  

**Hillview Primary**

**October/ November Newsletter**

Dear Parents,

We have a very busy term ahead of us and we are looking forward to all that we have planned for the pupils and wider community. I have included a full over view of events for term 2 as I know that many parents like to know these dates well in advance. I will also issue a paper copy of events for terms 2, 3 and 4 to each family as I know this is useful to stick to fridges for parents to refer to.

Please read on for an update of school news and information.

Kind regards,

*Mrs Black*

*Head Teacher*

**Parents Evening**

Many thanks to all of the parents and carers who joined us on Parent Evening before the October break. We had a great turn out and appreciated you taking the time to visit the Scholastic Book Fair and complete our questionnaire. If you were unable to attend, we will contact you to offer an alternative appointment time.

**Parking**

If you are coming to collect your child, please park with care in the parent car park. If the car park is full, you must leave the car park and find an alternative parking place**. You cannot park in the turning circle, the bus bay or on the area marked with chevrons**. **The safety of all pupils is a priority for us** and we cannot have the bus being prevented from parking in the bay which gives access for pupils. Also, can I remind everyone that the one way system has to be followed. Unfortunately, I have had reports that, if there is a queue to leave, some cars have driven over the centre reservation in order to beat the queue rather than waiting to reverse out of a space.

Please consider alternatives to driving to school, if you can, such **as park and stride, cycling, walking or scooting to school.**

**Badminton**

Well done to our P7 badminton team who took part in the Barrhead and St Luke’s Cluster Competition this week. We were second overall with the leaders just ahead by 2 points. The pupils have given up their lunch breaks to have extra practice. Many thanks to Mr McGunnigle, our Active Sports Coordinator, for arranging this and also to Mrs Hodgson for helping with training. The children who took part were: Thomas Middleton, James Middleton, Emily Meeton, Aimee Cooper, Kirstie Stewart, Ross MacLeod, Kenzie Brown and Jessica Ewing. Well done!

**Friends of Hillview**

Our new parent council was formed following the AGM last month. There is a new constitution and a new group of office bearers. Many thanks to the parents who put themselves forward for roles and the following people were elected:

Chair: Julie Given

Vice Chair: Ashley Granger

Secretary: Charlene Ramsey

Treasurer: Andrew Todd

The group have already organised a Facebook group called Friends of Hillview and all parents are encouraged to like the page. This is a closed group and they are hoping that all of our families will join to keep up to date with their work.

**Halloween Parties**

Many thanks to the Friends of Hillview for organising our fantastic Halloween parties for P1-3 pupils and P4-7 pupils. The turnout was great and the children all looked fantastic in their wonderful outfits. Many of the costumes were home-made by parents, showing a lot of creativity! I would also like to thank the number of parents who volunteered to help and again for entering into the spirit of the party by dressing up too. The children had an amazing evening.

**Christmas Fayre**

The Friends of Hillview are organising the annual Christmas Fayre and the date for this will be Saturday, 25th December from 12 noon until 2pm. Please contact the school office if you would like to have a stall at the Fayre. Once again the parent council will donate £1 per child so that the school can have stalls selling festive treats and novelties created by the pupils

The school will organise a collection of donations over the next few weeks.

Friday 10th November – toiletries and bottles

Friday 17th November – toys and books

Friday 24th November – biscuits, chocolates and cakes

**Cash Machine**

We would like to remind parents that following the introduction of the new £1 coins, the cash machine in the lunch hall will no longer be available to top up pupils’ accounts. It is therefore necessary for account to be topped up using Parent Pay as the council intend to remove these machines from all primary schools in the foreseeable future.

If you need more information on Parent Pay, please contact the office staff.

**Waterstones Book Store**

Mrs Canning has built up a great relationship with the staff at Waterstones in Newton Mearns. Thanks to this strong partnership we are lucky to have so many authors come to visit our school. Mrs Canning will be taking a small group of pupils to Waterstones on Monday as they have very generously donated £250 for us to spend in the store. In addition, one of their customers has donated several boxes of books to us. We are extremely grateful for these substantial donations and we intend to set up class lending libraries for children to take books home.

