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# MASTERTON NEWS

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MARCH 2026



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## Rotary Quiz

A team of P.7 pupils took part in the Carnegie Rotary Quiz at Pitreavie Primary School. After some intense quizzing Masterton finished first winning the quiz. Well done to Rory Morton, Logan Maclver, Iona McDowall, Ajitesh Vignesh (Ajo) and Evan Murray.

**Well done!**

We have a proud record at the quiz and the pupils were outstanding maintaining our record. They will progress onto the Fife Finals which will be held at the start of April at Levenmouth Academy where the winners of all the other Rotary Quiz competitions will be in attendance.

It's hard to believe that Term 3 is almost over. It started in the dark wet month of January and here we are in the bright days at the end of March. This term is by far the longest and always seems to take forever but by the end of it we have made the most progress in our learning - which is what school is all about.



## Scots Poetry

In the middle of February all pupils worked on learning a Scots Poem in time for Burns Day. Well done to everyone who was able to learn their poem. We then had our poetry competition where the class winners from P.4 - 7 had to perform their poem in front of the whole school. The judges were myself, Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Mohammed. The judging was incredibly hard as all the poems were of such a high standard.

The following pupils were agreed upon as the winners.

1<sup>st</sup> - Isla Hodgson (P.7b)

2<sup>nd</sup> - Harry Sinclair (P.7a)

3<sup>rd</sup> - Skye McCulloch (P.7a)

Well  
done!

Congratulations!

It was only afterwards that I noticed that all the pupils were in P.7. I should also note that this was the first time in 3 years that a P.7 pupil had won the poetry so they obviously all pulled their socks up this year. Well done to everyone who took part and learned their poem!

## School Trips

Over the last few years we have not had many school trips. This has been a recurring question at Parent Council meetings. One of our main issues was the cost of hiring coaches which was, and still is, very expensive. However this year all buses have been funded by the money raised by the Masterton Mile meaning that the cost of any trip has been significantly reduced. As I said at the time the money from the Masterton Mile was to be spent on what the children wanted. We asked them and one of the key things which kept coming back was trips. Not every class in the school has a trip before the summer but we have some further ideas up our sleeves for later in the year.

## Mobile Phones

It has come to my attention that some pupils have either been taking photographs or filming in the playground. This is strictly prohibited unless permission has been granted from the school. Any pictures or film taken in the playground must be deleted. Any pupils filming or taking photographs may be banned from bringing their phone into school.

**PHOTOGRAPHS OR FILMING  
IN THE PLAYGROUND**

**STRICTLY  
PROHIBITED!**



## In the School - Sports



We've taken part in a number of different sports events during this term.

The badminton team recently took part in the West Fife badminton tournament at the Carnegie Centre. After a fantastic performance by everyone they finished second overall. Jax Paton (P.7b) won the silver medal in the boys' singles final so a big congratulations to Jax.

We entered two teams for the P.6 hockey festival in March. Both teams did extremely well. One of our teams ended up in the final narrowly losing to Townhill PS finishing second place overall. Their trophy was added to our display cabinet.

Miss English was incredibly proud of each and every pupil who attended the tournament. They showed fantastic support and sportsmanship both towards other teams and to each other.

A special thank you to Mr Lock, who kindly supplied refreshments for all the players and who came along to support the teams. Mr Lock runs the Krazy Bites Café in Rosyth - so please pop along for a very tasty sandwich and cake if you are in the area.

The P.7 basketball team took part in the NBA basketball finals at the Learning Campus. They did so well and narrowly lost out in the final when the winning team scored a basket in the dying seconds of the game. Although I could tell they were disappointed they should be proud of themselves for getting so far and doing so well. Our basketball team has consistently performed to a very high level achieving more success than any previous basketball team from Masterton.

We have not had many opportunities for football this term. I had organised a number of friendlies but due to the weather and other things they had to be cancelled. The Gary Riddell festival was also cancelled due to the weather. In Term 4 there are a lot more opportunities so hopefully we can take part in them.

We have also had a number of different sports coaches in the school recently. We have had taster sessions in for judo, karate and kick boxing. We have had also sports coaches in for badminton, tennis and hockey.

I used to question the value of 'taster sessions' until quite recently. I was made aware that a pupil that used to be at a school where I was headteacher before I came to Masterton had become a very successful Judo champion competing at European level. I read an interview where he said that he became interested in judo after a taster session in the school when he was 6. So clearly taster sessions can have a real and lasting impact upon pupils.



## In the School - Sports (Cont'd)



Finally Mrs Wilson took a small group of pupils to the Fife Swimming Championships which was the first time we have taken part in years. She put together a few lines about the event.

This year saw the resurrection of the Fife Schools Swimming Championship in Michael Woods Leisure Centre, Glenrothes. The swimmers had to meet entry times set by the Scottish Schools Swimming Association. We were able to field a small squad of swimmers; Zara Greer P4, Finlay Redpath P5, Alfie Park P5, Zayn Stewart P6 and Isla Hodgson P7. The swimmers had fun and swam really well with most of them making their entry times and achieving a Personal Best (PB) time as well. Well done to them all! The atmosphere was fantastic with over 300 children in the morning sessions and lots of adults cheering them on from the spectators gallery. We would like to thank the meet organisers and all of the volunteers for their hard work behind the scenes to ensure Fife swimmers are represented at the Scottish Schools Championship Finals in June up in Aberdeen. We wish them all well.

