



Netherlee News

March 2019

Welcome to our Newsletter. I can't believe how quickly this term has flown by! It has been another super term and there is lots of exciting news to share.



Book Sale: Our recent Book Sale was a tremendous success and raised the unprecedented sum of £4544.25! Thank you so much for your amazing support with this- your children will greatly benefit from the purchase of many more literacy resources as a result.



Head Lice: Can I continue to please ask parents/carers to remain vigilant with checking their children's heads for any unwanted visitors as head lice continue to be present- especially in our younger classes in school? Appropriate treatments, advice or answers to questions that you may have are all available from any pharmacy. There is also information in relation to this on our school website.



Talented Musicianship: As you know, Netherlee is a very musical school and many of our children have had opportunities to demonstrate their talents to a variety of audiences. At the Glasgow Music Festival our Senior Performance Choir, 'Lunch Bunch' and Symphony Orchestra performed admirably, to great acclaim! The Senior Choir came a very close second place in their competition, the 'Lunch Bunch' won their class and the Symphony Orchestra received a First Class Certificate for their performance. We are very proud of all our talented pupils who took part! Our annual Spring Concert took place on Tuesday 19th March and showcased performances from our Symphony Orchestra, 'Lunch Bunch', Percussion Ensemble, Junior and Senior Choirs and other invited musicians. If you joined us for the evening, we hope you will agree that our pupils gave a wonderful performance and that it was a very special evening. Well done to everyone who took part.



P1 Spring Assembly: Our Primary One pupils were the stars of the show at their recent Spring Assembly! A packed house enjoyed a range of seasonal entertainment including spring hat parades. I am sure, like me, you couldn't get the songs and cute dance moves out of your head for the rest of the day- fantastic!



P1 Playground: I would like to share with you that, following my request for a new fence to be erected in our P1 playground in order to improve both the safety and enhance the appearance of this area, this work has now been completed. This helps to hide the Clarkston Road bin area which is adjacent to the P1 playground.



Dogs: For health and safety reasons dogs, with the exception of assistance dogs, should not be brought into the school grounds at any time please.



Uniform Recycling: We are delighted about the success of our school partnership with ApparelXChange which provides good quality, gently worn items of school uniform to be available to buy at very reasonable prices. Several families have used this facility already and we would encourage you to visit the next pop-up shop in the school foyer from 2.10pm - 3pm on Friday 26th April.



Bikes and Scooters: We are delighted to promote all forms of physical activity at Netherlee, however there have been a couple of times when a child or an adult has either caused, or almost caused, an accident by riding bikes and scooters in our busy playgrounds. Please help us to ensure safety for all by dismounting prior to entering the playgrounds. Thank you.



Lining Up and Playgrounds: You will appreciate that in the mornings, when teachers arrive in the playground to greet and collect their class and accompany the children into the building to begin the school day, it can be difficult for them to talk to you at this time. For this reason and to ensure the safety of all of our children, I would therefore request that all adults, who are not school staff, stand well back from the lines at this busy time. If you would like to pass on any information to the teacher or any other person, including for example, you wish your child to remain in the school at playtime and lunchtime for medical reasons, simply call or visit the school office please- staff there will be happy to pass on any information to the teacher or relevant person. You can also, of course, use the school email facility and again any messages will be passed on for you. As children should not have access to their mobile phones whilst in class, please simply contact the school office and staff will be happy to get any important messages to your child for you. Similarly, if you come to school wanting to speak to your child during intervals or lunchtimes, we would greatly appreciate it if you avoid approaching your child without speaking to a member of staff in the playground first. This is to ensure that all of our children continue to feel safe and secure in their playgrounds as they may not know who you are and some children may therefore become anxious. Thank you for your help and understanding with these safety points. I am sure that you will appreciate that we simply want to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of our pupils remains everyone's top priority at all times.



Eco Committee and Friends of Linn Park: Thank you to the many families who attended the launch of the newly-revamped wildlife trail in Linn Park on Saturday 23rd March. It was lovely to see so many members of our school community enjoying the sunshine and also for myself, Mrs Sweeney and Ms. Bell to be able to join you whilst walking the trail. This was the culmination of several months' work by our Eco Committee, in partnership with the Friends of Linn Park. Our Eco Reps, Ms Linda Bell, Miss Suzanne Cheape and myself would like to thank Netherlee parent Mrs Dorothy Buchanan for all her help and encouragement. The wildlife trail is now both beautiful and informative and we would very much encourage as many of you as possible to visit!



