

MEARNS PRIMARY SCHOOL



March 2015 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

Congratulations to ...

- Liam Bothwell P6.24 and Jack Kelly P6.23 who both successfully auditioned for places in the Junior Corp of the NYCos National Boys Choir. We look forward to hearing about their experiences with the Choir.
- Claire Gilmour-McGuire, P1.3 class teacher, on the arrival of twins Pippa and Finn. The babies arrived very early and it will be some time until they leave hospital. We wish them well!
- the girls who took part in the recent Netball Cluster Tournament in Eaglesham Primary School against two teams from Eaglesham PS and two teams from Kirkhill PS. Our Red Team took first place:

Maaria Khan 6.21
Emma Gourlay 7.25
Kiera Welsh 6.21
Danielle Major 7.28

Katie Black 7.28
Amy Cunningham P6.23
Amy Campbell 7.25
Lucy Wittmann 7.26

Our Blue Team also played well and Miss Scott and Mrs Murphy were very proud of all the girls' efforts.

Preetika Samra-Kaur P6.22
Eve Sanderson P6.21
Zainab Sardar P6.22
Hannah Moran P6.22

Emma Barclay P7.25
Eva Chong P6.23
Yoonseo Choi P6.24
Lauren Chalmers P6.24

- Esther Jamieson P6.21 who competed in the West District Long Course Junior Age Group Swimming Championships in East Kilbride in February. Esther won medals in all the three finals, following strict swimming competition rules and fiercely fought heats.
- The East Renfrewshire Euro Quiz took place at the end of February in the Albertslund Hall, Newton Mearns. Mr Rodgers accompanied Danyaal Butt P6.24, Ryan Gordon P6.23, Moiz Maqsood P6.21 and Fraser Watson P6.22 to this competition. The boys achieved a very respectable place in the top 5! Well done.

- Adam Nadeem P6.23 who has been awarded a place in the Manchester United Football Club Pro Youth Scheme.
- our cross country runners who competed in ERC's Cross Country Championships which took place yesterday in Rouken Glen Park.

Representing the girls:

Helen Chong P7.25
Esther Jamieson P6.21

Eva Chong P6.23
Lily Rae P6.21



and representing the boys:

Keir Roberts P7.25
Craig Orr P7.25

Robbie McGregor P7.28
Arran McDonald P6.22

All the children ran exceptionally well in miserable conditions. Helen took first place overall and was awarded individual Gold. Eva took third place, Bronze, and the girls' team were placed first overall and presented with Gold Medals. Twenty schools took part and the competition was very fierce!

Burns Singing Competition

On Tuesday, 10 March four pupils from P5 travelled to Paisley to take part in the 2015 Regional Primary Schools Competition run by the Renfrewshire Association of Burns Clubs (RABC). Zoe McFadyen P5.16 was awarded Silver and Megan Alger P5.16 awarded bronze in the P4 – P5 Singing Category. Cameron Hepburn P5.17 and Abbas Khan P5.17 were awarded certificates for their performances.

Good Luck to:

- Four of our pupils who will be representing Mearns Primary School in the 2015 SSSA Alpine Race Series Qualifier on 13 March at Glencoe:

Adam Inglis P7.26
Ross Sharp P6.24

Ross Inglis P1.2
Euan Inglis P5.18

Thanks to Mr Inglis and Mr Sharp for taking the time to accompany the boys. We wish them well and hope the weather holds!

Active Schools Vouchers

Once again we are collecting Active Kids Vouchers which are available from Sainsbury's. Vouchers can be redeemed for sports equipment through this scheme. There are collection boxes at reception for these vouchers.

Macmillan Cancer Support

We are delighted to let you know that the final amount raised for Macmillan Cancer Support was £1,650.83 and we look forward to taking part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning again later this year.

CONCERNS

- **Parking on Hunter Drive**

Yet again, we have been receiving complaints from residents in the local area regarding parking on Hunter Drive with particular reference to the grass verges, resulting from cars parking on both sides of the road, impeding the flow of traffic and the verges being destroyed. We are ever mindful of the local residents but also appreciate the problems with parking.

ERC are currently reviewing and updating parking restrictions and enforcing them with the Community Wardens. When the review of Newton Mearns comes around, there will be a discussion about installing waiting restrictions on Hunter Drive. The legal process for change is very time consuming and will be sometime in coming to fruition.

I would ask again for all drivers to be considerate when parking and to be aware of pupils' safety, other car park users and the local community.

East Renfrewshire Tackles Exploitation

East Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee is inviting people living, working or volunteering in the local community to come together to find out how to keep young people and vulnerable adults safe from exploitation. Three events are planned:

- Keeping Children Safe in the Community and Online
Thursday 26 March, 7pm – 8.30pm : The Barrhead Foundry
- Tackling Children Sexual Exploitation
Wednesday 1 April, 7pm – 8.30pm : The Barrhead Foundry
- Protecting Women and Vulnerable Adults
Tuesday 7 April, 7pm – 8.30pm : Clarkston Hall



All events are suitable for children over 11 years. No crèche facilities will be available. Further information can be found at:

www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ercpc

Deliveries to Office

It has come to my attention that items left by children at home in the morning are being delivered to school with the expectation that the office staff will deliver these to classrooms. These items can range from a snack for playtime to a forgotten lunch. Obviously, in emergencies, the office staff can deal with such requests but I would ask that these are kept to a minimum. You will appreciate that first thing in the morning can be a very busy time and the office staff have important tasks relating to attendance etc. Please encourage the children to be more organised in the morning and this will minimise disruption.

Rights Respecting Schools

As a Rights Respecting School, we ensure that the principles of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child are embedded in our ethos and policy making:

- The right to a childhood (including protection from harm)
- The right to be educated (including all girls and boys completing primary school)
- The right to be healthy (including having clean water, nutritious food and medical care)
- The right to be treated fairly (which includes changing laws and practices that discriminate against children)
- The right to be heard (which includes considering children's views)

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

We would like to remind and encourage parents to use the above website when making purchases online. This is a great way to raise money for the school and very simple and secure to use if making purchases online. Over 2,700 retailers are available to choose from.

Simply log onto www.easyfundraising.org.uk, sign as a supporter, go to *Find a Cause Search* on the website and select Mearns Primary School. Enter the name of the retailer you wish to purchase from eg Amazon, Next, John Lewis, Expedia and start shopping. The cost of the items purchased are exactly the same but the retailer gives a cash reward which can be turned into a donation towards Mearns Primary.

ERC April to June Sports Programme

Please see the link to the e-brochure for the April to June 2015 East Renfrewshire Council Sports Programme:

<http://bit.ly/SportsApr-Jun15>

Forthcoming Events

- ECO Week Monday, 23 to Friday, 27 March
- ECO Super Hero Day Friday, 27 March (see Eco Newsletter)

I would remind you that school closes on Thursday, 2 April 2015 at 2.30pm for the Easter holidays and reopens on Monday, 20 April. I hope you all have a happy and relaxing break.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Dillon-Ruddy
Head Teacher

www.ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk/mearns/