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| Ref: KL/**Rephad Primary School**Ladies WalkStranraerDG9 8BW | Any enquiries please contact:**Mrs Karen Logue**Head TeacherTel: (01776) 704195Email: gw08officerephad@ea.dumgal.sch.uk   |
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26.6.23

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been lovely to see so many parent/carers at events during the school year and we have further events planned for next session. We do want to remind you of the Parent Council Discos that are taking place during assemblies on Wednesday 28th June. Everyone is invited to wear Shorts and Shades on the day.

Our first school Drop-In date will be Wednesday 6th September - 3:10 to 4:10 pm to give you a chance to visit your child’s class learning area and informally meet your child’s teacher.

Dates of many other events will be shared in the newsletter as school returns in August but at the end of this letter please find attached a list of the D&G school holiday dates for your reference.

**LOVELY NEWS**

We are so delighted for several staff members in both the school and nursery who are now expecting. Miss Teasdale in the school and Miss McKie in the nursery are both due later in August and anticipate returning for the first few days of school. Miss R Murray our LA is also expecting in October and will return for term 1. Miss Dewar in the nursery is expecting her second child in December, her daughter is very excited about becoming a big sister. It is lovely news for all of them and we will let you know how they are all doing when their precious bundles arrive.

Finally, Miss Smith in the nursery is getting married over the holidays and we all hope she has a wonderful day. She will be returning to us as Mrs Mills.

**SPORTS DAYS**

Sports Days finally took place 1st June for the nursery and 7th June for children in the school. Everyone enjoyed themselves and the weather held out thankfully. Congratulations again to AIRD who won the overall competition for the second year in a row. Also well done to Leo, the Boys Sport’s Champion and Sophia, the Girl’s Sport’s Champion. Their accomplishments were based on events that took place over several days within school. The trophies are all updated and hanging in the school.

**TRANSITION EVENTS**

Our new Primary 1s have been busy visiting the Primary 1 classrooms, they have attended a few assemblies and also enjoyed lunch in the dinner hall. We look forward to the children joining us in Primary 1 as well as a few children currently attending Busy Bees. To all the N5 children who are going on to other schools for Primary 1, we wish them all the best and know that they will settle in quickly to their new schools beginning a new learning journey.

**EXCURSIONS**

The last of the school class trips took place on Friday and all trips have been a great success. We are very proud of all the children as they represented the school while fully enjoying themselves. Each trip had compliments from staff at the venues working with the children saying how well-behaved and informed they were. We even had compliments from members of the public on quite a few trips pointing all the great manners of the groups. Well done to all the Rephad children for representing our values of respect and hardwork while having a great time. **The nursery head off to Bounce tomorrow (Tuesday) and we are sure they will have fun as well.**

**PARENT COUNCIL**

We continue to work closely with our Parent Council and minutes of the final meeting 25th May will be shared with you. Meetings for next session have not been set as yet but we will give you notice as soon as we can. We know they are also working hard to take forward future after school clubs after the success of the Gardening Club. To contact the Parent Council please email rephadparentcouncil@outlook.com with your queries.

**NETBALL**

We had two netball teams who entered the local competition at the Ryan Centre which took place over several weeks in a different format this session. Though we did not win a trophy this session we certainly have netballers who are working hard to develop their skills, even practicing at playtime and lunch. Thank you to Mrs Hamilton for leading such a great group of children after school over the year. This is a huge commitment, and we really appreciate her efforts. Thank you to other teachers who also helped with supervision, transport and warm-ups. A real dream team for sure.

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**FOOTBALL**

The footballers have done themselves proud over the session and in the last term they have won the league, the Police Cup and placed 3rd in the Wigtownshire playoffs. A large groups of both boys and girls were involved in training, trials and games with usually two teams competing in most events. Again, we need to give a huge thanks to Mr Gary Marshall who spends so much time with the children leading them in the variety of community games. Let’s hope he is happy to come out again next session and continue his stellar work with the children.

**STAFFING**

Most children last week had an opportunity to meet their new class teacher and this week the P3s will meet Miss Pipes. There has also been an adjustment to staffing as at the end of last week Miss Bingham accepted a post closer to home. We wish her all the best and we know she will be missed by everyone as she moves back home. She will be back in the school for the first two weeks and then begin in her new classroom Friday 1st September. Mrs Whyte has agreed to take the P6/7 class for the session and interviews take place early in the school session to fill any other gaps in staffing.

