

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed spending time with your families over the October holidays.

As you will see, we have an extremely busy time ahead over the coming weeks with lots going on in school.

I hope you find the following information useful. Please get in touch if there are any concerns or questions. Thank you for your support.

Mrs McNairn

Acting Head Teacher

### Meet Mrs Vivers

Each month our House Captains interview a member of staff so that you can get to know them better.

This month, Jay and Cameron interviewed Mrs Vivers. Mrs Vivers teaches in P3/4 and will soon be teaching in P5/6. Here is what they found out:

Mrs Vivers lives in Annan and has two wee boys.

She has enjoyed coming to work at Eastriggs and likes that the children are working hard, wanting to learn and try their best.

Outside of school, Mrs Vivers enjoys keep fit and pilates.

Her favourite food is curry!



## Eastriggs Community School

### November Newsletter

**2017**



**WELCOME  
BACK!**

We will soon be welcoming back Miss Aitken as her maternity leave comes to an end.

Miss Aitken will return to school on Tuesday 14th November. She will be working on a part time basis for a time and Mrs McNairn will continue as Acting Head Teacher on Mondays and Fridays throughout November. From December until May, Mrs McNairn will be Acting Head on Fridays.

Mrs Shenton-Ross will continue teaching P3/4 on the days where Mrs McNairn is Acting HT.

### Public Library

Dream  
Big  
READ!

We are fortunate to share a building with Eastriggs Public Library. We are pleased to say that we have come to an arrangement with the library services to allow us to offer each child from P3 upwards the chance to visit the library during school time and borrow books.

The timetable for this is as follows:

P3s from P2/3	Wednesday 11-11.30am
P3/4	Monday 2.30—3pm
P4/5	Monday 2-2.30pm
P5/6	Wednesday 11.30-12
P6/7	Thursday 2.30-3pm

If your child does not have a library card, all class teachers have spare forms which we can send home to be completed.

In the near future, we will be looking at ways to enable our younger children the chance to access the public library. In the meantime, P1 children are looking forward to a class visit for a Book bug session on Tuesday 7th November.



## Dates for your Diary

Friday 3rd November	Annandale and Eskdale Super 7s Football Festival (selected children)
Saturday 4th November	Lower Annandale and Eskdale Football Tournament - Sands Centre, Carlisle (selected children)
Wednesday 22nd November	P5-P7—Open Evening at Annan Academy—Please note this date has been changed by Academy
Monday 27th November and Tuesday 28th November	P6 pupils at Outdoor Education residential— Carlingwark
Thursday 30th November	P1—P3 parents are invited to come to school at 2.45pm—Read, Write, Count Bag Presentations
Thursday 30th November	Come in your PJs day—as part of Scottish Book Week (fundraiser organised by P5)
Wednesday 13th December	P5-7 Christmas Show—afternoon and evening performances
Friday 15th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 18th December	P3 and P4 party
Monday 18th December	P1 and P2 Church Service—2.30pm—
Tuesday 19th December	P1 and P2 party
Wednesday 20th December	Christmas Coffee Afternoon—more information to follow
Thursday 21st December	P5, P6 and P7 Party Last day of term



During the week beginning 27th November we will be celebrating Book Week Scotland.

As part of their Health and Wellbeing (learning about making positive changes in the school) some of our P5 children have decided to organise a fundraising event on Thursday 30th November. They are planning a non-uniform day with a bed time story theme. Children can come dressed in PJs (and can bring a cuddly toy if they wish) as well as a favourite book from home. Each class will have time to relax with a story and a hot chocolate during the day. They would like to ask for a donation of £1 per pupil, towards improving the range of books available in the school accelerated reading library. They are very grateful for your support with this.

During this week, we will also hold our annual Scots poetry recitation competition. Each child will have a Scots poem to learn and will recite it in their class. Winners will be selected to perform at an assembly the following week. Some children will then have the opportunity to go on to cluster and regional



### Good luck to Miss Walker

Miss Walker finishes work on Friday 3rd November to begin her maternity leave. We would like to wish her the very best and cannot wait to celebrate with her when her wee bundle makes its arrival.

Arrangements for P5/6 are as follows. Mrs Briggs will be the P5/6 class teacher from Mondays-Wednesdays and we are pleased to have appointed Mrs Vivers to teach Thursdays and Fridays until the end of the session.



## MAKING OUR SCHOOL BETTER

### Parental Engagement

As you may know, many of you recently completed a questionnaire about how we inform you about and engage you in your child's learning. We also asked for feedback at Parents' Evening as to what barriers there were to attending events in school so that we can get this right for you and your family.

The feedback from this told us that most parents find the following helpful:

- Newsletters
- Child led events
- Final school report

From this feedback, we now need to review the following :

- Parent Council
- Events like meet the teacher
- Snapshot jotters
- Homework

We will be working closely with our Parent Council to help decide how to move forward with these.



### Vision, Values and Aims

We are currently reviewing our school Vision, Values and Aims to ensure they reflect who we are as a school and what we aspire to be. Staff and children are currently looking at this and all parents and carers will have a chance to offer their views in the coming weeks. Look out for chances to respond via our Facebook page or by text.

### Positive Behaviour and Wider Achievement

Mrs Knox has been leading an initiative to revise how we recognise and celebrate wider achievement. As part of this, staff and pupils have discussed positive behaviours in our school.

We will be sharing our new 'Positive Behaviour Rainbow' at the next Parent Council meeting and it will then be available for all parents and carers to see.



Lara St-John Claire in P6/7 has taken on the responsibility of organising our participation in Operation Christmas Child. All children received a leaflet about this prior to the October holidays. It is a worthwhile charity that offers us the chance to help less fortunate young people experience the excitement of receiving a Christmas gift.

If you would like to support this, shoeboxes should be sent to the school office for collection by the charity.

They should be sent in by Friday 10th November.

Thank you to Lara for organising and to those who are able to support.



Following the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 27th September, I am pleased to confirm the following people have taken up Office Bearer positions on the Parent Council:

Chairperson—Sarah Muir

Secretary—Fiona Baird/Diane Fordyce

Treasurer—Jillian Monaghan

Our new staff member is Mrs Rachel Knox.

We would like to thank the previous office bearers who recently stood down, including Karen Thorburn, Lee Bell, Helen McLatchie and Frances Glendinning.

We look forward to working closely with our new Parent Council and I know that they are keen to work with our Parent Forum to represent your views.

**The next meeting takes place on Wednesday 15th November at 6.30pm.**



As in previous years, we have Scholastic Book Fair coming to school. This is an opportunity for children to buy books and also to raise funds for school. We receive a percentage of the money spent to choose new books for our library/classes.

During **Wednesday 22nd November**, all classes will have the opportunity to come along to the book fair. You will be notified ahead of time when each class will go and you are welcome to come in and accompany your child.

We will also open between 3 and 4pm so that parents can come in then with their children in they prefer.

### School Calendar

We hope to have our 2018 school calendar ready to share with you shortly. These will be available for purchase in the coming weeks.

### P1-3 Read, Write, Count

As part of Scottish Book Week, each child in P1 -P3 is gifted a special bag of books to keep. These will be presented to the children to take home on Thursday 30th November. Parents are invited to come into school for this.



# Halloween Fun!



Thank you so much to the Parent Council for organising a fantastic Halloween Disco for our children. The hall looked great and the children had a fantastic time. Well done to all of the children who came along and put so much effort into their costumes—you all looked spooktacular!

Thanks also to the small number of adult helpers who gave up their time to support the Parent Council on the night. Without this support, it is very difficult for the Parent Council to run such events.