



The Big Fairtrade Breakfast

our Eco committee are busy planning this on Tuesday 8 or Wednesday 9 March for all pupils as part of Fairtrade Fortnight.

Parent / Teacher Interviews; our second round of parent/teacher interviews, when you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and discuss their progress, take place on the 16th and 17th of March. This term we are trialing an online system for booking appointments.

Further information will follow shortly.

Holiday; & In-service Days

Good Friday & Easter Monday	Fri 25 & Mon 28 March
Easter:	Mon 4 April to Fri 15 April 2016
May Weekend (1):	Mon 2 May 2016
Election:	Thurs 5 May 2016
May Weekend (2):	Fri 27 & Mon 30 May 2016
Summer Holiday:	School closes Fri 24 June 2016

In-service Day: Tue 31 May 2016

Please remember if you have any compliments , concerns or queries or please do not hesitate in contacting me at the school or come along to one of our management team drop ins: 9 – 9.30 a.m. every Friday.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Ferguson (Head Teacher)



Newsletter



February 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you and your families had an enjoyable mid-term. We have a busy time ahead of us between now and the Easter break with a wide variety of learning experiences and events planned for all.

Health and Wellbeing As part of our work as a health promoting school we are bringing this to your attention: **Smoking Prohibition (Children in Motor Vehicles) (Scotland) Act 2016 - NEW OFFENCE**. Please note that the **Smoking Prohibition (Children in Motor Vehicles) (Scotland) Act 2016** received Royal Assent, making it an official Act of Parliament. The Act makes it an offence to smoke in cars when children are present.

Director of Education Mrs Mhairi Shaw paid a recent visit to Giffnock and popped into all classes and our nursery, taking time to chat to members of staff and pupils. She was very impressed with how articulate our children are.

As part of their Financial Education **Primary 3** organised a 'Bring 5, Save 5' event for primary 1 and 2 creating the slogan and logo themselves. Altogether they raised a total of £428.22 for Yorkhill Children's Charity and Food4Africa. An excellent effort!

This week our **P7 pupils** along with their cluster peers, will be attending a performance of *Parlez-vous français?*, a play in French and English, performed by the *Onatti* theatre company. Afterwards the pupils will participate in language activities in the Modern Languages faculty at Woodfarm High School.



Provost Debate The topic of the annual debate which takes place at Eastwood Council Offices is on the advantages and disadvantages of using wind power as a source of renewable energy. I'm sure this will provide a lively and entertaining discussion for our senior pupils in P7.


Parent Council Next meeting is on Monday 22 February 2016 at 7pm. A representative from SPCA (Scottish Parents Council Association) has been invited to attend.



Cycle Shelter I am delighted that we have been successful in our bid for a new bike shelter. Sustrans is due to install the double shelter which will cover 28 bikes. Thank you to Greg Brown in the roads department for his support in securing this.

World Book Day 2016 has been kindly supported again by our Parent Council. We have organised storytelling workshops with a Scottish theme. The whole school will be involved in workshops on Friday 26th February in advance of World Book Day the following week on Thursday 3rd March 2016. For World Book Day we are asking all children to come to school dressed as their favourite Scottish character from a book, poem or comic and to bring a piece of text about this character to read and share with their class. During the course of the day we will have various activities culminating in a whole school assembly for pupils to share their experiences.



Sports Relief  Our Mile event for Sports Relief will take place on Friday 18th March 2016. Every class will be running/walking a mile on that day. Pupils can jazz up their trainers for the event. A small donation to Sports Relief is optional.

Giffnock Primary School to grow seeds from space!

In September 2015, 2kg of rocket seeds were flown to the International Space Station (ISS) on Soyuz 445 where they will spend several months in microgravity before returning to Earth in March 2016. Giffnock Primary will be one of 10,000 schools to receive a packet of seeds from space, which they will grow alongside seeds that haven't been to space and measure the differences. The pupils won't know which seed packet contains which seeds until all results have been collected by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and analysed by professional biostatisticians. The out-of-this-world, nationwide science experiment will enable the pupils to think more about how we could preserve human life on another planet in the future, what astronauts need to survive long-term missions in space and the difficulties surrounding growing fresh food in challenging climates.

Rocket Science is just one educational project from a programme developed by the UK Space Agency to celebrate British ESA astronaut Tim Peake's Principia mission to the ISS and inspire young people to look into careers in science, technology, engineering and maths, including horticulture. For further information: <https://principia.org.uk/activity/rocketscience/>

Woodfarm High School will be organising a fundraising sale in Woodfarm on Friday 11 March 2.45-3.30 pm. There will be Arts and Crafts, Easter, Eco/Plants, Wooden Products, Books/Toys, Art and Fair Trade Stalls as well as Tombola. Staff, parents and pupils from our cluster primaries are welcome to come along.