Talented Sportsmanship-Cheerleading: How delighted and thrilled we were when our Cheer Team, of Primary 7 girls, won the East Renfrewshire Dance Competition last week! The girls were fantastic- very well done for bringing the trophy home girls and a huge thank you to Mrs. Rachael MacLeod and Miss. Taylor Elliot for their time and dedication coaching the group. Superb!



Talented Sportsmanship-Netball: On March 13th, children from our P6 and P7 netball team competed in a Williamwood Cluster Tournament and we are delighted that they were successful in winning this cluster competition subsequently gaining a place at the final - East Renfrewshire's Culture and Leisure Netball Competition. On the 21st March they played against six other schools from across the authority and achieved a fantastic 1st place!!!! They have brought home to Netherlee a huge, fabulous shiny trophy along with wide smiles and a great sense of pride in their teamwork and effort. Mrs McCarthy, Mrs Miller, Mrs Henderson and myself are so proud of their hard work and dedication and feel that it is a well-deserved and tremendous win for the team. Many congratulations to all who competed and again a huge thanks to the staff who gave their time to coach and nurture the girls.



Talented Designers: Recently all of P6 participated in the Glasgow Science Festival's - Creating Engineers K'nex Design Challenge. Working in teams of two, pupils used their communication and design skills to compete against their fellow pupils. After competing amongst themselves in class, eight children went forward to the Quarter-Final to compete against teams from Carolside and Busby Primaries. All children competed extremely well and I am delighted to announce that one of our team's, Eve and Chloe, won this stage of the competition and will now compete in the Semi-Final against teams across the whole of East Renfrewshire. Good luck girls!



School Show: There is much excitement around the school just now as we move into the final few rehearsals for this year's P6 and P7 school show, 'Mary Poppins Jr'. Many, many hours of hard work and fun have gone into what is shaping up to be a spectacular performance. We even have a live band accompanying the production this year..... our own talented young people! We look forward to welcoming many of you at our forthcoming performances which are being held in school on Tuesday 30th April at 1.30pm, Wednesday 1st May at 7pm and Thursday 2nd May at 7pm. Tickets are now available through our ParentPay system. Please remember that photographs taken during the show may only be of your own child and should not be posted or shared on any social media site. Thank you.



Pupil Lunchtime: Following discussions with pupils and staff and also taking into account some feedback from parents/carers we are currently trying out some new lunchtime routines. We hope that this will ensure smoother running, less congestion and quicker queue times resulting in a generally better experience for our pupils.



Staffing: A very warm welcome back to Mrs. Aisha Pollock who has returned from maternity leave. It is lovely to have her back! Earlier this month we said a fond farewell to Mrs. Margaret Chalmers who has gone to pastures new as a Child Development Officer. We are also saying goodbye and thank you to Mrs. Sandra Dunne who has provided such valuable support in school for the past few months. We wish both of these members of staff a fond farewell and send them off with our warmest wishes. Mrs. Neelam Varma, who is one of Netherlee's longest serving staff members, is leaving us for a long, healthy and happy retirement and we will miss her very much! Lastly, I am delighted to share the lovely news that Mrs. Victoria Allan recently gave birth to a beautiful baby daughter. We are all very much looking forward to a visit and some special baby cuddles!



Easter Service: This will take place on Thursday 18th April at 11am at Stamperland Church. Parents/carers of children from P3-7 are most welcome to attend what promises to be a beautiful and very special occasion.



Community Learning: Community Learning is an opportunity for our children to work together, on Friday afternoons, in mixed stage groups on learning activities of their choosing. In May, there will be a wide range of options including Chinese Knotting, forest skills, philosophy, chess and jewellery making. Mr. Stuart Bryce is eagerly anticipating many offers of parent/carer/adult help - this would not be such a positive and valuable experience for our pupils without your involvement. The dates are the 10th, 17th and 31st May. Please contact the school office if you are keen to get involved in the life of Netherlee in this way. You would be most welcome.



Finally, please look out for next term's "Dates for Your Diary" which will come out to you after the holidays. This should help to give you advance notice of the various events that will be happening in school and nursery until we stop at the end of June.

This will come home with your child as a hard copy so that you can keep the list handy to refer to and it will also be sent home via email as well as being placed on our school and nursery websites.



As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me via the school office if there is anything that you would like to speak to me about in relation to your own child or in relation to a more general matter regarding either the school or nursery.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Warmest wishes, I hope everyone has an enjoyable time over the holiday period.

Yvonne Donaldson
(Head Teacher)



Working With and For Children

Netherlee Primary School and Nursery Class