

Halyrude RC Primary School

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Our values:
Achieving, Included, Respectful

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Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school at the start of the new term. Please see below for our latest news.

P7 Virtual Parents Evening – Thursday 3rd February

A virtual parents evening will take place on Thursday 3rd February for P7 children moving on to Peebles High School. This will be an opportunity to hear from Mr Wilson, the head teacher about life at Peebles High School. We will send the invitation via Groupcall when we receive it.

Showbie

We have now started to use the Showbie app in school. The older children have been learning about some of the features available in Showbie and when restrictions are lifted will share their knowledge with younger children. We have had some very positive feedback from the older children including the following:

- It is really easy to use.
- I like that I can share my work with my teacher and only she can see it.
- I like to send a message to my teacher using a voice note, e.g. I found number 6 difficult.
- I like seeing my work on my iPad, I can share it with my family at home because they can't come into school to see it just now.

Further information on how Showbie works will be sent to parents along with a code which will allow you to access only your child's work.

Charging iPads

We have noticed that a number of children are not coming to school with their iPad charged. iPads are used frequently throughout the day and if they are not charged then children cannot fully participate in the lesson. Please ensure that iPads are fully charged ready for school on a Monday and that the battery is checked during the week to check it is at a suitable level. There will be no opportunity to charge iPads in school.

Care of iPads

We have discussed with children at assembly today the importance of looking after iPads. They have been reminded to keep their iPad in their school bag when travelling to school and to ensure the case is fully closed over the screen. Accidents do happen but we have had a number of broken iPads recently and we are charged for their repair. A screen costs £70 to repair and this money is taken from the budget we have

to buy other materials for our school. Please remind your children about storing their iPads safely at home, in school and when travelling to school to minimise the risk of them being damaged. Thank you.

School lunches

A further reminder that if you ordered a school lunch and then it is not required due to absence please go back into ParentPay and cancel the order by clicking on the choices to uncheck it and then press save, thank you.

P5 are now entitled to a free school meal and should be ordered in the usual way.

Playground Supervision

A reminder that playground supervision does not start until 8.30. We continue to have children arriving at school before then on dark cold mornings and there is nobody there to supervise them. Your support with this is much appreciated.

Uniform

Please could we remind you all of our school uniform policy?

- A green jumper or cardigan
- A white or yellow polo shirt
- Grey trousers, skirts or shorts
- Black school shoes and white, grey or black socks
- PE: Black shorts and a white t-shirt

In order to meet Covid regulations our windows are open all day. This is a warm school and children do not complain of being cold however if your child is cold, they may bring an additional jumper or fleece to wear.

Please do not send your child in trainers or football related clothing. This leads to competition to buy expensive items of clothing and we have had a long-standing policy of expecting everyone to wear the uniform. This is also preparation for high school where there is also an expectation around uniform.

Please name all items of clothing so that they can be returned to your child if they are lost. Thank you.

Covid Regulations

The current Covid regulations require us to work in class bubbles indoors but not outside. If someone in your family tests positive there is no need for your child to isolate but they should take a lateral flow test every morning for seven days before they come to school. In the playground, we are still asking only P1/2 parents (one parent per family) to enter the playground unless by arrangement. Please remain socially distanced when in the playground or standing on the pavement and wear a mask unless you are exempt.

We will update you with any changes to the regulations after the briefing yesterday.

Exciting News!

We are delighted to share the exciting news that we have booked tickets for the Lion King musical in Edinburgh. The production is due to take place in June and we are keeping our fingers very firmly crossed that we are able to go as planned after Covid restrictions cancelled the show we were booked for in 2020. The Parent Council have very kindly agreed to fund the majority of the outing however we would like to ask all families to contribute £10 per child if they are able to do so. We will add this to Parent Pay accounts between February and April 2022 and remind everyone nearer the time.

A huge thank you to our Parent Council for supporting us with this, it really is something to look forward to.

Yours sincerely

Leigh Brunton

Head Teacher