



LANGHOLM PRIMARY JANUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER

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Dates for your Diary

<u>13th January</u>	4 th year trainee teacher to P2 Ms Gilfinnan
<u>14th January</u>	Rugby P7 & P5/6
<u>14th & 15th Jan</u>	P1 enrolment (9 am – 3 pm)
<u>16th January</u>	Dragon's Den P4/5
<u>16th January</u>	P4/5 Food Standards Agency Training
<u>23rd January</u>	Energy (science) workshops P4/5 P 5/6
<u>24th January</u>	Scottish afternoon (pupils to wear some tartan)
<u>29th January</u>	Lockerbie v Langholm (TBC)
<u>30th January</u>	Scots Poetry Comp. P4 – P6
<u>31st January</u>	Burns Poetry Comp. P7
<u>5th February</u>	Climate change awareness training for staff
<u>5th February</u>	Carlisle Racecourse Maths in Action – P7
<u>12th February</u>	Lochmaben v Langholm (TBC)
<u>17th, 18th 19th Feb</u>	Mid-term holiday
<u>24th February</u>	Shared Learning for pupils P1 – P7
<u>4th March</u>	Hoddum v Langholm (TBC)
<u>10th March</u>	Pupil attainment tracking week
<u>19th March</u>	Fire Safety workshop P5/6
<u>26th March</u>	Financial Education P1
<u>26th March</u>	PARENTS NIGHT
<u>7th – 21st April</u>	Easter holiday
<u>22nd April</u>	School re-opens
<u>5th May</u>	May Day holiday



A very warm welcome back to our pupils after the festive break. We wish all of our families in the Langholm community a prosperous and healthy 2014. It will be a very busy term with preparations underway for the move to the new school. Primary six and seven pupils, staff and representatives from the Parent Council were given a tour round part of the new building on the 19th December. We hope to extend this invitation to the rest of our pupils during January. The building is very impressive with a stunning blend of wood, glass and stone. It promises to be the excellent learning environment that our pupils deserve.



Nativity Enterprise

*We were absolutely thrilled with the nativity performances this year. The children are clearly confident and enthusiastic learners eager to display their talents. It was especially pleasing to see how well the nursery and P1 children worked together to produce such an endearing and heart-warming show. Thanks to the support of our community in buying Xmas cards and attending shows we have raised an astonishing **£971.64!** This will enable us to fund an infant summer trip during 2014.*



Senior Xmas Concert

This proved to be a wonderful evening with our older pupils performing readings and songs reflecting the story of Christmas. When technology failed them they were able to carry on, showing the skills normally associated with veteran performers!



SUPPORTING AUTISM TOGETHER

We have received excellent feedback from parents who have attended previous sessions. If you have a child in your family who may be, or is on the autistic spectrum, you are welcome to attend. The next meeting will be held at the Buccleuch Centre on the 22nd January between 10.00 and 11.30 am.



WINTER WEATHER

We are now in the season of unpredictable weather and we would like to gently remind parents and carers to ensure that their children come to school dressed appropriately for cold and wet conditions. There is no playground supervision before 8.45 am and on bad weather days we would recommend that your child arrives at school as close to 9 am as possible. The school will only close if weather conditions are very severe or there is a power/water failure. In the event of closure a group call will be sent to all parents to give appropriate details. Ultimately, the decision to send a child to school in bad weather should be taken by parents. We have no control over the operation of buses during severe weather and parents should contact bus companies directly (not the school) if they are in any doubt about the service:

Telfords 75677
Andersons 80553
Morrisons 80476

BIG MATHS TRAINING

Ms Malin has offered to repeat her 'Big Maths' taster session for parent who may not have had the opportunity to attend last year's events. Please contact the school as soon as possible if you are interested in this in order for her to estimate attendance

RUGBY

Mr Iain Park will be delivering 6 week coaching sessions to P7 and P5/6 on Tuesday afternoons at the Academy beginning on the 14th January. Similar sessions will be offered to P4/5 and P3/4 beginning on the 25th February. Pupils should ensure they have their P.E kit on these days.

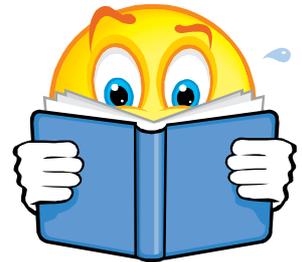


Photographs and Facebook

We have been approached by parents who are unhappy about photographs of their children taking part in school events, appearing on this social networking site without their permission. Whilst some schools forbid the taking of photographs at school shows etc, Langholm Primary has taken the view that it is important for parents to be able to record and celebrate the achievements of their children. It would be very sad if we could not continue with this policy. In light of this we would ask parents to be mindful of the opinions and wishes of other families before posting images of our children on Facebook or any other site and if possible seek their permission before doing so.

New Reading Books!

We are very pleased to announce that we have purchased a new reading scheme for P1 through to P7. 'Project X' is an innovative new reading programme designed to motivate 21st century pupils. It is an inclusive whole school reading programme with books for children of all abilities. We hope it will address phonics, comprehension, development of talk, reading for pleasure and writing. The stories involve amazing and original 3D character adventures that give all children stories to share and talk about. We will not be discarding older books however as experience of a variety of text is important for our young readers.



Newsletters and the Website

We apologise to parents who are unable to access the newsletter via our website. The technician is currently looking into this problem and several others that are hindering successful communication. Hopefully these issues will be resolved in the near future.