Argyll and Bute Council Comhairle Earra Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

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21.06.21

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we get near to the end of the school session, I would like to say a big thank you to all parents and carers for your support for the school during this session and session 19/20 when we have all had to manage a very different challenge both in and beyond school.

I would also like to thank, very much, all of the staff for their commitment, hard work, flexibility and creativity in providing teaching and learning this year, while also supporting the children's health and wellbeing and maintaining the procedures we set up to help keep us all safe.

Of course, another big thank you must go to the children who have shown amazing spirit and resilience throughout the year.

We will wait to see if the Scottish Government provides further guidance over the Summer Holiday period about procedures in school, and we will hope, providing it is safe to do so, that we can return to school, able to relax some, many or all of the measures we have had in place this year. I will update you before the return to school.

Staffing

We will be saying thank you and good luck to Mrs McShannon at the end of the term. She has made a very valuable contribution to the school during her Probationer Teacher year, in particular to the learning and development of the children in her P1-3 class, and I am sure she will be missed by all pupils and staff as she moves on to the next stage of her career.

We will also be saying good luck to Mrs Bannatyne who will be moving to a new post from August. I am very grateful for the very valuable support Mrs Bannatyne has provided across the three schools during the term.

As you will know for the session 21/22 all pupils will be in our P1-7 class. We are arranging our teaching so that Mr MacLeod will be teaching every morning, with Mrs Bell also teaching three mornings a week. Mr MacLeod will teach the class three afternoons each week and Mrs Bell will teach on the other two afternoons.

In addition, the school will continue to have Classroom Assistant and Additional Support Needs Assistant support, and Mrs Bell will be working as a Pupil Support Teacher one day a week.

ELC and P7

We look forward to welcoming new pupils to our ELC next term. At the same time we wish our P7 pupils the very best of luck as they move on to the secondary school next year. They have

not experienced a full transition process but there has been a virtual programme provided by CGS. I hope they enjoy their trip this week and their last few days at Carradale.

End of Year Events

As you will understand, we have not been able to provide some of the end of year events in the way that we usually do. However, Mr MacLeod and the staff are providing adapted end of year events, as set out in his recent letter to you. The school's own Sports Day this year was very successful, and still to come are the following:

- Tuesday 22nd June P7 School Trip
- Friday 25th June Beach Day (ELC P7) All children will be required to bring a packed lunch.
- Monday 28th June Virtual Prize Giving/P7 Leavers ceremony (to be uploaded on Seesaw)

Pupils' Work

Please note that we will not be sending children's work home this year, as we would like to take the opportunity to review it as part of our school improvement work.

School Meals for 2021/22 and 2022/23

I would like to remind you of the information provided recently about the phased increase in Free School Meal provision which will be as follows:

- From August 2021 all children in P1 P4 will be entitled to a free school meal
- From January 2022 all children in P5 will also be entitled to a free school meal
- From August 2022 all Primary aged pupils will be entitled to a free school meal.

I will keep you up to date regarding the school meals provision. The Parent Council agreed at the meeting last week to collate parent views to feed back to the Catering Department on this term's dining centre provision.

Last day of term

A reminder that school will close at 12.00 noon on the last day of term, 30th June.

2021/22 Session

School opens for pupils on Monday 16th August. Prior to that there will be two staff In-service Days on Thursday 12th and Friday 13th August.

On behalf of all of the staff, I hope that, when the start of the holiday arrives, you and your family have a very enjoyable and safe summer. We will all look forward to seeing you again for the start of the 2021/22.

I will update you on any information relating to school procedures and routines for the start of new school year, once clear guidance has been provided by the Scottish Government and Argyll and Bute's Education Service. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need any further information on any school matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

Richard Long Head Teacher