



St Fillan's Primary School and Nursery Class
NEWSLETTER
Term 4
April 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

Everyone at St Fillan's Primary School and Nursery Class wish all our parents and families a '*Very Happy Easter*' filled with many blessings. The children have settled well after the holiday and are working hard to achieve their potential in preparation for their next stage.



As we approach the end of school session 2016/2017 we evaluate all the development work we have undertaken and identify next steps for 2017/2018. As previously stated raising attainment in writing is one of our main targets for this year and this has resulted in a thorough evaluation and review of practice. The school's Standards and Quality Report which will be published at the end of the session will provide parents with information regarding the impact made on attainment.

In February, we began to introduce the theory, methodology and strategies which encapsulate the Glasgow Counts initiative for the purpose of raising standards, attainment and achievement in numeracy and mathematics. This will continue to be a priority for School Improvement Plan 2017/2018.

Our three Principal Teachers have been taking forward their remits which include:

- Health and Wellbeing (Mrs Gibb)
- Audit and review of progression in learning and teaching -Science, Social Subjects, Health and Wellbeing and Technologies (Mrs Adams)
- Eco and Outdoor Learning (Mrs McAvoy)

We have identified aspects of the above for further development in 2017/2018.

At Parents' Evening on 30th March, we provided all our parents with a copy of our 'Pupil Equity Funding Proposal' on how we planned to spend the £66,000 allocated to our school. Bids for all schools were sent to Maureen McKenna, Executive Director of Education to approve. The development highlighted in the bid will also form part of the school's raising attainment priorities for 2017/2018.

All going well we are excited about the prospect of being able to further meet the needs of those children who require additional support for learning with the additional resources identified. We will keep everyone informed of our progress.

Seasons for Growth - Information Reminder

Seasons for Growth is a programme for children, young people or adults who have experienced significant change or loss.



Seasons for Growth is based on the belief that change, loss and grief are a normal and valuable part of life. It aims to produce a sense of resilience, personal growth and acceptance of change in people's lives.

The children and young people's programme deals with change, loss and grief associated with death, family breakdown, or any other form of separation or circumstances.

At St Fillan's Primary we run Seasons for Growth each term depending on needs. If you feel that your child would benefit from taking part in this programme then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Balloch or Mrs Henderson who will be very happy to discuss this with you.



SCHOOL BUSINESS



World of Work Day - Parents in Learning Update

As a result of the unexpected announcement of the forthcoming General Election on 8th June, it has been necessary for us to change the date of our '*World of Work Event*' in order to fit in with other events which have had to be rescheduled. The new date is Friday 2nd June 2017.

If you are able to share your expertise or provide contacts - please phone Marie Fraser in the School Office to give your name and an idea of how you can help. Last year, 42 parents took part in the day. We will be in touch with those of you who are able to take part to discuss how we can work together to make this yet another exciting and worthwhile experience for our children.

Parking Again!!! - Road Safety



The latest event involved the Crossing Patrol lady outside our school who was almost knocked down by a parent who drove behind her as she was standing on the middle of the road crossing children.

We are lost for words!!

School Vandalism - Fire Raising

The children will probably have already informed you that we have once again experienced vandalism which has the potential to be very serious. On one occasion the vandals set fire to resources used by the Nursery Class. On another occasion they set fire to the bins adjacent to the main building. The Fire Service attended both fires with the bin fire having the potential to spread to the school building. The vandals also damaged the bench and table sets which we use for class lessons and packed lunches.



Police Scotland is working with the school to carry out their investigations. If at any time you see children or adults around the school at night please inform the police.

PTA

Our PTA has expressed concern that they are getting rather 'thin on the ground' and are appealing for new members to join. To date we have been very fortunate to have an active and energetic group of parents who enthusiastically raise funds and organise events to benefit 'all' children.



If you can give of your time to be of help then please contact a member of the PTA who will welcome you with open arms!

The PTA meets on the first Wednesday of every month

Parent Council

Coming Soon!

The Parent Council are aiming to provide a Newsletter which will update you on Parent Council Business. Next meeting - Monday 8th May at 6.30pm. All welcome!

Internet Safety Evening - Parents in Learning



Thank you to all parents who attended the Internet Safety Session on Wednesday 26th April 2017. We hope that you found the meeting informative in relation to keeping your child safe and well. The materials distributed including useful web links are available under the Parents tab of the school website.

Primary 7 Leavers Mass - St Andrews Cathedral

Once again the Primary 7 Leavers Mass celebrated by His Grace Archbishop Philip Tartalia was very special. Our children were invited to lead with the singing and, true to form, they were absolutely fantastic.



Thank you to Mrs Dickie who worked with us to prepare the children - her expertise is enormous and greatly appreciated.

Thank you to our parents who were able to attend the Mass. It was lovely that you were able to celebrate this special occasion with your children.

Lost Property - Specsavers!!



We have noted that there are **10 pairs of glasses** in the lost property box that have not been identified or claimed. These cost a lot of money therefore, if your child wears glasses and has lost them during this school session - the chances are that they are in the box.

