

Newsletter - February 2015



What a Wastell!

We have been talking to our pupils about looking after school equipment as we are losing pencils, rubbers and sharpeners at an astonishing rate. With lids not being replaced on glue sticks, felt pens and board markers we are having to throw out dried up wasted resources.

Why is it important for pupils to look after equipment?

Interrupts learning and teaching - if a pupil spends 5 minutes three times a day looking for a pencil - that's 15 minutes a day and an unacceptable 1 hour and 15 minutes of learning time lost each week!

Taking responsibility - if pupils learn to take responsibility for small items such as pencils and rubbers then it builds skills for looking after their property later in life.

Cost - at a time when money is tighter for everyone we cannot afford to be wasting money replacing equipment which could be looked after better.

What can we do?

Staff have been asked to be vigilant and to insist that pupils replace items and lids. Nagging may be necessary in some cases!

Pupils have been recommended to bring their own pencils. Although it is worth noting that some pupils are reluctant to do this as their pencils can go missing too.

Miss Dale will be leading an assembly on waste of resources to highlight the issue with pupils.

Ask pupils to use pocket money to buy pencils if they lose a school pencil???

Sign out equipment and return it???

Ask pupils to return school property? Return to the school mailbag box - no questions asked!!

Ask pupils to make up for lost learning time at break time or lunch time???

We would ask that you talk to your children about looking after property - even the small stuff as it can have a big impact on a school day.

Please get in touch if you have a suggestion on reducing equipment waste in school.

Congratulations Kaylan!!

Kaylan in primary three was the only pupil who chose to enter the Young Writers competition. She wrote a mini saga with only 100 words beginning Once upon a time... We were delighted to receive a letter telling us that Kaylan's work is to be published in a book. She will be a published author!! Kaylan is also still being considered for a prize and the school could also win a prize. We will keep you posted and look forward to seeing Kaylan's story in print at the end of April 2015.

Badminton

Well done to Lewis and Scott who took part in the Nithsdale Badminton Competition on Sunday 8th February. Sorry that we couldn't make it along to see you in action - thank you for representing the school, we are very proud of you both!



World Book Day / Red Nose Day

The Pupil Council are getting organised for World Book Day 5th March and Red nose Day 13th March. They have a list of ideas and we are trying to reach agreement. Information should be with you in the next mail bag. Please note the dates.

Have a look on the Radio 2 Website, they run a writing competition for children aged 5 - 13. We have some enthusiastic writers who might enjoy this chal-

French Café

The P5-7 pupils will be running a French Café next month. More details to follow.



Target Setting

Taking account of the higher number of pupils and the long waiting time some of our parents had to endure at the last target setting night we have made a few changes:

Target setting meetings will take place over two nights Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th March.

Parents will be assigned an evening and asked to select a time slot either before or after 5.30pm.

Appointments will be extended to 15 minutes per pupil.

Staff have been meeting with pupils to discuss assessments, next steps in learning and teaching and setting literacy and numeracy targets. This means that at the meeting we can share the points discussed with parents, show evidence and give examples for supporting at home. Pupils should be able to discuss their next steps in learning more clearly.

Pupils should attend the meeting with their parents.

Please note that if you are unable to meet with us on the given day an alternative time for a meeting can be made - just make a note on the return slip.

No new head lice cases reported...

But please continue to be vigilant as we do not want a return visit.

Thank you.

Thank you to Mr McEwen

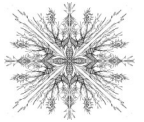
Mr McEwen has moved on from his post with the North West Church. We wish him well in future endeavours and thank him for his support over the years.

Reminder - Holiday

Reminder pupils are on holiday on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week. The 16th, 17th and 18th February.

Staff will be working on Building Our Curriculum.

SNOW



Thank you to the parents who gave feedback on the recent snowy day. As you know we try hard to keep the school open. It is then up to our parents to decide if it is safe to travel in to school. We know that sometimes it is safer to keep pupils at home.

It was brilliant to see pupils unloading their sledges and their change of clothes from the cars as they arrived in school. Just so Hollywood!

Thank you to the staff team for their support and for helping to grit car parks and paths. It must have been a cold snap as Mrs Sturgeon had to put her fleece on!!

Lantern Parade



Thank you to everyone who came in to make lanterns and who joined us on the walk, for a small school we had a big turn out. We have ideas to improve our lanterns for next year and we may get someone into the queue early to bags us a spot nearer the front so that we can then come back up the street and watch the rest of the parade.

