

# School Newsletter August 2016

## Welcome

As the new Head Teacher of Brydekirk Primary School, it is my pleasure to welcome you back for a new school year. We have lots of new faces to welcome! Our new primary one pupils are Daniel, Fiona and Finbarr. Olivia joins us in P6. Mr. Wyllie is our new caretaker. Vivienne is our temporary cleaner and opens up the school early each morning. Our temporary Dinner Lady is Mrs. O'Neil. The new Learning Assistant supporting our pupils is Mrs. Savage and the Additional Support for Learning Teacher is Mr. Brown. Mrs. Foster will be teaching PE this term. Our music specialist will be Ms. Davis, terms 2 and 4. Ms. Carse will be our art specialist on Thursday afternoons. Miss Primrose takes up her position as Principal Teacher and she is teaching P1-4.

Mr. Archibald and Mrs. Robson have given all us newbies a very warm welcome and it is clear that Brydekirk Primary is a special school. On a personal note, I am very much looking forward to building our team so that we deliver the highest standards in care, learning and support for one another.



## Meet the Teacher Evening

Parents are invited to attend an information sharing evening on Wednesday 31st August 6pm in school. There will be an opportunity to see your child's classroom and hear from his/her teacher.

## PE Kits

We aim to provide two hours of physical education each week and ask that PE kits are in school each day. In the event that a your child forgets PE kit or doesn't have all that he or she needs, I will send a reminder to parents via text message. Shorts, T-shirt and gym shoes as well as hair tied back and jewellery removed are the usual expectations.

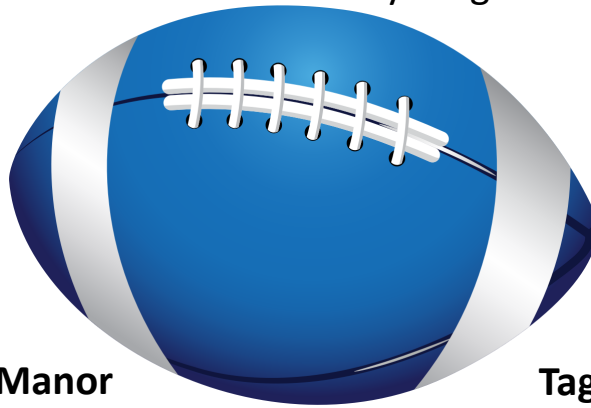
## Whole School Outing

We are planning a summer trip for the whole school. Mrs. Robson is investigating the possibility of visiting Mabie Farm Park this term. More information to follow.



## Art Competition— MY SUMMER HOLIDAY

The Head Teacher's Art Competition is now open. Create a picture to represent something you did during the summer holiday. Prizes will be awarded to the best pictures in P1-2, P3-4 and P5-7. Reverend Pickles will be asked to judge the entries in September. The closing date is Friday 16th September. This is a challenge to be completed at home. Good luck young artists.



### Lockerbie Manor

A residential outdoor experience is planned for P6 and P7 pupils later in the session. The next instalment of £30 is due by Friday 23rd September. Please ensure cheques or cash are clearly labelled and handed in to Mrs. Robson please.

### Tag Rugby Festival

On Saturday 8th October we will enter a school rugby team into the schools' Tag Rugby Festival at Violetbank. This is a great event for the children and between now and the games we will provide tag rugby coaching. Spectators are most welcome!

## **Lesson Study**

Staff professional development for this coming year will focus on Lesson Study. This is a means by which small teams of teachers analysis their own practice and seek to improve learning and teaching. Teachers from St. Columba's and Brydekirk will work together throughout the year. We will also be seeking to improve the way in which we use Accelerated Reader so that children set targets and measure improvement. Online profiling is also something we will start to explore later in the year. Mondays and Wednesdays 3.30pm—5pm are set aside for professional development sessions.

In the monthly newsletter, I will be updating everyone on curricular developments and the work staff undertake towards our school improvement plan. As part of the Head Teacher's Report to Parent Council, I will provide further updates on school improvement.

## **Family Quiz Night**

On Thursday 8th September at 6.30pm we will host a Family Quiz Night. There will be various rounds of questions aimed at children and adults. Teams can be made up of 3 to 6 members and there is a £5 entry fee for each team. An entry form will be sent home soon.



## **Parent Council AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Parent Council will take place in school on Wednesday 6th October, 6.30pm for Parent Council members - 7pm for all parents (the parent forum).

Mr. B McIntyre, Head Teacher of Brydekirk and St. Columba's Primary Schools