

# Hecklegirth School Newsletter

8<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

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

*Welcome back to the new school year. I am delighted to return to Hecklegirth after my secondment to the Girfec Team. It has been a rewarding year for me developing skills and knowledge of pupil wellbeing families and school staff from across the region. I am most grateful for the warm welcome back I have received and look forward to working with you all to ensure we create quality learning opportunities for all learners, within an inclusive and supportive learning community*

*From Mrs Alexander*

## School Improvement

As you may be aware from the news, all schools across Scotland are aiming to raise attainment whilst also closing the attainment gap. With a focus on excellence, equality and equity, staff will be involved in developing small projects to evaluate learning and teaching strategies with pupils in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. By introducing small steps of change, we plan to review and evaluate pupil progress throughout the year to help us identify the most successful strategies and interventions. Collegiate sessions and training courses will support this work.

## Blogs

Please go onto our blog to read updates about school and classes:

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

To update us on your child's wider achievements for the blog, please email school office.

## School Uniforms

These are now available online at [tesco.com/ues](http://tesco.com/ues) or with Carlisle Embroidery (details from office).

## New playground Equipment

We aim to raise funds for new playground games and a shed to store them in. Details to follow.

## Pupil Council

Application forms will be issued this month for pupils to put themselves forward for the Pupil Council. This group work with the Headteacher to promote the

school and to share ideas and worries of their peers to ensure we make our school the best that it can be. Informal group 'interviews' will take place at the end of term.

## Staff

Miss Tulloch (P5/4) and Mr Malin (P5) are our new class teachers this year. Mr Palmer and Mr Stevenson are their mentors who will be supporting them on their journey to full registration. Welcome also to Miss Murray and Mr Dewar-Riddick who provide cover to classes for development work.

## Class Newsletters

Along with this newsletter you should have received a class newsletter for your child, containing useful information from the class teacher.

## School meals

P1-3 meals are free and a menu is available on the Dumfries and Galloway website. A few spare hard copies are available from the office.

For P4-7, meals cost £1.80 per day payable in advance (or £9 for the week).

## Allergies

We have an increasing amount of pupils with allergies to foods including dairy, gluten or nuts. As such, we request that birthday cakes are not brought into class as not all pupils will be able to enjoy this treat. **Hecklegirth School is a nut-free zone and therefore we cannot accept any snacks or packed lunches containing nut-based products on site.**



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## P1 Information Session

Miss Campbell is holding an Information Session for parents of our new Primary 1 pupils on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 pm in the **P1 classroom** (note change of venue!) to discuss class routines, phonics, maths, homework and answer any queries you have. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Ragbag Fundraiser

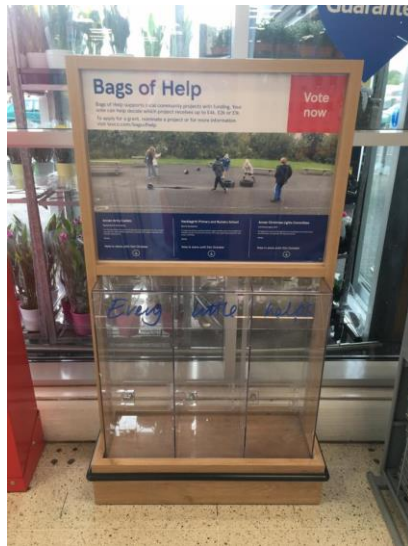
A reminder that we have an indoor recycling bin in our reception area. The school is paid for each kg recycled and last year we raised approximately £200 from this scheme. We can accept the following items:

- Wearable Clothing
- Paired Shoes
- Handbags
- Belts

Thank you for your continued support with this project which will help fund IT equipment.

## Tesco Bags for Help

Please vote for Hecklegirth Primary and Nursery when you are given a blue token in Tesco during September and October. Help us win £5000, £2000 or £1000 to purchase sporting equipment and court markings. Happy shopping- and don't forget to ask for your token at the tills!



## Data Update Forms

A reminder to update and return these to the school office as soon as possible. Please include an email address if you have not already done so.

## Child Protection

All staff have received refresher training at the start of the school year. Mandatory training is delivered every three years and this will take place later in the session with our cluster colleagues.

## Absence

If your child is going to be absent please call the school office before 9am to report this. If you have planned absences due to medical appointments, please show the office a copy of the appointment prior to the event to allow us to record this appropriately. May we remind you that family holidays taken outwith the school breaks will be recorded as unauthorised, as per regional and national guidance.

## Nursery news

The children are settling well. Plans for our building works are displayed in Nursery as the Council want to share these with you.

An activity will be going home at the end of the week to encourage children to participate in National Maths Week

## P7's at Small World

P7 pupils enjoyed a cluster event over at Annan Academy. Delivered by partner agencies from across the area, they enjoyed workshops on a range of topics including smoking, activity, online safety and peer pressure.

## Dates for the Diary:

13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	P4-7 triathlon
14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Family Learning – P1 parents/carers- Memory boxes (9-10am & 2-3pm)
25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	P6 & P7 Road Relay at Everholm
2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	P7 to Operation Safety
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	P5-7 tag Rugby competition
11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	School photos (individuals/families)
16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	HOLIDAY: School closed for two weeks
30 <sup>th</sup> Oct	School re-opens for Term 2

## School Contact Information

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