



TRANSITION NEWSLETTER



Dear Parent

Welcome to the second edition of our transition newsletter.

Transition Plan and Transition Steering Group

The Steering Group have met 3 times now and continue to discuss the implementation of the transition plan along with ongoing comments from children and parents. A copy of the transition plan, along with minutes of the steering group meetings can be found on both Robslee and Giffnock's website. The plan is a working document and continually updated to reflect the views of all stakeholders. The footnote at the bottom of the plan indicates the date/edition. The website will be updated to reflect the most recent version.

The Steering Group met last night and the next meeting will take place on Thursday 26th January 2012.

What the pupil's say

The head teacher of Giffnock attended Pupil Council meetings in both schools last month. This was a great way to find out their points of view and concerns about the planned changes. The children had some very good ideas – a full list of which can be found on each school's websites. Here is a flavour below:

- Welcome party.
- Buddy.
- All classes get mixed each year anyway.
- Get to know and meet new friends.
- New teachers.
- House system.
- Welcome party/house challenge.
- Mixed uniform.
- Keep uniform/badge.
- Joint mural.
- We could go on a trip together.
- We want to keep red nose day.
- Playground activities.
- Chance to meet the teachers.
- Tour of Giffnock.
- Play day.
- Trips (Castle Toward).
- Worried about splitting up with your friends.

The management team have considered the children's comments and added many of their helpful suggestions to the transition plan. Looking at the lists from both groups of children, we discovered a lot of commonalities. Janice Collins will be holding pupil discussion forums with all children week beginning 23rd January to share these ideas and explore them further. We are sure that the children will find it interesting that they have come up with so many similarities.

In the meantime, the pupil councils will be able to share with their class that we will still operate 2 house systems, with a possibility of combining in 2014. At the moment the houses have the same colours, which will allow joint house challenges to take place. A Primary 7 residential outing will continue to be offered; however Castle Toward will be closing this session and will no longer be available.

Parental Feedback

The Steering Group was able to collate comments and questions from the parent forums of Robslee and Giffnock. Below you will find some of the issues noted for discussion. Again the full list of comments is available on the website, however, we have noted a few below:

- Pull together and keep each school's links and use them.
- Positive relationships with local businesses – develop.
- Would it be possible to keep the link with churches?
- New 'joint' homework policy.
- Whole school show.
- Parent visits to see facilities.
- Have reciprocal representatives on each parent council.
- Children presenting assembly and inviting parents from that year group along.
- How will different house system integrate?
- New identity for new school – new name, new uniform and compensation??
- School name and uniform should be kept
- ICT access needs to be better as children already share computers.
- Toilets – enhance facilities.
- Integration – how will combined classes be made up?

The school management team, along with the authority will continue to respond to parental queries. As mentioned earlier the house systems will run as before in each individual school, allowing both sets of Primary 7 children the opportunity to hold the post of House Captain/Vice Captain. The houses will join – using colour in the meantime for specific House events/challenges. **Mains** and **Mackintosh**, **Davieland** and **Burrell**, **Orchard** and **Scott**, **Eastwood** and **Livingstone**.

The authority plans to refurbish pupil toilets, re-decorate the school throughout and install projectors and interactive whiteboards in teaching rooms that are without at the moment.

School Uniform

You can see from the comments of both the children and the parents that the issue of school identity and uniform has been raised. The school name will remain, however the Transition Steering Group made a decision to consult with all stakeholders regarding school uniform. New enrolments to both schools will be made aware of the planned consultation. Further details of the consultation process will feature in the next Transition newsletter.

Opportunities for Parents

May we remind all parents of the invitation to attend a series of drop-ins with the Head Teacher and Senior Management team on:

Tuesday 17 January	Robslee Primary	9-11am
	Giffnock Primary	1-3pm
Monday 6 February	Robslee Primary	6-7pm



These drop-ins are an opportunity for parents to meet with the senior managers to discuss individual children.

Transfer Arrangements

The previous newsletter described the phases of the amalgamation process, and advised that P1 registration would take place at Giffnock Primary School.

There are a small number of parents who will have children attending both Robslee and Giffnock Primary for school session 2012/13. Such parents can choose for their older child(ren) to remain with his/her peer group in Robslee, or transfer their older child(ren) to Giffnock Primary along with his/her younger sibling(s) for the start of the school session in August 2012. For such families, the director has written to those parents asking them to write to him should they wish to be considered for an early transfer of their older child(ren).

Joint Activities for Pupils

Primary 1 and 2 children enjoyed a visit from the Circus last Wednesday. The boys and girls from Robslee joined their peers at Giffnock. The children enjoyed a tour of the building, along with the opportunity to share a playtime. Below are a few comments from the children:

I enjoyed the circus show. It was funny and made me laugh
– Khadeeja Pr.2

My friend from Robslee was there
– Max Pr. 1a

I loved the circus workshop when we had to spin a plate on a stick. I met Kirsty from nursery and Poppy from my tennis club – Theo Pr. 2

My favourite bit was the workshop. I learnt to spin a plate and I met a new friend called Phillip
- Xander Pr. 2

I liked it when we juggled over Miss Mitchell – Robert Pr. 1c

I liked the unicycle because we all had to move back in case we got run over – Ross Pr. 1c

My favourite bit was riding the tiny little bike, I met Neil and Cameron from Anchor Boys – Kyle Pr. 2

Yours sincerely

Janice Collins

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Giffnock Primary

Pauline Ferguson

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