



**Mr S Humphries - Headteacher**  
**Mrs N Mohammed - Depute Headteacher**  
**(Maternity cover for Mrs S Saxton)**  
**Tel: 01383 602455**

# MASTERTON NEWS

DESIGN: THANA MITCHELL

MAY 2024



## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Rotary Quiz
- Rugby
- Football Festival
- Gala Brochure Competition
- P.1 Evening
- Masterton Mile
- Sports Day
- Class Structures

With there not being a lot of time until the end of term, I thought I'd try to get a quick newsletter out. This term is so busy with everything going on that it's now or never for the newsletter. Reports, staffing, data collection, budgets and planning for after the holidays all need done so there's not much time for anything else. So on with the newsletter....

## Rotary Quiz

The P.7 Rotary Quiz team took part in the Fife Rotary Quiz finals at Auchmuty High School in Glenrothes (Strange it's the Fife finals when Portmoak Primary School from Perth and Kinross were there....). This was where all the winning teams from across the region competed, 10 in total. They finished 3rd overall which was a fantastic achievement. I know that on the night they were disappointed but they shouldn't be because they represented the school extremely well and I was a proud headteacher sitting in the crowd. A big congratulations to Nathan Ndlovu, Louie Stevenson, Reuben Munro, Grace Sinclair and Dylan Barker.

*Congratulations!*

## Rugby



The P.6/7 and P.7 classes recently had some input on touch rugby. After 1 session of 45 minutes they took part in a touch rugby tournament down at McKane Park, returning unbeaten. I did ask a few of them if they had ever played rugby before but none of them had. Imagine what they would be like if they had actually had more training than just 45 minutes...

## St Margaret's Football Festival

In my last newsletter I complained about all the football matches which had been cancelled over Term 3 so we were very pleased to be able to take part in the St Margaret's Festival at Pitreavie this month. I am very delighted to announce that we finished top and were the overall winners of the tournament!

It was a very tough event with us winning our group before ending up in the top group where all the teams who had won their groups were together. After a few cracking games we emerged unbeaten and in first place. We only lost one goal during the whole day in the nine games we played. Well done to all the footballers. A fantastic achievement.

We've got a number of other football tournaments coming up before the end of the school year. Fingers crossed that the weather is kind so they can go ahead.

## Nursery - P.1 Evening

P.1 parents were invited to our first transition event of the session a couple of weeks ago. It was good to see so many parents (new and established) at the talk. Mrs Mohammed ran through the transition events which will be taking place as well as providing information about the opportunities to visit the classrooms taking place over the next few weeks. With 66 new P.1 pupils coming in all these events need to be well organised and planned as you can imagine.

## ParentWise Survey

*Thank you!*

I received the results of the ParentWise Survey which was sent out back in March from Fife Council. I would firstly like to thank everyone who did the survey. We had one of the highest returns in Fife and actually had more returns than one secondary school (wow!) so my thanks to everyone who did it.

The results were very positive although with there being 34 questions to answer there's a lot to unpick. I've begun looking at them and have identified a couple of areas which I would like to look further into next term. Once again thank you for your support and feedback which will be used to help improve the school.

## Children's Gala Brochure Competition

We had some excellent news surrounding the gala brochure competition. We always make the effort to enter this competition and this year was no exception with lots of entries. I managed to look at some in the office and thought that the standard was very high. The entries from all schools across Dunfermline were judged by Jim Leishman and he picked out the winner.

I'm very pleased to say that **Corben McLean (P.4/5)** was the overall winner for Dunfermline and his picture will be proudly displayed on the front of the gala brochure. Well done to Corben! A fantastic result! Not only that but **Aaroh Mohapatra from P.5/6** was one of the runners up so well done to Aaroh too!



Corben McLean (P.4/5)



Aaroh Mohapatra from P.5/6

# Congratulations!

## Funding

The Parent Council very kindly agreed to purchase every class in the school a visualiser. This was a significant expenditure of around £700. For anyone that doesn't know, a visualiser is a piece of equipment which you attach to your computer and it projects whatever you are doing onto the smartboard making it easier and clearer for everyone to see. They are used extensively across the school. I've been in a number of classes recently and have been pleased to see the new visualisers in use straight away.