**Read Write Count**

Read Write Count is an initiative to support links with parents as partners, to support pupils’ learning at home. P2 and P3 pupils will receive Read Write Count bag at the end of November and we plan to organise workshops and drop in events nearer the time. This is an initiative started by the Scottish Government following the success of Book Bug bags, which will be given out to P1 pupils at the same time.

Hillview Primary has been chosen to be one of the pilot schools for the expansion of Read Write Count into P4 to P7 classes. Each class will get a box of resources to promote learning at home in these three areas. When the boxes are delivered to the school, we again, plan to organise workshops and drop in sessions for parents. Please click on the links below for more information:

<http://scottishbooktrust.com/learning/read-write-count/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1G6jH52dIhs>

<http://www.readwritecount.scot/>

**Rouken Glen – Young Enterprise Scotland**

P3 and P4 classes have been for visits to Rouken Glen following our partnership with Young Enterprise Scotland. The children have planted vegetables, learned about bee hives and have also made kites from recycled materials. P2 will be the next class to go on these trips. The team have had several site visits to the school and are planning on preparing the patch of grass at the far end of the school so that we can grow our own vegetables. In addition, the ‘secret garden’ is going to be transformed into a Sensory/ Mindfulness garden with their support. We are hoping that our older pupils will be able to help with the design and preparation of these areas.

**Achievement Assembly**

Our next Achievement Assembly will be on Friday, 3rd November at 9.15am and all parents/carers are welcome to join us. We would like pupils to bring in any medals, certificates, trophies or photographs of their achievements outwith school so that these can be shared and celebrated with the other pupils and staff.

**Barrhead Cluster Transition Review**

Every year the Education Department visits one of the school clusters to review transition arrangements for pupils. In November, a team comprising of Quality Improvement Officers and Head Teachers will visit the Barrhead Cluster. The visitors will come to our school on the 8th, 9th and 10th of November. Normally the team would only visit P1/P2 and P6 /P7 classes. However, they will visit all of our classes and we will be given the opportunity to share the work that we have been doing in school following our Education Scotland Inspection in December 2016 as well as talk about Cluster working. The review team would also like to gather parental views and will be sending out a link to their own questionnaires in the coming weeks.

**Twitter**

Please follow us on Twitter - **@HillviewERC**

Let’s get to 300 followers – currently at 297!

**Upcoming Events**

TERM 2

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| Friday 3rd Nov at 9.15am | Achievement Assembly – all welcome |
| Tuesday 7th November | Visit from the Director of Education – Mrs Mhairi Shaw |
| 8th- 10th November | Barrhead Cluster Review – Review Team visit to Hillview PS |
| Saturday 25th November 12.00-2.00pm | Christmas Fayre |
| 27th November – 3rd December | Book bug bags and Read Write Count Bags distributed  More info on workshops and drop in sessions to follow |
| Friday 8th December | Christmas Jumper Day – donations for Save the Children and school solar dome project  Home-made / decorated Christmas jumpers welcome! |
| Monday 11th December 9.15 -11.45am | P6 and P7 classes to St Andrew’s Church for Christmas Activities |
| Monday 11th December  At 2pm  Wednesday 13th December  At 9.45am | P1-P3 Nativity |
| Tuesday 12th December (am) | P1-P4 to Panto at Pace Theatre, Paisley |
| Wednesday 13th December (am) | P5-P7 to Panto at Pace Theatre, Paisley |
| Thursday 14th December | Christmas Party for P7a/b |
| Friday 15th December | Christmas Party for P5a/b and P6 |
| Monday 18th December | Christmas Party for P3 and P4 |
| Tuesday 19th December | Christmas Party for P1a/b and P2 |
| Wednesday 20th December  10am | Christmas Carol Concert all pupils performing |
| Wednesday 20th December 2.30pm finish | Last day of school |