Mrs Fraser has sent texts asking parents/carers to please come to the school to check.

The glasses belong to the children!

Parents' Evening and Displays of Knowledge

It was great to have such a high attendance at Parents' Evening and the Displays of Knowledge.

The children thoroughly enjoy the buzz when their parents/carers visit the school to see their work and speak to their teachers.



Thank you to all parents/carers for your continuous support!

Primary 1 Induction Days



On Wednesday 26th April we welcomed our new Primary 1 Intake and their parents/carers for the first induction day. The children did very well in the activities presented and it was lovely to see parents/carers getting to know other parents/carers.

Induction Day 2 – Wednesday 24.5.17

Induction Day 3 Wednesday 7.6.17

Retirements

At the end of term, three members of staff will be retiring – Mrs Sharkey, Mrs Lafferty and Mrs. MacLeod. We take this opportunity to thank them most sincerely for their hard work, commitment and dedication to the service of St Fillan's Primary over many years. I know that you will join us in wishing them health and happiness for a long and restful retirement doing all the things they have always wanted to do but never had the time.



Mr. Eddie Foley



Everyone at St Fillan's Primary School and Nursery Class was very sad to be notified that Eddie passed away on 14h April 2017.

Eddie was a fantastic and very talented violinist who taught a significant number of our children to play the violin for many years. He loved coming into the school and was always very proud of the children's achievements. Eddie retired due to health issues and Louise Hunter, who was also Eddie's pupil, is continuing his great work. Indeed, three children whom Eddie taught were successful in a 'fleadh' at the weekend. They have now qualified for the All Britain Fleadh in London next month. Congratulations to other children who have also qualified for this event.

As a school community we thank God for the privilege of having Eddie work with our children and for passing on his wonderful talent to future musicians. We pray for Eddie's family at this very sad time.

Parent/Carer Concerns

If you have any concerns/questions regarding your child or other school issues then please do not hesitate to contact the school and I will arrange to meet with you as soon as possible. We also operate an open door policy for urgent matters.



Rest In Peace

If any parents/carers prefer to receive a paper copy of the newsletter then please contact the school office and we will organise this for you – no problem!

Regards

Yours sincerely

Mrs Catherine Penman

Headteacher

Diary Reminders/Updates - Term 4 April 2017

Most of the following dates for Term 4 have been confirmed - Please note there are amendments!

Monday 24.4.17	Parent Council AGM
Wednesday 26.4.17	Primary 1 2016/2017 Induction Day 1
Monday 1.5.17	May Holiday - School Closed
Wednesday 3.5.17	PTA in Christ the King Church Hall
Thursday 4.5.17	INSET DAY School Closed for Children
Saturday 6.5.17	P4 -The Sacrament of First Holy Communion 11.00am
Sunday 7.5.17	P4 - The Sacrament of First Holy Communion 2.00pm
Monday 8.5.17	Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm
Thursday 18.5.17	Obstacle Course (Whole school/PTA Fundraising Event - sponsor forms to follow)
Wednesday 24.5.17	Primary 1 2016/2017 Induction Day 2 Primary 7 at Holyrood Secondary (Modern Languages Workshop) <u>(Information regarding arrangements for Induction Days to follow)</u>
Friday 26.5.17	May Holiday
Monday 29.5.17	May Holiday
Wednesday 31.5.17	Primary 7 School Show
Thursday 1.6.17	Primary 7 School Show
Friday 2.6.17	World of Work Day
Monday 5.6.17	Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday 6.6.17	Primary 7 Beach Party 7.00pm
Wednesday 7.6.17	Primary 1 2016/2017 Induction Day 2 Primary 7 Induction Day (1) at Holyrood
Thursday 8.6.17	City of Dance Finals at Royal Concert Hall School <u>could</u> be closed to children for General Election <u>(To be confirmed - we are still awaiting official confirmation that the school will be used for voting. It normally is used for this purpose. We will send text when confirmed)</u>
Friday 9.6.17	Primary 7 Induction Day (2) at Holyrood (Changed to correspond with announcement of General Election)
Wednesday 14.6.17	Primary 7 Induction Day (3) at Holyrood (Health and Wellbeing Day)
Thursday 15.6.17	PTA Fun Morning / School Sports Afternoon (Weather permitting)
Friday 16.6.17	Pupil Reports to Parents End of Year House Activity for Winning House
Monday 19.6.17	Primary 7 Mass and Graduation 6.30pm
Wednesday 21.6.17	Nursery Class Graduation
Thursday 22.6.17	Class Transition Day - Children move classes for one day and meet their new teachers
Tuesday 27.6.17	School Closes - Summer Holiday 1.00pm



Newsletter

Parent/Carer Comments

May 2017



We very much welcome your comments/opinions/views as these are valuable in relation to continuous school improvement.

Thank you for your time!

Please return your comments addressed to - Senior Leadership

Parent's/Carer's signature

Date

