

# Hecklegirth School Newsletter

6<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

## A Message from the Headteacher: Welcome/Witam!

I trust that you all had a restful holiday and are now ready to face the new term head on. The staff have planned for a term full of learning, sharing and festive fun and we look forward to seeing you all in school in the coming weeks to celebrate our successes with you.

*From Mrs Alexander , Headteacher*

## Reporting to Parents

### Open Day- 15<sup>th</sup> Nov

To help us celebrate learning, we invite families to drop into school on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November from 1.15pm. Please collect your child and their classwork and find a quiet place around the school to talk about the learning that has been going on. We welcome your feedback and ask that you take a moment to complete a slip to let us know what you enjoyed about your visit to class and what you would like to see more of next time.

Family conversations will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> November from 3.10pm, as per the letter issued last week. Meetings with teachers will be held in the hall and allow you to discuss current progress and next steps for your child. No formal report will be issued at this time but a note of targets discussed at the meetings will be shared. Please watch out on Friday for your invitation.

### School Improvement Planning Updates/Staff training

- Staff are currently auditing our reading resources in order to order any gaps.
- This month all teaching staff will be attending a 'Exploring Excellence, Equality and Equity' workshop led by Education Scotland. The training offers staff opportunities to reflect on their values, beliefs and assumptions and to identify any changes we may need to address as a school to help us achieve provide excellence and equity for all learners.
- Mrs Alexander attended a two day training course on Learning with Care, with a focus on promoting an ethos of nurture and wellbeing in schools.
- Mrs Bell and Mrs Menzies attended the Scottish Learning Festival last month looking at literacy developments.
- The Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSA) are now available to schools and local

authorities. Over 1000 have already been taken and school staff are currently undergoing training. The main purpose of the assessments is to provide information for teachers on how well children are doing in literacy and numeracy and to help guide learning and teaching. The assessments are also designed to produce national-level information about children and young people's progress for Scottish Government. The national information covers the whole of Scotland. To ensure national-level information is as useful as possible, Scottish Government need to carry out a "norming study" to ensure that it is representative of Scotland as a whole. A norming study involves a random sample of Scottish children and young people in Primary 1, Primary 4, Primary 7 and Secondary 3 taking the assessments within a specified period. Two norming studies will be conducted in the 2017-18 school year: one in November and one in March. Parents of pupils who have been randomly selected by the Scottish Government to take part in this study will be notified this week and Mr Palmer will be carrying out the assessments on behalf of the school.



## Facebook – School Info page for parents/carers

This page has been started up to provide last minute reminders for parents/carers only. It is not open to those outwith this category.

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6<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

## Being Heathy and Active in School and Out

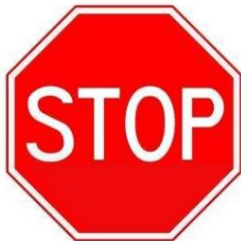
We hold a wellbeing assembly to promote the eight wellbeing indicators. Well done to the pupils who shared their talents for being active through dancing, sport and music.

- Singing- Rainbow Tribe at United Reformed Church, Station Rd- see Mrs Roberts for more info
  - 6-6.35pm N-P2 singing
  - 6 -6.35pm–Mini Spectrum for those who play an instrument (all ages)
  - 6.45-7.30pm P3 up singing
- Annan Youth Cycling Club (6-16 years) at Pavilion/School on Saturday mornings- see their Facebook page for more info

## Healthy Tuck Shop

To promote healthy eating across the school, the Kitchen will offer healthy snacks and drinks during the week. Sweet treats eg cakes, muffins etc will be available for sale on a Friday.