## Class Structures

As I mentioned in my last newsletter our numbers will be very tight again with no space at certain stages. This is a feature of the school and one we have had to deal with on many occasions over the last few years. Having looked at potential class structures it became clear that they can only be arranged in one way which I've outlined below:

P.7a P.7b  
 P.6a P.6b  
 P.5a P.5b  
 P.4a P.4b  
 P.3a P.3b  
 P.2/3 P.2 P.1/2  
 P.1a P.1b

There will be **15 classes** in total, the same as this year. As always classes will be arranged by age with the older pupils being in the 'a' class and younger in the 'b' class.

With regards to pupil numbers the following are the maximum numbers allowed in classes:

**P.4-7** 33 pupils

**P.2-3** 30 pupils

**P.1** 25 pupils

**Any composite class** 25 pupils

(The minimum number of pupils from one stage allowed is 4. I should point out that the numbers likely in our composites are fairly evenly split next session).

With regards to teachers this will not be confirmed until later in the term. However as soon as I know then I will let you know your son / daughter's class and their teacher. It looks likely that there will be a number of new teachers and if this is the case we will look towards ensuring they have the opportunity to visit the school and meet their class before the end of term.

I know that classes are always something which parents/children get anxious about and children being separated from their friends but I do everything possible to make the transition easier hence the reasons I am sharing this information with you just now. However, I ensure that I follow the guidelines so that I am fair to everyone and everyone is treated equally. When the classes are sorted I always have parents asking if their son/daughter can move class to be with their friends if they are separated. I'm afraid I can't do this as I have to follow guidance and treat everyone equally in the process.

One other thing worth mentioning regarding classes and staffing is that alongside Mrs Mohammed and myself we will have another Depute Headteacher (DHT) joining us. As the school has grown even bigger (likely to have around 430 pupils in August) we are now entitled to another DHT. How the classes are split between myself and the 2 DHTs will be shared when we have confirmation of the new DHT although there won't be any dramatic changes (hopefully).

## Sports Day

Parents and guardians are invited to our sports day on **Wednesday 5th June**. Below are the timings for the different classes:

<b>9.15am - 10.15am</b>	<b>P.1a, P.1b, P.1/2, P.2 and P.2/3</b>
<b>11.00am - 12.15pm</b>	<b>P.3a, P.3b, P.4a, P.4b and P.4/5</b>
<b>1.30pm - 2.40pm</b>	<b>P.5, P.5/6, P.6, P.6/7 and P.7</b>

If for any reason we need to cancel the sports we will aim to have it as soon as possible after these dates. However, the weather gods have been kind to us for the last few years so fingers crossed for this year.

## Masterton Mile

We had a lovely sunny day for our annual Masterton Mile event. It was great to see so many parents turning up to watch and support all the pupils taking part. Even though there were winners at each stage the most important thing was the taking part.

The overall fastest pupils were **Grace Sinclair (P.7)** and **Noah Gamble (P.7)**.

Part of the funds raised by the Masterton Mile will again this year be used to purchase more of the reading scheme being used in the infants' department. We purchased part of it last year and will be purchasing more of it this year.



Thanks to everyone for your help and support. We raised an amazing £7,289!

Well Done

## Dates to Remember

A final reminder of some dates in June.

# Reminder



<b>Monday 3rd June</b>	<b>Public Holiday</b>
<b>Wednesday 5th June</b>	<b>Sports Day (Parents are welcome to attend)</b>
<b>Friday 14th June</b>	<b>School Reports Home</b>
<b>Saturday 22nd June</b>	<b>Dunfermline Children's Gala</b>
<b>Friday 28th June</b>	<b>Last Day of School</b>

## And finally.....

Let's hope for some good weather over the next few weeks leading up to the end of term.

Hopefully all the planned events will go ahead.

I'll be in touch over classes and teachers as soon as I have them.

Regards

S Humphries  
Headmaster