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| P1 | Mrs Irons |  | P4/5 | Mrs Mitchell |
| P1/2 | Miss Pritchard |  | P5/6 | Miss McLean |
| P2/3 | Mrs Gratton and Mrs Fitton |  | P6/7 | Mrs Whyte and a staff member to be named |
| P3 | Mrs Pipes |  | P7  | Mrs Hamilton |
| P4  | Miss Baillie |  | RICCT | Mrs Miller, Mrs Baird |

**Support Staff:**

 Learning Assistants for the school will include our wonderful Learning Assistant team of Mrs Cooke, Mrs Little, Miss Johnstone, Miss R. Murray Miss Livingston, Miss A Murray, Mrs Rice and Ms Jenkins in her EYSA role. They all will be returning to the new school in the new session and we are interviewing for another Learning Assistant as soon as we return. Until the role is filled, Mrs Slavin will cover the vacancy as a Learning Assistant.

**Nursery Staffing:**

Mrs Paisley will continue in her role as Nursery Manager with Mrs McMillan remaining as a hand-over liaison in the nursery for the first term.

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| Blue | Mrs McKinstry, depute manager |  | Pink | Miss Dewar (NN) |
| Yellow | Mrs Morrison, nursery nurse (NN) | Brown | Miss Clanachan (NN) |
| Purple | Miss Hastings (NN)/ Miss Loch (NN) | Green | Miss Cleer (NN) |
| Purple | Miss Gorman returns in September (NN) | Orange | Miss McMillan (EYSA)/Mrs Mills (EYSA) |

 A further EYSA in the nursery is Miss Douglas.

**HOUSE CAPTAINS**

Our current P7 House Captains; Brody, Erin, Isla H, Isla McG, Kayden and Ryan took part in their last assembly Wednesday 21st June. During that assembly they talked about their roles, the skills they developed and took questions from future House Captain candidates in the current P6s. Interested Primary 6 pupils have headed home today with an application form for the role next session and interviews will take place on Thursday. We will let you know who is successful in the first newsletter when we return in August.

**GOODBYES**

As always at the end of a session, we need to say goodbye to staff who we have worked closely with and who have made a positive impact on behalf of the children in the school and nursery.

Mrs Drysdale will be leaving to move onto a role at Belmont Primary. We thank her for her work with Primary 6 this session and her recent and appreciated involvement with the Gardening Club over the last term.

Miss McCulloch is also heading off to Sheuchan Primary School and she is looking forward to working in a P1/2 classroom next session. Again, she has been a dedicated member of staff and presented at assembly as well as making links to community farming to further children’s understanding of the local area.

We also can’t forget a goodbye to all the Primary 7s who have spent many years at Rephad – and shared their memories with us at Tuesday’s Leaving Ceremony. Make us all proud boys and girls as you go on to your academy and remember to always **Be the Best You Can Be**!!!! You have been great ambassadors for Rephad this session with your involvement in football, netball, curling, Rotary Quiz, cross country, and have been involved in community events like water sports, the Rotary Crocus Planting and the Gardens at Burns House. Our new P7s have big shoes to fill. Best wishes to every one of you. **Viva La Vida!!!!!**

**FINALLY**

Each newsletter ends with us as staff, thanking you as families, for all your support through the year. Your children are very important to us, and we know in working together we can all help your child flourish and achieve.

I also want to thank the staff who all work very hard in their various roles across the school; the staff listed above as well as our clerical staff Mrs McGeoch and Mrs Morrisson, our janitor Mr Arnott and Rachel our dinner supervisor along with her team in the kitchen. Also adults who come in to support with a wide variety of activities such as Alison with Active Schools and many other adults who support clubs and special events.

We wish all of you a safe and happy holiday and can’t wait to see you in August.

In regards,

Karen Logue

Head Teacher, Rephad Primary School

**KEY DATES FOR NEW SESSION**

## Future school year (2023/24)

**Term 1**
Staff training - Friday 18 and Monday 21 August 2023
First day - Tuesday 22 August 2023
Last day - Friday 13 October 2023

**Autumn holiday**- Monday 16 to Friday 27 October 2023

**Term 2**
First day - Monday 30 October 2023
Last day - Friday 22 December 2023

**Christmas holiday** - Monday 25 December 2023 to Friday 5 January 2024 (pupils return Tuesday 9 January)

**Term 3**
Staff training - Monday 8 January 2024
First day - Tuesday 9 January 2024
**Mid-term holiday** - Monday 12 February to Wednesday 14 February 2024\*
(\*Staff training - Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 February 2024)
Pupils return from Mid-term holiday - Thursday 15 February 2024
Last day - Friday 22 March 2024

**Spring holiday**- Monday 25 March to Friday 5 April 2024

**Term 4**
First day - Monday 8 April 2024
May Day holiday - Monday 6 May 2024
Last day - Monday 1 July 2024

**Summer holiday** - Tuesday 2 July to Friday 16 August 2024 (pupils return Wednesday 21 August 2024)