Please remember not to send in cakes/treats to class :



Thanks for remembering  
this is a



Peanut/Nut  
Free School

## Nursery Building Works

A letter was issued prior to the holidays informing you of the forthcoming building works taking place at Hecklegirth's Nursery. To make way for the new expanded Early Years Provision in our area, P1 and

P2/1 have now moved round to the ground floor of the tower block and P3 have moved up to the first floor. The library is now located on the top floor. All classes are settled and we thank you all for your patience during this move - hope you can come in and see our new rooms during the open afternoon on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Nursery news

This term we would like to invite parents and carers to have fun by staying to play. A grid is displayed in Nursery (on top of the red and blue tray unit) so please add your name if you can join us for a whole or part of a session. The children would love you to be part of our play and what better way to find out the answer to "What did you do in Nursery today?" Spare copies of our recent Nursery newsletter are available from staff on request.

## Parent Council

Please note the dates of our next two meetings, to which you are warmly invited to attend:

- 27<sup>th</sup> November, 6pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 6pm

If you have any concerns at present please contact Mr Wigham, Chairperson, via a letter left for him at the office or through the Parent Council email: [hecklegirthparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hecklegirthparentcouncil@gmail.com)

## Class Blogs

Please read our class blogs for updates about school and classes:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/HecklegirthPrimarySchool/>.

Don't forget to drop us an email with to let us know of your child's wider achievements and we will share these with the school community.

## School meals

May we once again remind those who are entitled to free school meals and a clothing grant to apply as the Pupil Equity Funding is based on the uptake of those claiming the FSM entitlement. To claim this, you must be in receipt of just *one* of the following:

- Income Support

# Hecklegirth School Newsletter

6<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

- Any income related element of Employment & Support Allowance
- Job Seeker's Allowance (Income Based)
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, with an income of less than £16,105
- Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit (with annual income under £6420)
- Universal Credit with a monthly income threshold that does not exceed £610 per month

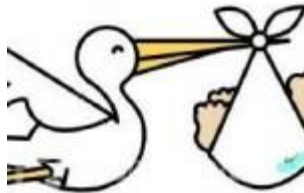
Please call into the school office for a form.

## Lewis makes a splash

Good luck to Lewis in P5 who is representing the school at the Scottish Disability Sport Junior Swimming Trials later this month in Glasgow.

## Baby news

- Congratulations to Mr Stevenson (P5/6) on the birth of daughter Esme.
- Jessica and Leah have a new baby brother- Louis.



## Dates for the Diary:

### Nov

- 15<sup>th</sup> Open Afternoon, 1.15-2.45pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> Pitch, Pulse and Magic workshop for P5/4; P1-3 cinema visit
- 28<sup>th</sup> Family conversations/Parents' evening from 3.10pm

### Dec

- 1<sup>st</sup> P4-7 cinema visit
- 7/8/11/12 Fluoride Varnishing
- 7<sup>th</sup> HF Christmas Fair
- 15<sup>th</sup> Toot flute presentation by P5/6, approx. 11am
- 19<sup>th</sup> Christmas Concert- 1.30pm and 6.30pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> Last day of term

### School Contact Information

Telephone – 01461 202629

Email – [gw08officehecklegirt@ea.dumgal.sch.uk](mailto:gw08officehecklegirt@ea.dumgal.sch.uk)

## #Kickingcancersbutt

Fundraising event for Reagyn Ferguson

FAMILY FUNDAY

at

Smoochies, Annan

Saturday 2nd December 1pm-5pm

Tickets available to buy from

Kirsty McGregor, Jennifer McGregor &

Judy Lucas via Facebook

Children £3 (accompanying adults free)



All monies raised will be donated directly to Reagyn's family


#Cancersucks

HECKLEGIRTH FUNDRAISERS  
PRESENT

7<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER  
6.30 - 8.00

TOMBOLA  
CRAFT STALLS  
BRIC A BRAC  
CAROL SINGING?  
WIN A CHRISTMAS HAMPER  
HOME BAKING

CHRISTMAS  
FAIR



£1 entry per adult—  
accompanied children free  
Includes a drink and mince pie

Come and visit Santa  
in his grotto—only £2