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# MASTERTON NEWS

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MAY 2026



## The Munro Challenge

At the end of Term 3, an email came in from Active Schools about the opportunity to take part in the Munro Challenge. This was targeted at P.6 pupils. A number of pupils expressed their interest in taking part and after drawing names out of a hat (well, actually a plastic bag) we had our wee group. So far we have walked up West Lomond, a hill I'm not unfamiliar with. It was a nice warm day and we enjoyed our stroll to the top. We are looking forward to climbing our Munro soon and quite possibly by the time you read this will have completed our Munro Challenge. Fingers crossed!



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This time of the year is always the busiest in a school and this year is no exception. I sometimes forget how much needs done (and how much is going on). I'm also in the process of trying to tie everything up for the new incoming headteacher (Mrs Muir) and don't want to leave any unfinished business for her. Well maybe except for a couple of (dull) reports which need written....

## Masterton Mile

The Masterton Mile took place recently. It went very well and we were blessed with a dry day. Although there are winners at each stage, there are so many pupils who work extremely hard just to finish the run that everyone who takes part needs to be congratulated.

I'd like to especially thank Miss Collins for organising it and running it very well. In total we raised around **£8000** (The final total has still to be confirmed). As per last year I will be asking the children what they would like the money spent on. I should say that before the Masterton Mile had even finished I noticed letters on my desk from some pupils asking for new Smart TVs to replace the smartboards across the school. They certainly didn't let the grass grow under their feet.

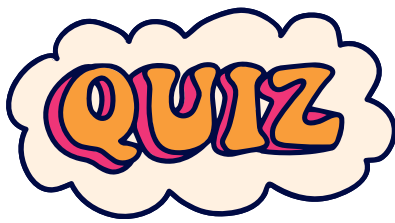
For the record the fastest girl was Luna Stevenson (P.7b) and the fastest boy was Enzo Bernardino (P.6b). Well done!



**Congratulations!**

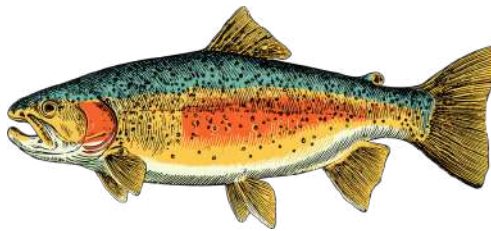
A golden trophy is positioned at the bottom right of the page, surrounded by colorful confetti and streamers. The word 'Congratulations!' is written in a large, blue, cursive font across the bottom of the page.

Rotary



The Rotary Quiz team took part in the area finals in Leven in the middle of April. This event involved all the winners of the different events in Fife / Kinross area. After a very hard fought event the team finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place on 92 points missing out on qualifying for the finals. To show you how close it was the runners up had 93 points and the winners 95 points. However, there's a wee bit more to the story.....

During the quiz a picture of a fish was shown and the children were asked to name what type of fish it was. I had turned to Miss Collins and said it was a trout and later became aware that the Masterton quiz team had put trout. The answer given was salmon. Without going into details of my emails over the next few weeks, about 1 month later it was confirmed that it was indeed a trout and not a salmon. Due to being awarded another 2 points for the answer we finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and were invited to take part in the District Finals up in Aberdeen. So the team are looking forward to heading up to Aberdeen for the East of Scotland finals. Well done to them! Just to say I'll never look at a trout in the same way again.



## Class Structures

I always like to share information regarding classes and numbers around this time of year when it starts to take shape. This year we are looking at taking at least 68 P.1 pupils. This is our largest intake for some years. As a consequence of this there will need to be some re-adjustment of classes in the infant department. However, I expect that many of the classes will move on just as they are. The class structure for 2026 / 2027 potentially looks as follows:

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

This is not guaranteed as there can always be some movement but as our class sizes are large this creates little flexibility so it is likely some will remain the same. As soon as classes are sorted and teachers allocated I will write out with this information.

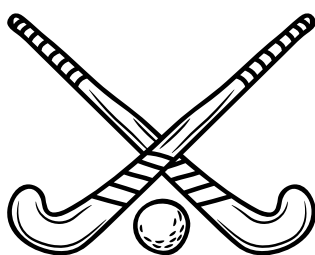
## Sports

Having had next to no football so far this year we had 3 very quick tournaments in succession. Firstly, we took part in the St Margaret's Festival at Pitreavie. We performed very well and considering lots of people were injured or unavailable the team that took part did well. Secondly, we took part in the Fife Cup qualifiers at Dunfermline High School. There were even more injuries and illnesses. However, we came incredibly close to qualifying losing out by one goal in the end. The P.5s also had a tournament at Beath High School. Considering they had never played together as a team they performed well and won most of their games.



