

# MEARNS PRIMARY SCHOOL



## MAY 2014 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been a very busy term and a schedule of events still to take place can be found at the end of this newsletter! I would draw your attention to the first item as this relates to change of procedure in relation to contacting parents of children who are marked absent.

### Communication with Parents

- As from **Monday, 2 June**, when a child is marked absent on the class register and no phone call has been received by the office by the time the register has been sent down, a text will be sent to the child's main contact, advising that an absence has been marked and asking for a call to be made. If no call has been received by the interval – 10.40am, phone calls will then be made to other contacts to establish a reason for absence and ensure the safety of the pupil.

The school office telephone number is 0141 570 7220.

- We would remind you that you can follow the school twitter account @Mearns\_Primary for information about school events and photographs.
- Copies of letters and a blank consent form can be found on the school website:

[www.ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk/mearns](http://www.ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk/mearns)

### Congratulations to:

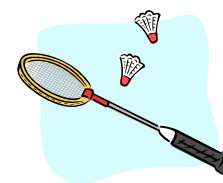
- All the pupils who took part in the Scottish Schools Athletics Association Primary Schools Cross Country Championship held on 19 April 2014 in Kirkcaldy. The girls' team, comprising Clare Wallace P7.27, Helen Chong P6.21, Zoe Wilson P7.28 and Elspeth McCalman P7.25 won a bronze team medal. The boys' team, comprising Robert Brownlee P7.25, Euan Chalmers P7.25, Adam Inglis P6.22 and Max Campbell P6.21 achieved a well deserved 10<sup>th</sup> place.

Thanks to Mrs Alison Wallace for officiating on behalf of Mearns Primary on the day and all the parents who gave up their Easter Saturday to bring their children to Kirkcaldy!

- Euan Otoo P7.28 who took part in an international football tournament in Holland during the Easter holidays. Euan will be leaving Mearns Primary to join St Ninian's High School in Kirkintilloch where he will train and study as part of Celtic Football Club's training development programme.
- Clark Marshall and Adam Inglis (both P6.22) who took part in Snowsport Scotland's Freestyle Championships at the Snow Factor in Braehead at the end of April. Adam won a silver medal in this event.

- All children who have taken part in Cluster Football and Badminton Tournaments this month. Thanks to Joanna Hall, Kristine Helmore and Andrew Howie, class teachers for organising and supporting the children at these events.

Mearns Primary School team, comprising Saad Mahmood P6.21, Keir Roberts P6.21, Kirsty Robertson P6.22, Katie Shields P6.22, Abigail Ewing P6.23, Ria Tejwani P6.23 and Marcus Connelly P6.24 won the cluster Badminton Tournament held at Mearns Castle High School.



- Congratulations to the following pupils who took part in the Barrhead and Eastwood Rotary Clubs Quiz held at Carolside Primary School:

Kassim Ahmad P7.25  
Charlie Turner P7.28

Euan Murray P7.26  
Jennifer Cunningham P7.27

Thanks to John Rodgers, P4.19 class teacher, who led this group.

- The following pupils, Laura Baillie P7.26, Callum Coutts P7.28, Rachel Croft P7.28 and Adam Wong P7.25 competed in the Maths Challenge at Mearns Castle High School, along with other P7 pupils from Kirkhill, Eaglesham and Calderwood Lodge Primary Schools. Although the team did not win overall, they certainly made a very good account of themselves!
- Harry McKay and Saad Mahmood, both P6.21, who took part in an Inter School Chess Challenge at Crookfur Primary School with children from Mearns, Kirkhill and Crookfur Primary Schools. The result was a draw.

### Good Luck to

- The following pupils who are taking part in the Carnegie Book Award at Mearns Castle High School this month. This is a cluster competition where children involved read several books and then attend an event where there is a discussion about the books and a quiz. Good luck to:

Sam Young P7.26  
Laura Baillie P7.26

Laweeza Khan P7.26  
Mitchell Fleming P7.26

Callum Sharp P7.26

- Euan Inglis P4.14, Adam Inglis P6.22, Adam Stewart P4.13, Lukas Millar P4.20, Ethan Cowles P4.19 and Jamie Clark P4.20 who have been invited to take part in an International Football Tournament in Albertslund, Denmark as part of the ongoing town twinning initiative between East Renfrewshire Council and Albertslund.

### Bikeability

We would like to thank all the parents who are currently giving up their time to come and assist with the Bikeability Programme. Without their help, we would not be able to take part in the scheme which is being run throughout all East Renfrewshire primary schools.

## Staff News



Congratulation to Rosalyn Banks on the birth of Eva Grace and to Mari-Clare Mitchell on the birth of Ben.

Jennifer Leitch is now on maternity leave and Mrs Jesseca Powell is covering her leave at present.

Eabhnat Ní Laighin completed the recent Ladies 10K, with an injured knee, and the group she entered with raised £2,350 for the Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy Charity. The money will be used to buy a set of musical instruments in the name of a friend who sadly passed away earlier this year.

