



JAMES AITON PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.jamesaiton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk



Twitter@JPrimary



Primary School App

August 2019

Welcome back!

I am delighted to see all of the children back at school safe and well. I would also like to welcome all of our new pupils and their families to James Aiton Primary School. The children have been settling in well during the first week back and have been getting to know their new teacher(s) and classroom routines.

Classes

This year our school roll has increased, enabling us to form seven classes.

- Primary 1 - Miss Finnie
- Primary 2 - Miss MacPherson
- Primary 3 - Miss Huskie
- Primary 4 - Mrs Saunders
- Primary 5 - Miss Hood
- Primary 6 - Mrs Brownlee
- Primary 7 - Miss Wells

Using Equity Funding, we also have additionality in staffing once again this year:

- Mrs Caldwell - Nurturing Interventions (Mon-Fri)
- Mrs Gordon - Early Intervention & NCCT (Mon-Wed)
- Mrs Buchanan - Pupil Equity, Numeracy Intervention & NCCT (Mon/Tues—alternate Wed)

Please come to our **Come Learn with Me** session at **9:15pm on 4th September** to hear an overview of the year ahead and have the opportunity to visit your child's class.

BEAT THE BELL BREAKFAST CLUB

We wish to remind parents/carers that our Breakfast Club has been reintroduced for free this term. It opens from 8:15am-8:40am.

To enable us to operate this service, we rely on parent/carer volunteers. If you can offer any time, please call the office or comment on the Parent Council Facebook page.

Important Dates

- 3.9.18 Parent Council 6.30pm (All welcome)
- 4.9.18 Come Learn with Me
- 9.9.18 P1-4 Fluoride Varnishing
- 11.9.18 P1 Photographs
- 17.9.18 P7 STEM Launch
- 27.9.18 /30.9.18 September Weekend

Be Ready! Be Respectful! Be Safe!



Parent Council Meeting

Our first Parent Council meeting of the session will take place at **6:30pm on Tuesday 3rd September 2019**. The Parent Council is a fabulous opportunity for parents/carers to become more involved in the life of the school. The Parent Council meet on the first Tuesday of every month. We would welcome new members to support us develop a new Parent Council Group for the new session. Please come along and support us make a difference for your children.

A huge thank you to our existing Parent Council members for co-ordinating an outstanding Back to School Barbeque for all of our families. I am sure you will all agree that it was a tremendous success and enjoyed by all of the families who managed to come along. This is just one example of how parents/carers can contribute to supporting our school.

Diaries

Following feedback from parents, our home/school diaries will be reintroduced as a method for helping us improve communication between home and school. All children will be issued a diary after the September weekend. The diaries will be used to record homework, behaviour and for the children to set targets and reflect on their learning throughout the week. The diaries will also include an overview of what the children will be learning on a termly basis. We would encourage that parents/carers look at their children's diaries each day and use the space provided to communicate with your child's class teacher. Please encourage your child to take care of their diary and bring it to school daily. Replacement diaries will incur a cost of £2.

Homework

Homework will be issued from Monday 26th August 2019 in all classes. Homework will be recorded in our new homework diaries. Please support your child by checking and signing their homework. Homework should be returned to school every week for teachers to correct and monitor.

Communication

In addition to our diaries and via telephone, we have established many methods for getting in touch with us. Please follow us on **Twitter @JPrimary** to view regular photographs and updates of teaching and learning. Our Parent Council have their own **Facebook** page which is managed by a group of supportive parents, who can advise parents on matters relating to school life. Our **school website (www.jamesaiton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)** is regularly updated by Miss Imrie and includes details of events and class information. Our website also contains many links to relevant documents, such as newsletters and to our School Improvement Plan. You also have the opportunity to download our **Parent App (Primary App for Parents)**. You can also call our school office on **0141 641 2472** or email **office@jamesaiton-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk** and our staff will direct you to the most appropriate person.

Attendance

If your child is unable to attend school, please call the school before 9:30am and leave a message. If you do not make contact, the office will call you to enquire why your child is not at school. In line with council policy, please inform us in writing if your child has an appointment or will be absent for a particular reason. We monitor attendance on a monthly basis and refer families to Social Services when there are significant concerns about attendance/punctuality.

Please make sure your child arrives to school on time. If your child arrives late, they must enter via the front entrance and this is recorded on your child's file.

Uniform

I am delighted to see our children wearing their new school uniforms. They are looking incredibly smart. Could I remind you that the school uniform consists of navy trousers/skirts, white shirt and tie and navy sweatshirt/cardigan or jumper. Yellow polo shirts and shorts should be brought to school on gym days (P1 pupils can wear this on their gym day). Appropriate indoor shoes should also be brought into school to change into.

Please label all personal belongings to prevent the children losing/mixing up items of clothing.



After-school clubs

A range of after school clubs will be offered throughout the session. I will inform you of what we have available throughout the term. We also welcome parents to become involved in the life of our school. If you wish to get involved/deliver a club, please call the school office or indicate on the return slip.

