



SUNNYSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2019

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are now well and truly into our second term and what a lot has happened over the last few weeks. I hope that you have been able to follow these through our Twitter feed and also on our website.

Christmas will be upon us soon, and I felt it would be useful to remind you of the many events that will take place. I've attached a list of dates and events to the end of this newsletter.

School Improvement

As I wrote in my August newsletter our full school Standards and Quality report can be found on the school website: sunnyside.clacks.sch.uk. This document gives full details about the progress the school has made towards our priorities for improvement and our action plan for this session.

At our Parent Consultation events this month, Mr Mathis consulted with parents regarding what our future priorities should be. This information will be analysed and will inform our action plan for session 2021/22.

I am delighted with hard work and dedication of staff towards our priorities and can see how these are impacting upon children's learning and experiences on a daily basis.

At the recent Parent Council AGM, I reported to parents our attainment which is showing a significant increase over time at primary 1 and 7. At primary 4 attainment has reduced however when this is analysed the reduction is related to a specific group of children who are now making significantly greater progress in their learning than expected i.e. 18 months' worth of progress over 12 months which leads us to believe that our actions and initiatives are making an impact.

I have attached the report to this newsletter for your information. Should you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sporting Success

I am delighted to inform you that Lewis Henry P6JDW has been awarded a medal at our recent Cross Country Championships and will now progress to the Regional Finals which will take place at Lornshill Academy on Thursday 27th February 2020.

Good luck Lewis!

Max in The Middle

Primary 7 have spent a week working with colleagues from NHS Forth Valley on an exciting project 'Max in the Middle'. During the week they investigated ways to keep healthy both mentally and physically

and set themselves ‘change challenges’ in an effort to lead healthier lifestyles.

This learning was supported by some of our parents: Ms Konopinski, Mrs Burton and Mrs Campbell who helped the children to consider healthy eating and to try foods that they would never consider before. Many thanks to these parents for their support.

The week culminated in a sharing event with parents where the children showcased their learning through drama and dance.

Feedback from children and parents was extremely positive with children reporting that they had “great fun” throughout the whole experience.

We hope to continue to work with our partners to enhance children’s learning opportunities through fun and enjoyable experiences.

Scottish Water Top-Up Tap

Representatives of our ECO group met with Scottish Water, Keith Brown MSP and Councillor Ellen Forson to launch the latest top-up water tap in Alloa High Street on Tuesday 12th November.



The children were able to explain the importance of drinking water and also why it is so important for the environment to cut back on the use of plastic.

Christmas Dates

Unless otherwise stated, Christmas Parties will take place after lunch. Children can bring party wear with them to school and get changed at lunchtime. Should you wish your child to go home for lunch and to get changed, please inform the class teacher in writing.

Nursery dates can be found in the nursery newsletter.

05/12/19 – Parent Council Christmas Fayre – 6.00pm -8.00pm

09/12/19 – P1 Nativity 2.15pm – 3.00pm

10/12/19 – Coffee and Carols

Time	Class / Group
9:20 – 9:40	P.4/5 and P.5JS
9:40 – 9:55	P.5/6 and P.6 JDW
9:55 – 10:10	P.2CF and P.2/3
10:10 – 10:30	P.1EC and P.1HD
10:30 – 10:50	P.3/4 and P.3IL
10:50 – 11:10	Nursery
11:10 – 11:20	Instrumentalists
11:20 – 11:35	P.7AG and P.7LS

12/12/19 – P6 Christmas Party

13/12/19 – P5 Christmas Party

16/12/19 – School Choir to Speirs Centre (carol singing) 1.30pm – 2.30pm

16/12/19 – P4 Christmas Party

17/12/19 – School Christmas Lunch

17/12/19 – School Choir to Senior Citizens’ Christmas Party at Alloa Town Hall

12.45pm – 1.45pm

17/12/19 – P3 Christmas Party

18/12/19 – P1 Christmas Party

18/12/19 – School Choir to Ludgate House 1.30pm – 2.30pm

18/12/19 – P7 Christmas Party 6.00pm – 8.00pm

19/12/19 – P2 Christmas Party

20/12/19 – Nursery Christmas Party 10.30 – 12.30

20/12/19 – School closes at 1.00pm

As always, should you have any comments, queries or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Denise Penman
Head Teacher

Attainment Report for Parent Council – 29/10/19

All schools are asked to report attainment on an annual basis based on teacher professional judgements of children's attainment in literacy – listening and talking, reading and writing; and in numeracy and mathematics for primary 1, primary 4 and primary 7. Teachers use a range of assessment evidence to determine how well a child is progressing through the level and whether or not they have achieved. It is expected that, for most children, they will achieve Early level in primary 1, First level in primary 4 and second level in primary 7.



Alongside this, and in light of the extra funding that has been provided by the Scottish Attainment Challenge and the Pupil Equity Fund, our ambition is to close the poverty related attainment gap and we gather data to allow us to determine how well we are doing. The tables below highlight data as at June 2019; the percentages in brackets highlight percentage increase/ decrease from the previous year. Whilst these figures highlight that in primary 4 attainment has reduced in certain areas, this is relating to a different cohort of children from last year and upon further analysis, the data for the individual children who have not achieved highlights that their progression rate is greater than 12 months i.e. 18 months of progress in a 12 month period.

Listening & Talking

	School	Authority	Scottish National Average
Primary 1	100% (+9%)	91%	87%
Primary 4	85% (+1%)	86%	85%
Primary 7	94% (+23%)	80%	84%

Reading

	School	Authority	Scottish National Average
Primary 1	95% (+6%)	84%	81%
Primary 4	73% (-16%)	77%	77%
Primary 7	92% (+21%)	76%	79%

Writing

	School	Authority	Scottish National Average
Primary 1	91% (+4%)	81%	78%
Primary 4	73% (-6%)	72%	72%
Primary 7	89% (+24%)	71%	73%

Numeracy & Mathematics

	School	Authority	Scottish National Average
Primary 1	95% (+4%)	86%	85%
Primary 4	71% (-13%)	76%	76%
Primary 7	68% (+7%)	67%	75%