

Catrine Primary School

Newsletter - September 2017

I can't believe that my first term as Headteacher at Catrine Primary School and Early Childhood Centre is nearly over - we have certainly got off to a flying start! I would like to take this opportunity to thank pupils, staff, parents/carers and the wider Catrine community for the warm welcome that I have received since starting in my new post.

Captain and Vice Captains - We are delighted with the new Captains and Vice Captains for session 2017/18, and we know they will continue to set a positive example throughout the school.

Avalon - Angie Leitch, Darren Jamieson

Ayrbank - Khian Alfonso, Sarah Ferguson

Marneil - Holly Reid, Haily Rafferty

Whiteflat - Josh Suitters, Erin Shirkie

Visits and Trips - our pupils have been out and about already - we've had class visits to the Civic Centre, P1 have been back to the ECC to visit and meet with next year's P1 pupils and P7 have been learning about community safety at '*Danger Detectives*'.



We've also had visitors into the school - Louise Renwicks provided Judo taster sessions, Hopscotch Theatre highlighted '*The Rights of the Child*' through their drama production and the EAST team have been teaching P1/2, P2/3 and P3/4/5 about Peer Massage. Outdoor learning sessions have been taking place with P1/2, P3/4/5 and P6/7, and all of our P5, P6 and P7 pupils will soon take part in the John Muir Award initiative.

Sportshall Athletics - some of our P6 and P7 pupils represented the school at the Ayrshire Athletics Arena for the Sportshall Athletics - and they won their heat!! We will hopefully now be through to the Ayrshire Final - details to follow!



Sports Scotland Award - Catrine PS have been awarded the Sports Scotland Gold Award for their wide range of sports and health and wellbeing initiatives that take place within the school. Congratulations to Miss Donnelly and the Sports Team for their wonderful effort!

Parent Council - the Parent Council provide great support to the school, and their commitment is much appreciated. Recently they donated £700 which enabled the school to subscribe to the *Twinkl* teaching resource website - a wonderful online resource which will be widely used in all classes. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th October at 7.00pm in the school - a warm welcome is extended to all parents/carers.

School Values - we will be focusing on our School Values over the coming weeks. Firstly, we're asking about *Honesty*. We discuss our school values at our Monday whole school assemblies, with the pupils contributing their ideas and suggestions. Look out for their responses at our main school entrance. Our ECC pupils are also talking about their ECC values and will be creating a display based on their responses too.

Promoting Positive Behaviour - as a whole school, we've reviewed our Promoting Positive Behaviour policy. We celebrate achievement throughout the school at assemblies when we highlight our '*Star of the Day*' pupils. Good manners and behaviour in the dinnerhall is rewarded by being chosen for a '*Golden Ticket*' on a Friday. From P3 to P7 we're aiming to be the '*Line of the Fortnight*' and receive an extra playtime for being first in our class lines throughout the day.

However, if a pupil chooses to make the wrong decisions about what behaviour is acceptable, we have a new system in place to try to encourage them to think about their behaviour. If a pupil displays inappropriate behaviour, they will be given two chances by staff to improve their behaviour and attitude. If they don't make the right choices, on the third chance they will be sent to the Senior Management Team (Mrs Govans or Mrs Schendel) with a 'yellow slip', which highlights the poor choices they have made. An appropriate action will be taken

- interval detention, for example - and then the pupil will return to their class. If they continue to make poor choices, and get sent to SMT with a second yellow slip, then this results in a phone call home to discuss their behaviour and attitude, as we know that, as parents/carers, you want to be kept informed about your child and any issues that there might be.

A similar system is in place with regards to playground behaviour - poor choices will result in a Playground Behaviour (blue slip) being sent home for parents/carers to sign.

We appreciate your continued support as we all work towards the same goal - ensuring that our pupils view school as an important, enjoyable and safe place.

Dates for the Diary - there's a busy few weeks ahead!

Wednesday 4th October - Drop In sessions from 8.45-9.15am and 2.45-3.15pm. This is a chance to introduce yourself to your child's teacher and to have a wee look around their classroom and learning environment. Please note that more focussed individual discussions about your child's progress will take place at Parents Night.



Wednesday 11th October - Harvest Service. A warm welcome is extended to family and friends to join us for our whole school Harvest Service at 9.30am in the school. Please join us for a cup of tea after the service. We're asking each pupil to donate one food item for our collection for the East Ayrshire Foodbanks (tin of beans, packet of biscuits, bag of sugar etc).

Wednesday 11th October - Parents Night. Please contact the school to arrange a suitable time for you to meet with your child's teacher and discuss their progress.

Thursday 12th October - Peer Massage. Parents/carers of pupils in P1/2, P2/3 and P3/4/5 will be invited in to observe their children taking part in a peer massage session. Details and times will be sent home soon.

Wednesday 25th October - whole school flu vaccinations

Monday 30th October - 'Stranger Danger'. Our P1 and P2 pupils will receive a visit from Police Scotland.



Thursday 9th November - School Disco from 6.30-8.00pm. More details to follow.

Lost Property - we've already have quite a collection! Please ensure that your child's name is on their jackets, jumpers, lunchbags, gym shoes and shorts.

Wet/cold mornings - on very wet and cold mornings, pupils will be allowed into the school from 8.50am, via the main entrance or infant doors, and will be supervised in the main hall by SMT.

Attendance - our attendance rate has started off well, and we look forward to it continuing. However, we have noticed that some children are regularly coming in late to school - it's important that pupils are in class by 9.00am so that teachers can start the day's learning quickly and get everyone off to the best start!

I hope you all have a relaxing October break, and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back on Tuesday 24th October.

Mrs Govans

Headteacher