BLOG

We are blogging like crazy - to try to keep you up to date with what is going on at Hollywood. Please, please read our blog and post comments...pupils love it when they know you are on reading their posts.

Thank you to Mrs Henderson who posted comments - great to know you are keeping up with Team Hollywood news.

Skerryvore films now on the blog.

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

Welcome to Miss Niven

Miss Niven will be working in school with us on Thursdays this term. Miss Niven will be following Miss Stapleton's Thursday timetable and will have the opportunity to work with all pupils in school. Good to have you working with us.

Aviation Museum - P5-7 Local Outing

P5-7 pupils are heading out to the Aviation Museum at Heathhall as part of the World War 2 topic on Friday 20th February. We will be leaving the school at 9am and returning in time for lunch. Pupils should wear their uniform and a jacket. They should also bring their your usual snack for a Friday.

Please note that the next Parent Council meeting is on Tuesday 24th February 2015 at 7pm

This change in time and day has been chosen with the aim of suiting more parents. We need you to come and lend your voice and support to the Hollywood Parent Council.

BalEco are undertaking a River Study making links not only with the Fishing for the Future Project but also with our school in Kenya. We look forward to hearing more about their project later in the term.

Reading Challenge 2015



Very important information on this year's reading challenge in your child's mailbag!!

Some of the rules have changed and there is a fantastic new Reading Challenge Passport designed by Mrs Jardine and the pupil council members.

Senior Maths Class

Ms Fraser will be coming into school on the 12th and 19th February to provide our senior maths pupils with Financial Education - so they should all be able to take over the household budgeting for you!!

Delay in Cross Country - due to very cold weather we have not yet started our outdoor training but have been putting the pupils through their paces on a fitness circuit indoors.

Moving PE to the afternoon on a Friday for cross country training may let the temperature rise a wee bit before we head out. A text will be sent so that parents know when pupils will need outdoor kit.

New Certificates and Stickers!!

We were delighted to hand out a big pile of certificates to pupils who have been working hard in writing, reading and maths. The pupil council have chosen new stickers and certificates for rewarding good work and behaviour. We look forward to handing them out to pupils who have earned them in the very near future.

Ration Challenge

In an attempt to win the golden spoon P 5-7 pupils are undertaking the Hollywood Ration Challenge. Pupils have been given a list of the challenge rules and have time to talk over recipe ideas at home before the cooking competition this Friday.

Got a great wartime recipe? We would love to hear it.

We will put the challenge sheet on the blog in case your child's copy does not make it home!

Miss Stapleton and Miss Baxter visited Ellisland Farm last Thursday to meet with Dr Maureen Milton to discuss plans for teacher led visits to the museum. Dr Milton has put together plans and resources about Rabbe Burns. We are one of the pilot schools trying out the resources and giving feedback.

**P1-4 pupils visit Ellisland Farm on the 24th
February**

**P5-7 pupils visit Ellisland Farm on the 25th
February**

We hope these will be afternoon outings, so pupils will not need snack/lunch, but they will need a jacket. Miss Stapleton is looking for 2 parent helper for her classes outing. If you can help please get in touch.

**Note from Miss Baxter and Miss Stapleton in
your child's Mailbag 10th February 2015.**

P1-4 After School Street Dance

Our P1-4 pupils have a great opportunity to learn Street Dance as an after school activity. Letter in your child's Mailbag 10th February 2015.

World War 2 Museum

The P5-7 class will be organising and running a WWII Museum to share their learning with the school community.

If you have items from this period in history we would be delighted if you could lend it to us. We will ensure that it is well looked after (not like our pencils!) and will return it to you after the event.

Pupils have been talking about family connections and memories from WWII. It would be great if pupils could hear from relatives. Is it possible for pupils to interview and record a family member talking about their war experiences?

Games Night

Put the Thursday 19th March from 6.30 - 8pm in your diary as the Parent Council are organising a fun family games night.

More information to follow.

Parent Helpers Needed!!

The library has had a good shake up thanks to Ms Marshall, Mrs Carruthers and Ms Johnstone.

But we need one or two volunteers to come in once a week for a small tidy, to help pupils to choose books and perhaps even to read stories to a small group of pupils.

A Friday is when P1-4 choose their books and your help would encourage positive reading in school.

Confident, creative learners with big ambitions.

Kind to each other – Kind to the planet.