Promoting Positive Behaviour and Relationships

This year, we have reconsidered our policy for Promoting Positive Behaviour. Our new card system was piloted in Term 4 of last session and will continue this year. Our new approach is built around a Restorative Approach, which encourages the children to reflect on their actions and receive appropriate consequences for not following the school rules—Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe. We would ask that parents/carers support us in the implementation of this new approach to ensure all children are safe and happy at school.

Lunches

We would like to remind parents/carers that every Primary 1-3 child is entitled to a free school meal. Water is provided with every meal. Milk can be purchased for 20p. Primary 4-7 children can purchase a school meal for £1.70. Parents/carers of those children eligible for free school meals must reapply each year. If you have not already done so, please visit www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/159/school_clothing_grants_and_free_school_meals

Snacks/Water

As a health promoting school, we would ask that you support us by providing your child with one healthy snack for play-time. We would also like to remind parents/carers that James Aiton Primary is a 'fizz-free zone'. No fizzy juice or energy drinks are permitted at school. Children may bring flavoured water or diluting juice for lunch. We also have children with nut allergies in school, and therefore would ask that children do not bring any nut products into school.

The children are encouraged to bring a bottle of **plain water** to school to hydrate them in class throughout the day.

Improvement Priorities

Following feedback from staff, pupils and parents, we have identified 4 key areas for improvement this year—**Improving Literacy, Improving Numeracy, Assessment and Health & Wellbeing**. The staff will be working hard to implement new approaches to ensure we raise attainment and achievement across the school.

Staff will be developing and delivering a range of programmes across the session to ensure we improve outcomes for all learners and attempt to close the poverty-related attainment gap. We value our parents and see them as partners in their child's learning. Parental engagement is fundamental in your child's success at school. Please support us by working with your child at home and through taking an interest in your child's learning. As in previous years, we will continue to offer our parents/carers a range of opportunities to come into school to receive more information on how we deliver our curriculum and to observe your child in their learning environment. We have considered that many of our working parents are unable to manage along to every event, so we intend to add information/links to Apps and websites/leaflets/helpsheets onto our website for you to access when you have time.

PE

Children should come fully equipped to participate in gym—T-shirt, shorts, indoor shoes. All items of jewellery must be removed before participating. Football strips are not permitted. The children will continue with 'The Daily Mile'.

Gym Days

P1 — Tuesday	P2 - Wednesday	P3 - Wednesday	P4—Monday
P5—Thursday	P6—Thursday	P7—Monday	



We strive to provide parents/carers with as much notice as we possibly can in advance. However, please note that some events may be scheduled at a later date but we will update parents/carers as soon as we have the relevant information.

Please note that these dates may be subject to change.

PARENTS' EVENING

Thursday 10th October 20189 (Individual appointments will be issued)

Thursday 26th March 2019 (Individual appointments will be issued)

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Primary 1 — Friday 29th May 2020 (9.30am)

Primary 2 — Friday 27th March 2020 (9.30am)

Primary 3 — Friday 24th April 2020 (9.30am)

Primary 4 — Friday 29th November 2019 (9.30am)

Primary 5 — Friday 25th October 2019 (9.30am)

Primary 6 — Friday 24th January 2020 (9.30am)

Primary 7 Leavers' Assembly—Thursday 19th June 2020

NATIVITY/CAROL SERVICE

Thursday 12th December 2019 am

FAYRES

Christmas Fayre—Friday 6th December 2019 am

Easter Fayre—date to be confirmed

DRESS DOWN DAYS

First Friday of every month. Every child makes a donation of £1 towards school funds.

OPEN DOOR EVENTS

We will advise you of other events/dates throughout the term.



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Term 1—August 2019—October 2019

Monday 26th August 2019	Class Observations/Baselines/Assessments
Friday 30th August 2019	P1 Primary Packs (2.45pm—Parents/carers invited to attend)
Tuesday 3rd September 2019	Parent Council 6.30pm (New members welcome)
Wednesday 4th September 2019	Come Learn with Me! 9.15am (All parents/carers welcome)
Friday 6th October 2019	Dress Down Day! Pay £1
Monday 9th September 2019	P1-4 Fluoride Varnishing
Wednesday 11th September 2019	P1 Photographs (Evening Times) - SHIRTS AND TIES PLEASE*
Friday 13th September 2019	SPCA Visit
Monday 16th September 2019	P1 Active Literacy Showcase (All P1 parents/carers invited to attend at 2pm)
Tuesday 17th September 2019	P7 STEM Launch @ Stonelaw High
Friday 27th September 2019	September Weekend HOLIDAY
Monday 30th September 2019	September Weekend HOLIDAY
Tuesday 1st October 2019	Parent Council 6.30pm (New members welcome)
	Snapshot Jotter Week
Thursday 3rd October 2019	P7 to New Lanark—Powering Up Workshop
Friday 4th October 2019	Dress Down Day! Pay £1
	Athletics Festival pm
Tuesday 8th October 2019	Netball Festival pm
Thursday 10th October 2019	Parents' Evening 1 (Appointments will be issued)
Monday 14th—Friday 18th October 2019	OCTOBER HOLIDAY (School Closed)
Thursday 11th October 2018	Parents' Evening—appointments will be issued
Monday 15th October 2018 - Friday 19th October 2018	OCTOBER WEEK HOLIDAY