P.3 took part in the 'Fun in Athletics'. (It wasn't much fun for some of us as Miss English got the wrong place and a number of us had to quickly transport the pupils from the Carnegie Leisure Centre to Woodmill). However, following this 'mishap' 18 very excited P.3s thoroughly enjoyed their time at the festival. Each pupil participated in two track and two field events, which comprised a mixture of relays, obstacle races, standing long jumps, chest pushes, throwing a javelin and many more. The pupils all tried their best and had a wonderful afternoon. Their behaviour was impeccable and they were all a credit to both themselves and to the school.

A team of P.7 pupils participated in the Outdoor Hockey Festival at the DLC. They were drawn in Pool B and played superbly well. At the end of the group stage we were tied in 1<sup>st</sup> place on points with Pitreavie and were the only team in the group not to allow them to score. Unfortunately, Pitreavie went through as winners due to the goal differences scored. Our team went on to play other teams who came second and placed joint 5<sup>th</sup> out of 18 teams overall. The weather was not on our side and, by the time we got back to school, we looked very bedraggled. However, spirits remained high throughout the day and a dry set of clothes to change into, plus a hot chocolate in the staff room, made up for the damp conditions. Well done to all who played.



# GLEE



On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, the Masterton Melodies Glee Choir went back to the Alhambra Theatre to compete in the Fife Regional Finals. Nine schools got through to the Fife final out of a whopping 175 schools! The pupils raised their game and put on a fabulous performance, showing off their vocal talents, as well as carrying out the complex choreography to perfection. Unfortunately, we did not get placed in the top three, but in our minds, they were all winners. Each and every member of the choir performed to their best ability and did both themselves and Masterton Primary School proud and, as staff, we couldn't have asked for any more.

Thank you to all the beautifully lit up signs, banners, pom poms and vocal support we received from families who came to watch and to Mr Coote, Mrs Santiago and Mrs Mitchell who supported the pupils on the night. We were very grateful.

An extra special thank you must go to Mrs Beck and to Mrs Dickson, who have given up many hours of their own time to create the routines, hold solo auditions and to lead all the rehearsals that made both the performances so good.

Here's to next year's competition!!

*Miss English*

thank you

## STEM

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May, a group of five pupils from P.6a attended the Fife Celebration of STEM event at Fife College. The group were taking part in a STEMOVATORS competition to design a crane which was able to lift a series of objects ranging from a tiny teabag to a 2 litre bottle of water. The group spent many lunchtimes perfecting their design and preparing a presentation for the judges.



As well as presenting our crane to the judges, the STEM Celebration was a day packed full of workshops, careers talks and even a tour of the college. The group then spent the afternoon undertaking a series of STEM challenges set by local companies. During each challenge they were awarded points for teamwork and problem-solving skills.

## STEM (Cont'd)

The group had a fantastic day and were delighted to be awarded the Runners Up prize for their efforts in the STEM challenges. They were presented with a trophy and a £50 voucher for the school to buy more science resources. Mrs Stirling was very proud of their efforts and praised their exemplary behaviour throughout the trip, alongside all the hard work and resilience shown throughout the preparation for the competition.

*Mrs Stirling*

## Reading Award

We are excited to be arranging a visit from local children's author, Brandon Lim, and we're looking forward to asking him lots of questions about his books and his writing process. The Reading Ambassadors have also been busy tidying and reorganising some of our libraries and would like to remind pupils about the importance of looking after our books and showing care and attention when borrowing and returning books in our school libraries.

Finally, we'd like to ask families for some help to encourage reading in our local community. We are hoping to create a 'Book Exchange' box that we would donate to a local business or community group. To do this, we are looking for donations of books that are in good condition to put in our box. We're hoping to collect books for all ages, including adults. Books can be fiction or non-fiction and any donations can be sent in to Mrs Stirling in P.6a. We will then pass on the box of books to the community group who would be encouraged to take and leave books for each other. We hope you can help and thank you in advance for your support.

*Mrs Stirling*



## And finally.....

As you will know by now Mrs Kirsty Muir has been appointed as the new headteacher of Masterton PS. I have known Mrs Muir for a number of years as she has been the headteacher of St Leonards PS which is in the Dunfermline High School cluster. I was very pleased when I heard this as I believe she will be a good fit for the school. Over the years I have invested a lot of time in the school and want to ensure that it continues to be a great school. Mrs Muir should continue that and I believe will make it even better (if that's possible...).

We have arranged to meet on a number of occasions over the coming weeks so that she will have all the information she needs to take the school forward. She will also be meeting all the children and is really looking forward to it.

Regards

S Humphries - Headteacher

