



SIR E. SCOTT SCHOOL

SGOIL ÀRAICH

January - June 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome to our Sgoil Àraich Newsletter for Terms 3 and Term 4 of this session. Once again it has been a very busy time for the children and staff. I hope you enjoy reading about what we have been involved in over the past few months.

We started term 3 with five new children, bringing our total to 28. They have all settled in fairly quickly. Missing from the picture on the right is Alfie Martin.

Term 3 - Topic Work

Our first topic was Fine and Gross Motor Skills, the children participated in different activities indoor and outdoor to help strengthen their fine and gross motor skills. They had a great time playing in the snow, using spades to move snow from one place to another and their bodies to make shapes and mark make in the snow.



We then moved on to the Under the Sea topic as some of the children showed an interest in sea creatures. The children went on learning walks to the shore, and visited the Library for books with information on the sea. They engaged in various activities using different resources to create their own small world sea areas in the room and outdoors. They also created their own artwork which is displayed on the walls around the room.



Transition

After trialling different weekly transition models for preschool children to P1GM and P1 EM it was decided that after the three-week trial that 2 mornings a week (Monday and Tuesday) was the most effective for the children. The children are enjoying going to the primary and have adapted well to the new routine.

Chinese New Year

For Chinese New Year the children had noodles for snack and made and decorated lanterns.

World Book Day



The children came dressed up as characters from their favourite book and a few children brought in books associated with their outfit. They also went to listen to a couple of Gaelic stories in the Library.

Valentine's Day

The children participated in various activities connected to Valentine's Day. They coloured in hearts and made cards to take home.

Pancake Day

We made pancakes and put different toppings on them and ate them for snack.

Stay, Play and Learn Sessions



Parents came in to spend some time playing with their children and experienced a little of what we do in Sgoil Àraich on a day to day basis giving an insight on how we develop their children's learning.

Staffing

Sadly, Mary Ann left the Sgoil Àraich at the end of March 2019 after nearly 30 years of working with pre-school children. She was previously in the Tarbert Playgroup and Croileagan before moving to the Sgoil Àraich in August 2012.



Mary Ann has helped prepare many of our young children for school, participating in lots of fun activities while ensuring they were learning at the same time. She has been a valuable member of staff who will be greatly missed by all her colleagues, parents and children. She was presented with gifts from parents at a tea party on Friday 29th March. We wish Mary Ann all the best for the future.



This term Hannah MacLeod has joined us to do lunch cover and Fiona MacKenzie also joined our team in May so we now no longer need to rely as much on relief staff but are grateful for all those who came in to fill the gaps.

Transition Day

We had 4 children joining us for 3 transition days in May and they all settled fairly quickly. We did various activities and look forward to them joining us next session. The new P1 entrants for next session also spent their days in the Primary Department.



Term 4 Topic

This term our topic was Our Senses. The children learnt about their different senses by exploring the environment indoors and outdoors, looking at what we can see, what things looked like - their shape, colour, size and amount. We listened to different sounds indoor and outdoor and talked about the different textures of objects indoor and

outdoor.



The children also explored different scents to guess what the smells were and they tasted a range of different foods at snack. (Sweet, salty, sour).

Our Story was Goldilocks where the children were taught about what we should and shouldn't do and how we keep ourselves safe outdoors.

From our story the children took an interest in teddy bears. To finish off our topic we went on a Teddy Bears' picnic in the school grounds where again the children tasted different foods.





RAF DAY
The children participated in the Developing the Young Workforce RAF day and listened to the pilots talking about their work and they got to try on uniforms and helmets, and got their photos taken. They really enjoyed this and some of them talked about wanting to be pilots for days afterwards.



Sgoil Àraich & Primary Prizegiving

The children sang a song with Mr MacIver (Tha sinn uile tolichte) and then received their certificates and pencil cases.



Outdoor Play
We continue to play outdoors daily in our play area and around the school grounds and shore. We also go on a daily mile and listening and learning walks.



Sgoil Àraich Trip

We went to Horgabost Beach for our trip and Leverburgh Memorial Sgoil Àraich joined us. It was a blustery day but we managed to get a sheltered area where the children enjoyed playing different activities, parachute games, ball games, and even flying a kite a parent brought along. The children were also digging in the sand and making sand castles. We had a picnic on the machair and then all the children got an ice cream from



the shop.

Sports Day

Most of the children participated in the sports day along with the primary pupils. Once again the sun was shining and the children enjoyed themselves.



Sgoil Àraich Leavers Trip



This year we went to Huishinish for lunch at Mary Ann's food van. The children enjoyed eating outside on what was a beautiful afternoon and had fun playing with the bubbles Mary Ann had given them. Everyone had a great time and it was great for the children to meet up with Mary Ann again.

End of term Assembly

The Sgoil Àraich leavers went to the end of term assembly and enjoyed taking part and listening to the songs being sang by the Primary and Secondary pupils.

We wish our 14 Sgoil Àraich leavers well as they move on to the primary department and hope everyone has a lovely holiday.

Le gach deagh dhùrachd

DONNA MACLEOD
PLAY LEADER