## Sports Days

Arrangements are now being put in place for Sports Days to which parents are invited to attend. Please ensure that children have their PE kit in school on their Sports Day. Details of dates are on the list of events. Thanks to Mrs Angela O'Connor for organising this and to the PTA for the donation of medals.

ERC Active Schools are organising Commonwealth Roadshows for all primary schools in East Renfrewshire. P1 – P4 pupils will participate on Thursday, 5 June and P4 – P7 pupils on Friday, 6 June. The event will take place in school. PE kit and waterbottles are needed on these days.

## Fund Raising

Various different fund raising events have taken place over the last few weeks.

- Emma Jeffrey and Sofia Bald, both P7.28, have raised £330.00 for Cystic Fibrosis and Kidney Research following the sale of their Rainbow Loom jewellery.
- Amy McBride, Danielle Major, Erin Boyce (all P6.23) and Elspeth McCalman P7.25 also had a jewellery sale along with cupcake. They raised the sum of £72.77 and the girls will take this money Yorkhill personally.
- The money raised from donations on Wear It Orange Day in memory of Andrew Ferrier; the sale of rainbow looms to pupils and staff (organised by girls in P5.16 with support from Mrs Kelly and Mrs Hillan) and P4.13's Yorkhill Money box totalled £2,382.32.

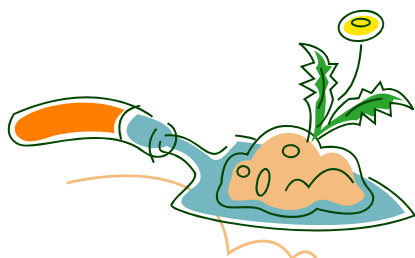
Andrew's mum, Lorna, completed the Ladies 10K held in May and £500 of the money she raised has been added to school fund, making a total of £2,882.32, which will be donated to Ward 7a of Yorkhill Hospital, where Andrew spent time. He had asked that any money raised was given to allow toys and games to be purchased for the use of the children on that ward. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this!



## The School Library

Miss Cumming, DHT would welcome any offers of assistance from parents for the library. Thanks to parents who have already contacted her. She will be in touch in due course but any further expressions of interest will be gratefully received.

## Eco Garden



If there are any keen gardeners who would like to offer their services in the Eco Garden over the summer holidays, please make yourselves known to the office by emailing:

[schoolmail@mearns.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@mearns.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

It would be helpful if you could indicate when you would be available and a rota will be drawn up by Miss Cumming, DHT.

## Lost Property

We have received a number of calls regarding lost property. Every day there is a large volume of jackets, bags, lunch boxes and water bottles which are returned to the lost property boxes which are placed round the corner from the lift in the main foyer. These are retrieved from PE changing rooms, corridors and the playground every day and parents are more than welcome to come into school and look through this. Office staff go through the boxes on a weekly basis and named items are then organised to be returned to the relevant child's class. If an item of clothing or bag remains missing, the class teacher will be asked for a note to be placed in the class's homework diary and an email is sent to the remainder of the staff in the wing or whole school. A text message will be issued by the school as a last resort, as this incurs a significant financial cost to the school directly.

I would ask that all property is clearly marked with your child's name and class.

## ERC Summer Activities

The ERC Summer Activities Programme is now available online. Booking opens today.

[www.bit.ly/SummerHolidayActs2014](http://www.bit.ly/SummerHolidayActs2014)

## Rag Bag Collection

The final collection of the session will take place on Friday, 13 June. Bags should be returned on the Friday morning before 9am.

I hope you enjoyed the final holiday weekend of the session and look forward to a very busy and enjoyable final few weeks of the term.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Dillon-Ruddy  
Head Teacher

Tel: 0141 570 7220

[www.ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk/mearns](http://www.ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk/mearns)

## Important Dates

Wed, 28 May	MCHS Cluster Sports Event (P7 pupils transferring to MCHS)
Thurs, 29 May	MCHS Induction Day 1 P1 Induction Day 1.45pm – 2.45pm
Fri, 30 May	MCHS Induction Day 2 P1 Induction Day 1.45pm – 2.45pm
Mon, 2 June	P2/P3 Sports 10am P4/P5 Sports 12.30pm
Tues, 3 June	P1 Sports 10am EHS Induction Day 1 P1 Induction Day 1.45pm – 2.45pm
Wed, 4 June	EHS Induction Day 2 P1 Induction Day 1.45pm – 2.45pm
Thur, 5 June	Commonwealth Road Show – more information to follow
Fri, 6 June	Commonwealth Road Show – more information to follow
Sat, 7 June	PTA Summer Fayre 12pm – 3pm
Tues, 10 June	P6/P7 Sports Day 12.30pm
Wed, 11 June	Ante-pre school nursery pupils Sports Day 9.30am – 10.30am and 1.30pm to 2.30pm Pre-school nursery pupils to Commonwealth Road Show School Show 7pm
Thurs, 12 June	School Show 7pm
Fri, 13 June	Rag Bag Collection
Thurs, 19 June	P7 Leavers' Dance 7pm – 9pm
Mon, 23 June	Nursery Celebration 9.30am
Tues, 24 June	P7 Leavers' Assembly 9.30am
Wed, 26 June	School closes 1pm

