

We are still looking for parents who may wish to support a club so if you have any skills or interests in helping please get in touch with us. Congratulations to everyone who took part in and supported the 'Run Scotland' event and thank you again to the Parent Council for helping to organise this and raise so much!

Assemblies Thank you for supporting our class assemblies so well thus far this session. On the 11th November our Primary 7b children will lead an assembly to help mark Remembrance Day. A few of them will then be supported by staff to accompany children from the other schools in our cluster, to commemorate at the war memorial in Thornliebank at 11am.

Upcoming dates:

Flu immunisation	Wednesday 9 th November 2016
School Photographs:	Tuesday 15 th November 2016
Come in and Play Days (Nursery)	Tuesday 15 th & Thursday 17 th Nov. 2016
Christmas Fair:	Saturday 3 rd December 2016
Winter Service:	1.30pm, Wednesday 21 st December 2016

Awareness/ Focus weeks during November 2016:

Anti-Bullying
Dyslexia
Fairtrade

Please remember that, as an ongoing process, the calendar on the school website will be updated for additional dates of importance.

If you have any concerns, queries or questions please do not hesitate in contacting me at the school or come along to one of our management team drop-ins at 9 to 9.30 a.m. every Friday.

Yours faithfully,



Rob Lawson
(Acting Head Teacher)



Newsletter



October 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

The weather during our mid-term break was surprisingly good and in speaking to the children and many of yourselves in the playground, it seems that everyone had an enjoyable time. With the clocks changing this weekend our days are getting shorter and weather conditions less predictable. With this in mind, and with the desire to keep getting our children outside at break and lunchtimes as much as is reasonably possible, can I please ask you to make sure your child comes to school with a jacket or coat and suitable footwear.

Learning in many ways... We want our children to receive a wide range of learning experiences and a host of exciting activities have been happening so far this term. Our Nursery children have been exploring in their newly built 'dark cave' and outdoor learning during their weekly 'forest trips' has been getting the best from the wonders of autumn. Our 'farm to fork' style learning project has been a great example of real-life and relevant learning for our Gardening Club who have worked alongside partners in our community; the project culminated in the selling of our very own homemade chutney in Wholefoods. Thank you to all who supported the event – we hope it tasted good! The Gardening Club are preparing the school grounds for winter so if you have any free time or would like to become involved please contact us we would love to have you on board. We have also been welcoming in a range of visitors to our school who have helped to lead learning experiences, from Zoolab and their tarantulas, and lunch time Coding clubs, to our Campus Police Officer and newly appointed Reverend Barclay from Orchardhill Church.



Sharing in your child's learning... We want you to be part of your child's learning in a range of meaningful ways and we have looked to build upon this so far this year. To get a daily insight into learning at Giffnock Primary, please follow our Twitter feeds on @giffnockprimary and @GiffnockNursery. Our website is also being continually updated; for example, have a look at the classes' recent blogs for September under the 'Pupils' tab.

Parent / Teacher Meetings our first round of parent/teacher meetings took place earlier this month and were very well attended. We want all of the ways in which you share in your child's learning to be as positive as possible; we are compiling the findings from the electronic survey which we conducted afterwards and will share these with you shortly.

Our House System Our newly appointed House Captains have been working really hard to make this a fantastic year for our Houses. The House System is a very important part of our school community as it brings children across the stages together to learn, helping to unite the school. Every child in P1-7 is involved and all of our classes have been contributing to what they think the House System should be all about. We have been deciding together upon what House points should be awarded for and, after consultation with our children,

the P7s have designed new leaflets and posters for our classes to share these decisions. We will have termly House Events and Meetings which our children themselves will organise and manage. The first House Event was our whole school House Quiz, involving pupils and staff, and was great fun for all!



Inclusion Service Well done to our Primary 5/ 6 pupils for leading our recent service at Orchardhill Church and thank you to all of you who joined us and who contributed to our charity collection which raised over £80 for UNICEF. This was in addition to the money raised on our Show Racism the Red Card day. Again, thank you for your kind support. The service was the culmination of a week within which we encouraged our children to think much more about what including others and respecting diversity really means to them.

Pupil Leadership We have extended the opportunities for our children to participate in the leadership of our school this session. Pupil Group Leaflets have recently been produced to help share with you how these groups work and they are available through our 'Latest News' section of the school website. The benefits for our children in this participation are very significant and will continue to be an integral aspect of life at our school. Recently, our P6s have been training to act as Playzone Leaders and will be supporting many of the younger children in the playground at lunchtimes to enjoy games and activities in both inclusive and fun ways. Our Support Buddies (including Reading and Dyslexia Buddies) are also now beginning to work with a range of other children across the school and will make a huge difference to the progress and confidence of others.

Sports Update Following on from the great news about receiving our Sportscotland Gold Award, a wide range of sporting opportunities are now up and running this term. The children have enjoyed sessions from Rugby to Bocce during school time and our latest round of after-school clubs are also now underway, including Cheerleading and Running clubs. Our football squad will be competing in the Scottish FA's Primary School Competitions in late November and we look forward to cluster competitions in both Badminton and Netball later this term. Congratulations to all our pupils who participated in the recent Cluster Ski Competition at Bellahouston and thank you to the parents who supported this, despite the weather!