**Mrs Wilson**

## Dates for Term 4

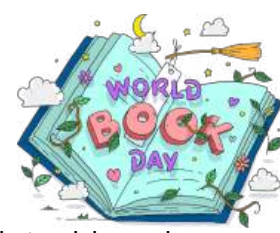
Just a quick reminder of some dates for Term 4.



<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Shared Start</b>	<b>9.10 - 9.40am</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Public Holiday</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>InService Day</b>	<b>School Closed to Pupils</b>
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Masterton Mile</b>	
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Sports Day Races*</b>	
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Public Holiday</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>FROMPS Summer Fayre</b>	
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>School Reports Issued</b>	
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Dunfermline Children's Gala</b>	
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>School Closes at 3pm</b>

\*Exact class timings will be sent out at the start of next term.

## World Book Day - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March



The Reading Ambassadors were very excited to plan for the annual World Book Day celebrations on 5<sup>th</sup> March. At our February meeting we discussed lots of ideas and voted for a final plan to be put to the staff team for their approval. The committee was keen to include dressing up as a favourite book character and for the children who don't enjoy dressing up, it was suggested that they could bring in an object that had a link to their favourite book. Thank you very much to all families who spent time organising costumes and props, everyone looked great and it helped to make the day feel extra special! Some classes held book swaps, and we also had another well attended Book Café Breaktime.

The infant school took part in a draw-along session with the author of 'Shark in the Park' - Nick Sharratt and the upper school held a competition to decorate the classroom doors as the front covers of books. You can see some of the amazing artwork in the photos. It was fantastic to see the all the pupils working hard together in their teams by sharing ideas and organising jobs for one and other. Mrs Saxton presented a fun and interactive assembly linked to the book by Julia Donaldson about the Smeds and the Smoos and all classes enjoyed a VERY busy day of book related activities.

### *Mrs Stirling*



**Winning door design - P6a girls 'Wizard of Oz' and runners up P6a boys 'Mr Men'**

## Glee at Alhambra

GLEE

Thanks to Miss English for the 'couple of sentences' for the newsletter...

After weeks and weeks of rehearsals, our fantastic Masterton Melodies Glee Choir made their way to the Alhambra to perform in the West Fife heats of the Glee Competition. Like all the choirs, they sang 'Viva la Vida' as their set song and then sang their chosen song from the theme 'Old School to New Cool', which was Bon Jovi's 'Livin' on a Prayer.'

I was going to write a piece on how well they did, but then received a lovely email from the CEO of the Frisson Foundation, which I wanted to share:

***"Masterton Melodies, this may have been your very first Glee Challenge but no-one would have ever guessed. You took to the stage and gave it all - what a superb performance!!***

***From the moment you marched onto the stage we knew we were in for something special. There was lots of great synchronised movement, super armography, nice canon moves and lovely poses throughout. Your vocals were strong and clear with super volume, excellent diction and a lovely, blended sound. Your teamwork was fantastic and could be seen in all of your lovely formations and you made great use of the stage showing your excellent spatial awareness. Lovely addition of a bit of body percussion and your use of ribbons brought a lovely bit of colour to the stage. Great choice of second song and loved your intro - "as long as you have each other, you're halfway there". You certainly showed us that! It was a really energetic performance right from the start. Loved all the air guitars, the attitude and sass. Again, fantastic teamwork! This was a really high energy performance and you should be very pleased and proud of yourselves.***

***As an aside I would like to compliment the choir on their excellent theatre etiquette. I was behind the choir for quite a lot of the show and was very impressed with their behaviour within the theatre and their supportive behaviour towards each other and the other choirs. You were my pick for Esprit de Glee but of course I'm not the only one voting. 😊 You guys are a real credit to your school and your community!"***

After receiving this email a couple of days later we received another email stating that we had been successful in getting to the Fife Finals of the Glee competition which will take place in May. This makes the hard work and effort even better. A huge thank you to Mrs Beck and to Mrs Dickson in particular, for putting together the choreography.

thank you

The Glee Choir will continue to rehearse on a Monday afternoon over the next few weeks. Another thanks you to the Parent Council for part funding the t-shirts, which looked fabulous!

**Miss English**

**"You guys are a real credit to your school and your community!"**

## Headteacher Position

As you will have seen from my message earlier on in the month, I will be retiring in the summer. As I said in my message it will be 'business as usual' until then. However, I thought I would share a rough timeline for the recruitment of a new headteacher.

The job was advertised on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March and closed on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

Long Leet interviews are due to take place the first week back after the April holidays. Short Leet interviews should then take place the following week. After this, an appointment should be made and parents / pupils will be informed.

When the new headteacher is announced there should be lots of opportunities for them to visit the school to ensure a smooth handover.

*Retiring  
in the Summer....*



*New Headteacher to be  
announced soon.....*

**And finally.....**



*Happy  
Holidays*

I would like to wish everyone a great Easter Holiday. Hopefully the weather will be good and there will be lots of opportunities for getting outdoors in the fresh air.

School returns on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 9am.**

Regards

S Humphries  
Headteacher

