

IMS NEWS

Isobel Mair School Newsletter

Jan 2014

FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

I think we are all glad to bid farewell to a January which has been wild, wet and windy. We can now look forward to the rest of the year, which begins with an exciting event for staff and parents.

On Friday the 7th February our staff INSET day will focus on *Getting It Right For Every Child* (GIRFEC), the national policy for improving outcomes for all children and young people. The wellbeing of children and young people is at the heart of GIRFEC, which identifies eight important areas: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. (sometimes referred to as SHANARRI). We would like to invite parents to attend this event which will run from 9am – 1pm (including time for refreshments). There will be workshops available and representatives from other agencies who can provide information about the services they offer which may be of benefit. Please note that staff will be attending the event therefore we are unable to provide childcare. Please join us if you can.

Mari Wallace Headteacher.

Diary Dates

Thursday 6 th February	Coffee and Chat (10 AM)
Friday 7 th February	SCHOOL CLOSED -INSET GIRFEC EVENT (parents and friends welcome)
Monday 10 th February	SCHOOL CLOSED – HOLIDAY
Tuesday 11 th February	SCHOOL CLOSED – HOLIDAY
Wednesday 12 th February	SCHOOL RE-OPENS
Thursday 20 th February	Community Unity Peace March (Pupils Only)
Tuesday 4 th March	Coffee and Chat (1.30 PM)
Friday 7 th March	World Book Day Celebrations
Wednesday 12 th March	Community Unity Performance (Details to Follow)
Wednesday 19 th March	Community Unity Olympics (Pupils only)
Tuesday 25 th March	Community Unity Arts Alive Event (Details to Follow)
Tuesday 1 st April	Easter Service 10.30 @ Newton Mearns Baptist Church All Welcome
Friday 4 th April	School closes for Easter Holidays

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY



On Thursday 30th January we had some very special visitors to help us commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. We felt privileged to welcome Arn Chorn Pond, a musician who lived through the Khymer Rouge Holocaust in Cambodia and Dr Racelle Weiman, an International Educator on the Holocaust. Our visitors spoke eloquently to our senior pupils and met pupils from around the school before enjoying performances by *Reels on Wheels* and IMS Choir. Arn played some traditional Cambodian music on his flute, which had a wonderful calming effect on everyone. In the afternoon some pupils also took part in a Glow Meet featuring Arn's experiences. This visit has added to our growing understanding of Human Rights as we journey towards *Rights Respecting Schools* status. Thanks to Carole Gillespie and Education Scotland for organising this inspirational event.



Top: Dr Weiman with Head boy Joe and Head Girl Chloe. Left: Arn Chorn Pond enjoyed meeting pupils, including David

BURNS' DAY

We had a fantastic Burns' Day Celebration on Friday 24th January. Kirsteen and her team served up haggis, neeps and tatties accompanied by Irn Bru and shortbread before the whole school gathered for an assembly which included dancing, poems, art and song.

Pictured: using vehicle wheels to make a tartan pattern.



NEWS FLASH

Fifteen Isobel Mair swimmers took part in the recent West of Scotland Improvers Swimming Gala at the Sir Matt Busby leisure centre in Bellshill. There were schools from all over the West of Scotland competing in freestyle and backstroke events and Isobel Mair pupils came away with a variety of award ribbons for second, third, fourth and fifth places. Many of the pupils set new personal best times in their events, well done to everyone for trying their best!

Thank you to Michael McCuaig and our friends at Royal Bank Of Scotland Commercial who once again delivered Christmas selection boxes for all our pupils



Loch Ness and Loch Awe Nativity

Pupils from Loch Ness and Loch Awe presented a fantastic Nativity performance on Thursday 12th December. *A Little Bird Told Me* is the story of a Robin who travels to Bethlehem encountering birds and biblical characters along the way. Director Sue Laurie and all the staff worked extremely hard to produce a performance which all pupils could contribute to, including those

who find being in front of an audience a bit overwhelming. Using a mix of live performance and film and with choral support from Class Orkney the production enchanted all who saw it. We also had a very special cast member – Squire the Donkey – who was also happy to meet the pupils (And get loads of pats) after the performance.

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HEALTH SERVICES

Sometimes parents contact the school because they need to share information or concerns with the Speech and Language or medical staff. Parents are welcome to contact these services direct on the following numbers:

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPISTS
(Barrhead Health Centre)
: 0141 800 7117

SCHOOL NURSES:
(School Medical Room)
0141 570 7619

ECO COMMITTEE

Eco committee have been very busy over the last few months. We collected Morrison's *Let's Grow* vouchers and have ordered a large composting bin. We have created our eco character Carrie - watch the website for her debut!

In June we are planning to take part in *National School Grounds Week*. All of our hard work has led us to apply for the silver award. Well done everyone.

CONTACT US

Please remember that we have an open door policy at IMS. Parents who have a concern about their child can talk to Mari Wallace (HT) or DHTs Nick Crossan and Sarah Clark. Appointments can be made via the school office: 0141 570 7600
Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/isobelmair/>

Thanks to our friends from Scottish Power who recently visited the school to present us with a cheque for £700 which they had raised for the pupils. We hope you enjoyed seeing around the school and meeting some of the pupils who will benefit from your generous donation.

