child choose their daily lunch. Children order their lunch each morning and are given a band which indicates their lunch choice, so they always get their chosen lunch.

Breakfast Club



The breakfast club has started again this session. It operates from 8am - 9am in the Family Room and is staffed by 2 of our staff, Claire Blair and Jane Evans.

For £1 per day the children can choose from cereal, juice, yogurt and fruit. This service is for children whose parents are in education, work or training; if you are interested contact the school or more details

Whole School Assembly

The date of our first whole school assembly is **20 September 2018** at **10.00am** with **Bill Finnie** from **Hillhead Church** has yet to be confirmed.
All families welcome.

P.E. Kit

All children need to bring a change of clothes for P.E. P.E. kit is shorts/jogging trousers and a t-shirt as well as training shoes. I am sure you will agree that a change of clothes for P.E. lessons is more comfortable and hygienic for all children.

P.E. Days

The following will be the weekly gym days for each class

P1	Monday & Thursday
P2	Tuesday & Friday
P3	Tuesday & Wednesday
P4	Monday & Wednesday
P6/5A	Tuesday & Thursday
P6/5B	Tuesday & Wednesday
P7	Monday & Thursday
P7/6M	Tuesday & Wednesdays

Family Learning

We have a family learning assistant who works in the school 1 day per week and we are planning to have class family learning sessions for parents/carers to learn alongside their children. These sessions are to let parents/carers know how we teach and how children learn in school. Details for each class to follow.

Swag Cyclers - School Uniform Recycling

Well done to everyone in the Eco-committee who worked so hard to make the Swag Cyclers a success.

We have a school uniform stall outside the school office. All the clothes are nearly new, please help yourself.



Pupil Safety

Can I ask parents/carers to remind children to stay off the roof in the evening and at the weekend. Some of our children have been putting themselves at risk climbing onto the roof and playing tig. I am sure I don't need to remind you of the dangers to your child through playing on the roof.



Healthy Tuck

We are continuing to encourage the children to bring healthy tuck to school. This has been very successful with most children bringing a healthy snack to school every day. The school received the National Gold Award of Health Promoting Status several years ago and our latest HMLE Inspection commended our health practices. It would be appreciated if you could continue to encourage your child to choose a healthy snack, such as crisps or fruit contribute to our health promoting scheme.



Healthy School

Please ensure that your child's snack is only fruit or crisps and that snacks containing nuts, particularly cereal bars and peanut butter, are not brought into school. Thank you for supporting the health needs of all our children.



Security

All P1, P2 and P3 children require an adult to collect each child at 3.00 pm and no P1, P2 or P3 pupil will be allowed to leave the school premises without a known adult. If an adult unknown to the school staff is picking up your child, can you please phone the school office and let staff know, otherwise we will not allow your child out of school with an unknown family member until we contact you. If you want your P3 child to walk home themselves, can you please let the school know in writing.



Parents' Evenings

We have 2 dates arranged for parents/carers to meet their child's class teacher and discuss progress. We are including children at these meetings to involve class teacher, children and parents in a discussion about your child's learning. The dates are given below. In the next few weeks you should receive a note asking you to choose which date suits you best for the first parent / child / teacher meeting.

Thursday 4 October 2018	3.15 – 5.15 pm
Thursday 11 October 2018	6.00 – 8.00 pm
Wednesday 22 May 2019	6.00 – 8.00 pm
Thursday 30 May 2019	3.15 – 5.15 pm

PARENT/CARER EVENTS

Assembly Dates:

These are the dates for class assemblies where each class will be presenting their learning to parents. We have arranged the following Fridays at 11.15 am.



05.10.18	P7
26.10.18	P6/5B
02.11.18	P3
09.11.18	P4
16.11.18	P6/5A
23.11.18	P2
30.11.18	P1

To improve our service for parents, we will give parents at least **3 weeks** notice of events for parents to attend in order that parents have plenty of notice to arrange e.g. time off from work.

Halloween Party

This year's Halloween Party will be held on Friday 2nd November 2018 during the school day.



Dogs in Playground

Can I remind all family members that dogs **are not permitted on the school grounds**. This is the same situation in every East

Dunbartonshire school. There have been a few dogs tied up within the school grounds. As well as the obvious problems, there are a lot of children and other adults who are not happy around dogs so for this reason I would ask if you would leave your dog outside the school gates if you have to bring them down to school to collect children. Thanks.

Lost Property

Every week we gather an enormous amount of lost clothing in school belonging to the children. We always do our best to try and locate the owners of missing clothes but this can be difficult, particularly as many items of clothing are not named. If your child loses an item of clothing, please check at school immediately. The sooner we can begin to search for clothing, the better chance we have of locating it. Could all parents/carers please ensure all items of clothing are marked with their child's name, particularly sweatshirts, jumpers and cardigans. If your child returns home without a piece of clothing, could you also notify the office who will endeavour to search for missing clothes

Flu Immunisation

NHS staff will visit the school on Friday 9th November 2018 to carry out the annual flu immunisation.



Ardmay November 2018 - Parents Meeting

A meeting for P7 parents regarding the P7 Ardmay trip is currently being planned.

Ardmay staff will be in attendance to answer any questions—details to follow.





Improving Hillhead School & Nursery



- **We will improve children's numeracy skills working with our cluster schools**
- **We will improve children's reading skills and our reading assessment**
- **We will improve the health and wellbeing of our children through a range of activities, including family learning.**

Earrings

Can you please plan for your child to have their ear pierced during the summer holidays. The children are not allowed to wear jewellery during P.E. and a new earring means no P.E. for 6 weeks. Children themselves, or a family member, can cover earrings with a plaster but, school staff are not allowed to cover earrings for children. If your child is not able to remove earrings themselves, can you please remember to take earrings out on P.E. days.

Head Lice

Although as a school we do not have a lot of outbreaks of head lice it does appear sometimes in school. Despite washing hair regularly children can still pick up this very contagious infection. It is important that you check your child's hair regularly – once a week is recommended by the health professionals using a special comb readily available to buy. It is also important that you report in confidence to the school office if your child has picked up head lice. For any further advice the school nurse is always available – contact number available from school.

Absences

Thanks to all families for ensuring children attend school regularly; our attendance is around the national average, last session our attendance overall was **93.93%**. Could I ask that if your child is absent from school you phone in to the school office with a reason for their absence. I am sure you are all aware of the authority policy we operate relating to children absent from school. If you do not phone the school to notify us that your child is absent, we will contact you, your emergency contact and/or the attendance officer to ensure your child is safe. If we cannot locate your child, we then involve the social work department and the police to ensure your child is safe. Thanks to all the families who phone regularly when their child is absent. Children who attend regularly at school achieve better results. We have the support of Attendance Officers who will visit families of children who are regularly absent from school without a justifiable reason.

Jennifer Murray - Head Teacher
September 2018

