

**GATESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: Mrs M. Andrews

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20<sup>th</sup> August 2010

Dear Parents and Carers

**News Update 1**

**Welcome Back**

Once again the term started well and here we are at the end of the first week already. If you think the summer holidays flew in just wait for this term to pass in a flash!

I hope everyone had a good holiday and managed to find lots to do together.

I am so pleased with the manner in which the children have returned to school and delighted with all the P1s who have joined the school family.

The school roll is 36. All new children and families are warmly welcomed to our school.

The classes are split as follows, P1-2, 16 pupils and P3-7, 20 pupils. On Monday we re-arranged the classrooms to accommodate the numbers. The P1-2s are now in the back classroom and the P3-7s in the front room.

**Curricular News**

PE is timetabled for Friday mornings in the Memorial Hall. The P3-7s slot is from 9.00am- 10.30 and the P1-2s from 11.00am -12.00pm.

Mrs Mclean takes the children for these lessons and walks them to the Hall. The children wear high visibility jackets and are taught to walk carefully on the pavement. Mrs Petrie, Classroom Assistant, is trained as a Crossing Patrol Officer (Lollypop Lady!) and crosses them safely over the road.

Please make sure your child has their PE kit every Friday. The PE kit can be left in school or taken home each week to be washed but should be returned for each lesson. Also, please make sure your child wears a coat in case the weather is inclement. If there is a risk of very bad weather the sessions in the hall will be cancelled. We have been asked to increase PE sessions up to two hours per week so I am looking at the timetable to see how we can arrange this.

Music is timetabled for Thursday afternoons with Mrs Linda Harper. Mrs Harper is new to Gateside and we hope she enjoys coming to teach our children.

Instrumental tuition is under going many changes. Sadly, Mrs Houston, who has been coming here for nine years, is moving from Bell Baxter to Lochgelly High School. Her last visit is on Monday morning. We will all miss her and I am sure everyone would like to say thank you to her for giving the pupils of Gateside such a fantastic experience.

Thankfully, the P7 pupils will continue with another Instrumental Teacher, Mrs Ruth Craib, who will take Evelyn and Matthew on Wednesday mornings at 9.00am sharp. She came to school yesterday to meet the children and is looking forward to working with them.

Samba Drumming is also going to be taught on Monday afternoon to the P3-4s and P5-7s. Mrs Rebecca Matheson is coming to teach this exciting percussion. This is funded by The Music Youth Initiative.

The topics this term are Fairyland, P1-2 and The Magic Castle, P3-7. These are cross curricular topics and will include aspects of language, art, drama, and design.

The Religious and Moral Education topic for the term is Light and Dark/Right and Wrong.

**TOFF (Taste of fresh food)**

It has been necessary to increase TOFF to £1.50 per child per week. This works out at 30p a day for a quality snack of fruit and vegetables. The children are allowed to choose from a varied selection of up to five pieces. It means parents and carers don't have to worry about providing a morning snack because every thing is done in school. Luckily we have staff to help prepare the fruit and vegetables and the children seem to really enjoy what's on offer.

This can be paid at the beginning of each term, that's £12.90 for the first term or £1.50 every Monday morning. Please make cheques payable to Gateside Primary School.

**School Lunches/Milk**

School Lunches remain at the same price of £1.65 per day with menus sent home on Fridays in the poly wallets. Milk this term is 16p per day payable for the week on a Monday or for those who prefer to pay termly the cost is £6.88. Please make cheques for lunches and milk made payable to Fife Council.

**Water Bottles**

Please find below an extra order form for water bottles if required.

Yours sincerely  
Maureen Andrews  
Headteacher

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**WATER BOTTLES**

I would like to order .....water bottle(s) and enclose the sum of £1.65 per bottle.

Child's name.....

Signature.....

Date.....