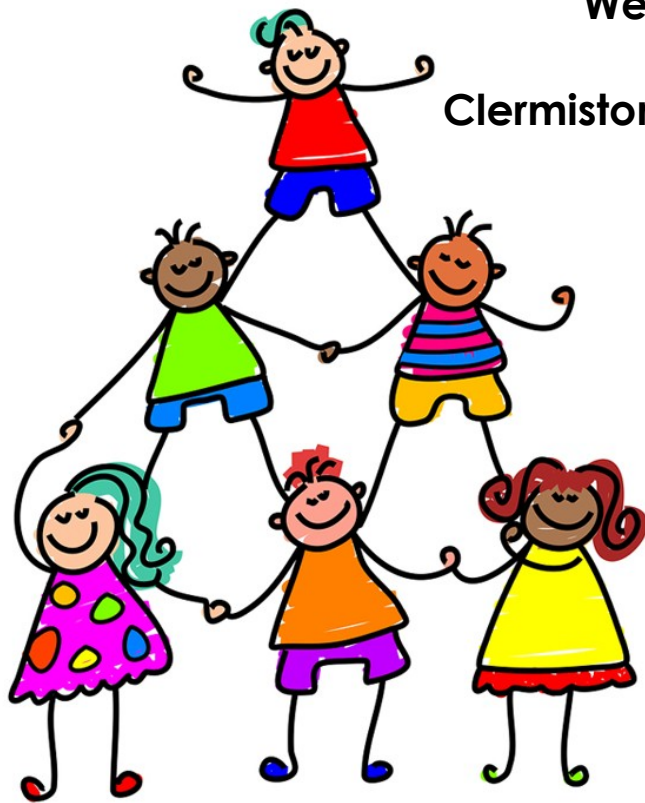


CLERMISTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome
To
Clermiston Primary School



Starting Primary One
August 2020



STARTING SCHOOL
BOOKLET

AUGUST 2020

Welcome to Clermiston Primary

We are delighted to be welcoming you and your child into our school. We recognise that this is a very exciting time (although with some added nerves sometimes) for you and your child. Our school vision at Clermiston is that everyone should be supported and challenged to be the best that they can be. This means you and your child and we are committed to providing the best care and education possible. The first steps into school can be a little daunting, but our staff team are looking forward to nurturing and developing your children to help them to be confident in school and successful in their learning. We hope that you find the information in this booklet useful and that you will find ways to get involved and support the school. I look forward to working with you all over the coming years.

Gordon McIntyre
Head Teacher



Each year many parents have questions to ask about their child starting school. We have tried to list some of the most common questions and hope the answers will help you with this important step in your child's schooling. We also have a vibrant website, which provides school information throughout the year: www.clermiston.edin.sch.uk you can also follow us on: [twitter@clermistonps](https://twitter.com/clermistonps)

What skills can I try and ensure that my child develops so that he/she is able to operate as independently as possible in Primary 1?



- 1.The ability to recognise his/her name and coat and to put it on without assistance.
- 2.The ability to fasten zips, buttons and laces.
- 3.The ability to go to the toilet on their own, wash their hands properly and deal with their clothing as necessary.

If I have a worry or query about my child and the school, what should I do?

Please do not hesitate to contact the school and an appointment will be made to speak to either the teacher or the headteacher. We also hold two parents' evenings per school session when you will be able to discuss your child's progress with the class teacher. In addition to this we have open days and a variety of other school events each year for you to join in with the life of the school.

What should my child bring in his/her school bag?



- 1 .An overall for painting. (This can be an old shirt or an adult tee shirt.)
- 2.A gym bag containing black gym shoes, shorts and a tee shirt.



Who looks after my child in the playground?

Adult supervision is provided in the playground during breaktime and lunchtime by Pupil Support Assistants. P1 and P2 classes play in the infant playground. Some P7 pupils are also given the responsibility of buddying to support the children with their play.

What should I do if my child is ill or unable to come to school?



Please phone the school as soon as possible on **336 3361** and inform us on the first day of absence. When your child can return to school please also send a short note with them explaining their absence. The school office will phone you if a reason for absence has not been given.

What and how will my child be taught?



Very early in the term you will be invited to attend a meeting at school. The teachers will talk to you about language, literacy and the maths programmes that are used in school. The homework system will also be explained and you will be shown books and various activities which your child might participate in. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions related to the curriculum. Information will also be sent home at the beginning of each term to inform you about current topics and areas of learning for your child's class.



What about school uniform?

We strongly promote the wearing of school uniform at Clermiston Primary. For everyday wear most pupils wear a purple sweatshirt with a polo shirt underneath and grey or black trousers, shorts, or skirts. For more formal occasions or by choice parents and pupils may opt for a white shirt with a purple and white school tie. In warmer weather pupils may choose to wear a purple and white summer dress. Ordering of school uniform is done mostly on line, instructions on how to do that together with a full order form are available in the pack. If you do not have access to a computer you can still order through the school by completing the order form and handing it to the office or in the Parent Council silver box.



Should children bring a playtime snack?

We are a health promoting school and ask that all children bring a healthy snack to school. The snack can be brought in your child's school bag or in his/her lunch box. We ask that new P1 pupils only bring one item to eat eg. a piece of fruit, a biscuit or a packet of crisps. We have many children with nut allergies and ask for parents' cooperation in ensuring that no snacks containing nuts are brought to school.



What should I do if my child wants milk?

