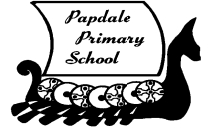


# Papdale Bulletin #001



Welcome back, and welcome also to the first issue of the Papdale Bulletin, a semi-regular update for parents and carers on all things coming up at Papdale Primary. You can always find the latest issue of the Bulletin, and any back issues, [here](#) on our refreshed school website.

## Office Hours/Reporting Absences

It's all change in the school office as Mrs Mackay steps in to fill the shoes of the amazing Mrs Tait who will be away on maternity leave from 19<sup>th</sup> August. We have also tweaked our office opening times as follows:

Mondays & Tuesdays: 8.30am – 4pm  
Wednesdays: 8.30am – 3.30pm  
Thursdays & Fridays: 8.30am – 3.45pm

We are also introducing a new answering system in the school office. For reporting pupil absences, you can now call the school at any time (even the night before, middle of the night, whenever you fancy!). Just select Option 1 and leave a message with your child's name, class, the day and the reason they are absent. We will then check these messages at 9.30am the next day before doing our registers. If you are phoning after 9.30am with an absence you would need to select Option 2 to be put through to the office staff to ensure we receive the message re your child's absence.

We hope you'll be patient with us as we manage our way through these changes.

## Lunch Menu / Transition Booklets / What to bring to school

Along with this bulletin, you should have received a copy of our lunch menu for the year, a transition booklet for your child's new class and a reminder of the [guidance](#) on "what to bring to school".

## P6 Outdoor Education

We barely have time to reopen the school for a new year before our P6 pupils begin their Outdoor Education activities. Each participating child has been allocated to one of nine groups and families should have received this information by letter. If you've not received your information, then please let us know as soon as you can, as the first three groups begin their activities on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that Outdoor Education instructors will not permit pupils to join the planned activities unless we can show that we have received a completed Participant Visit Consent (E1) from you, so please return the forms asap.

## P7: Lagganlia Residential

We've provisionally booked a P7 trip to Lagganlia for June 19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2023. We very much hope that the trip will go ahead as planned. We expect to be writing to P7 families with more information on this in the coming few weeks.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

Keep your eyes peeled for letters coming home in the next week or so seeking pupil interest in participation in P5/6/7 football and P4/5/6/7 netball. We expect weekly term-time football training to begin at KGS on the evening of Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Please remember that all of these Parent Council activities rely upon parents and carers volunteering their time to coach and supervise training

sessions, so please don't be shy about joining in. Once we confirm dates and times you will always find them on our [events calendar](#).

## P6 Bikeability Training

We plan to deliver the P6 Level 2 Bikeability training in Term 4 this year. Details will follow in due course.

## Pupil Portraits and Class Photographs

We currently have a Business Manager who is a trained photographer so, as part of our fundraising activities for the coming year, we hope to be offering individual pupil photo portraits, and class photos. Funds raised through this activity will allow us to keep the School Fund topped up so we can continue to subsidise school trips and fund the purchase of extras like class iPads and fun workshops.

## Communication Platforms

The school uses the following communication channels; Microsoft Teams, Seesaw, Groupcall/Xpressions, Email, Texts and Facebook. Our [website](#) has more information, but here is quick overview of the purpose of each channel.

**Microsoft Teams:** this will be used for communication from Class Teachers as, for example, they may put homework assignments on here.

**Seesaw:** this was voted the favourite channel by parents and carers this year and is a place where you can see what the children have been up to in class. We also post non-urgent general school announcements here as well.

Please note if your class has two teachers and you wish to message them via seesaw, please ensure you add **both** teachers to your message so that your message is not missed.

**Groupcall/Xpressions, Email and Texts:** This is the main way we communicate more urgent or pupil/class specific information from our school office.

**Facebook:** General info and news will be posted here. There may be some overlap with Seesaw.

**School Website:** General information about the school and parent council, together with an events calendar and more specific school reports and parent council minutes. Find it at <http://www.orkney.co/papdale/> It is still a work in progress, and we'll always be glad of any feedback you have on how we can improve the website, the Bulletin or any of our communication channels.

## Headlice Reminder

As the children are coming together again after the Summer you might want to consider actively and regularly checking your child's hair for headlice. If you require more information then please click [here](#), or ask at the school office for a leaflet.