School milk is available and milk money is collected at stated times throughout the year. Please note no refunds are given in the event of absence from school. Money should be put into an envelope, clearly marked with pupils' name and class and handed to the office **as soon as possible**. Pupils in receipt of free school meals are entitled to free milk. For session 2020/2021 the payment dates are shown below:



Payment due

Period covered

Amount

As soon as possible	12.08.20 – 25.06.21	£32.30
Alternatively, parents may if they wish pay in 2 instalments as follows:		
As soon as possible	12.08.20 – 22.12.20	£13.95
Wednesday 2 December	06.01.21 – 25.06.21	£18.60

There is water available from fountains throughout the day. If your child wishes to bring in



an alternative to milk then we recommend water in a named water bottle. We do not allow fizzy or high sugar drinks within our school.

What should I do if my child wants school meals?

Pupils may bring a packed lunch to school or they may have a school meal. There is no charge for P1 – P3 school lunches, however you will need to register with ParentPay to record lunches. Lunches need to be recorded by midnight on the Wednesday for the following weeks' lunches. If you do not record the lunches on ParentPay then a packed lunch should be supplied by yourselves.



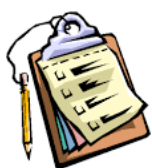
What if my child needs any medication?

Pupils sometimes need medication to be administered at school. Please fill in a form at the office for your child's requirements. We are not able to administer medication if we do not have signed permission or if it does not come in regulation packaging.



What if there is any change in my family circumstances?

Any change in family circumstances may sometimes result in a change in your child's behaviour at school or indeed in a change in the standard of work being produced. It is therefore important that we are made aware of any change in circumstances in order that the teacher can deal with it appropriately. **It is vitally important that the school be notified of any change in address/telephone number in the event we need to contact parents.**



Where can I drop my child off for school?

If dropping off or picking up your children by car please be aware of the restrictions on the roads surrounding the school.



Please note that there is no access to Parkgrove Place and Parkgrove Terrace between

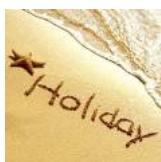
8:20am to 9:00am and 2:50pm to 3:30pm Mon to Thurs

8:20am to 9:00am and 12:10pm to 12:40pm Fri

It is essential that you **do not park on the double yellow lines or zig zag lines.** Please also take care not to block any resident's driveway. We are very keen to promote the school's reputation for consideration and safety and ask parents who need to drive to park one or two streets away and take a short walk at drop off and collection times.

Can I also remind all parents and carers that the school car park is for school staff only and is not to be used for picking up or dropping off pupils. Unauthorised use of the car park presents a real danger to our pupils and we hope that all drivers will help keep our pupils safe by staying clear of the car park and the entrance to the car park.

What about taking my child off on holiday during the school term?



Permission is needed for holidays in term time and a letter requesting this must be sent to the Head Teacher. The school does not authorise absence without a valid reason and does not provide work for pupils whose parents choose to holiday during term time. We would ask you, as far as possible, to take holidays during the school holiday period.

Are there any other ways I can be involved in my child's schooling?

Yes! We are very lucky at Clermiston to have a Parent Council which is very active and gives the school huge support in many ways. Look out for regular letters from the Parent Council. They also have access to the school website which they update on a regular basis. They inform the life and work of the school and have a highly active and successful fund-raising function. ■



How am I kept informed of any meetings and events in school?

Through regular newsletters and letters from school. These are sent via your child (pupil post) so please check your child's schoolbag daily for any information. We have also subscribed to Parent Mail; this system simply allows the school to send any information to your home computer via your email address, thus limiting the amount of paper copies being sent out. **We strongly encourage all parents to sign up for our Parent Mail system.** There is also a school website for information.



At Clermiston Primary we are fortunate to have many after school clubs and a Breakfast Club which operate five days a week during term time, details are as follows:



- After School Club - Gillian Dick, Telephone No. 336 1855 or 07541 268630
- Oscars after school club – Samantha Graham - 07786 977586
- Leaps and Bounds after school club – 339 1490

- Breakfast Club – Gillian Martin, Tel No. 07796 341889 or Jude Walsh, jude.in.edinburgh@gmail.com



When does my child start school?

When does my child start school? Your child will attend school on the following dates and times for the first week:
Wednesday 12 August – Thursday 13 August 2020 GROUP 1 pupils should attend 9 – 10.30 GROUP 2 pupils should attend 11 – 12.30
Friday 14 August 2020 All pupils should attend 9 – 12
Thereafter from Monday 17 August 2020 the pupils will be in P1 for the full day as follows: Monday – Thursday 8.50am until 3pm Friday – 8.50am until 12.20pm

On the first morning you should line up with your child at the P1 gate beside the nursery building. Class teachers will collect pupils in lines and take them into their new classroom to start their school journey! Please do not worry if your child is a little upset on their first day. This is perfectly natural and our staff are highly experienced and skilled at settling pupils. Similarly, please don't be upset if your child marches in without so much as a backward look or wave – this too is perfectly natural! After school, parents should gather in the same place, taking care to leave space for classes to come out. Our teachers only release pupils from the line when they have established contact with the parent or carer collecting them that day.

We do expect all pupils in P1 to be brought to school and collected from school by an adult. Please let the teacher know if another adult is to collect your child.

Please name all clothing articles and everything else your child brings to school. This saves untold amounts of time trying to establish the true ownership of lost property.

