



# Term 2 Newsletter

News from end of November 2016  
to Mid-February 2017

By Yvonne Gribben Head Teacher



## WELCOME

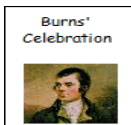


Welcome to our Term 2 Newsletter providing you with the following content:

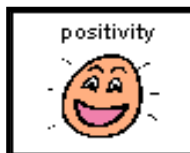
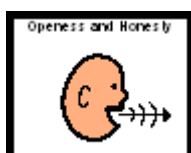
- Celebration of Burns
- Celebrating Successes & Achievements: Annual Reviews & Termly Reports
- Interdisciplinary Learning
- Makaton Training Opportunities for Parents, Carers & Staff
- Pupil Equity Funding from Scottish Government

## CELEBRATION OF BURNS

Well done to our Senior pupils for their participation in preparing a successful Burns' event. As well as bringing in the haggis, the Seniors prepared and served a variety of Scottish snacks and drinks including: shortbread, oatcakes & cheese and 'healthy' irn bru (if there is such a thing!).



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Peter Larsen confidently performed 'Tam O'Shanter' with the support of his peers using single message switches. Other performances included:

Skye Class ~ Katie Bairdie  
Jura Class ~ Aiken Drum

Mull Class ~ Three Crows  
Arran Class ~ Wee Rid Motor



Mrs Bennett led the Ceilidh and all classes joined in with a few favourites including 'The Gay Gordons', 'The Canadian Barn Dance', 'The St Bernard's Waltz' and 'The Military Two Step'.

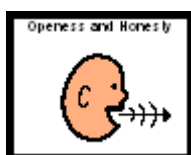
## FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD



The primary pupils have been working on the theme 'Festivals Around the World'. The focus for learning was on investigating beliefs, traditions and practices through experiences, and on expressing themselves through music.



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The pupils learned about the tradition of Christmas and the Story of Babushka, as well as finding out about Chinese New Year. Skye & Mull classes particularly enjoyed the colours and music related to this, dancing with a real Chinese Dragon!



## GROWTH & CHANGES



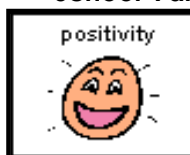
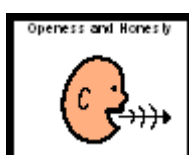
Arran class have been learning about growth and changes through developing an awareness of our bodies and developing an understanding of physical changes.

The pupils looked at the human body, looking after their body and the changes that take place as they grow. All pupils participated in selecting/naming/signing a variety of body parts using symbols which was then reinforced during Yogacise sessions.

Visits to the public library involved selecting and looking at non-fiction books about the human body. ICT was used to find out about body facts and how best to look after our bodies. Pupils enjoyed participating in a table top game to develop an awareness of the sequence of key growth stages from birth onwards.



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## TERM 3 – A NIGHT AT THE THEATRE



During Term 3 our theme will be “A Night at the Theatre”. The classes have already started planning learning experiences for this and the theme will culminate in a whole school event where each class will be involved in delivering a performance. Popcorn at the ready.....

## CELEBRATING SUCCESSES & ACHIEVEMENTS ANNUAL REVIEWS & TERMLY REPORTING



As you know we have made changes to our Reporting and Annual Review procedures this session.

Shortly a questionnaire will be sent home to ask for your feedback about our new Termly Report Format and the Annual Review process. I would urge you to complete this and return it as soon as possible.

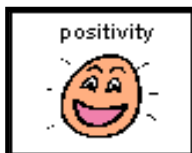
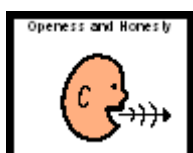
We are keen to ensure that parents/carers are happy about the new formats and feel that they are fully involved in planning for their child or young person’s education.

Thank you to all those parents/carers who have already provided some feedback about the layout and information within the Termly Report.

Thank you also to those parents/carers who have shared successes and achievements from home. There is nothing more rewarding to hear that jointly set goals between home and school are being achieved. The success of this is very much down to parents/carers encouraging their child to learn and transfer skills to the home environment. Successes have included: Toothbrushing; Progress in toileting skills; Use of spoken language at home to request wants and needs; Walking a few steps unaided; to name but a few.

Please continue to share your child’s successes via the home/school diary and during their annual review. We enjoy celebrating the achievements made by your children and young people during their annual reviews and during our weekly assemblies.

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## MAKATON TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS, CARERS & STAFF

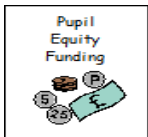
As part of a bid to the Scottish Government, we secured funding to train staff from Haysholm School and James McFarlane School in a number of communication approaches.



A programme of Foundation Makaton Training is well underway and from April – June some selected staff will have the opportunity to participate in Enhancement Workshops. The aim is that eventually we will have a few staff trained to Regional Tutor level.

We are very aware that due to family circumstances it is not always easy to come along to the school or to other venues for Makaton Basic Training during the school day. Therefore, we have purchased Makaton distance learning resources for parents/carers to borrow so that they can develop their skills at home. Should you wish to borrow this resource, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01294 272481. More details about the training packs can be found on the Makaton website.

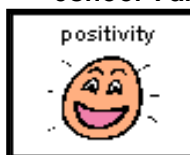
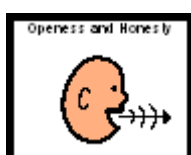
## PUPIL EQUITY FUNDING FROM THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT



The Pupil Equity Funding is additional funding allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the poverty related attainment gap. The Scottish Government has committed to this funding as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge Programme from 2017-18. The Pupil Equity Funding forms part of the £750m Attainment Scotland Fund.

Haysholm School will secure £22,800 within next year's budget to deliver targeted support to our children and young people. This has been included as an agenda item in the forthcoming Parent Council Meeting on Thursday 23 February. I am keen to consult and collaborate with parents, staff and partners as to how best to utilise the funding to ensure impact and best outcomes for our learners.

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## MUSIC THERAPY



Janette Montague visited school over 4 weeks to deliver a block of music therapy to our children and young people. This built on previous work that Janette had carried out in school. As you can see from the photographs the children responded well to it.



*Yvonne Gribben*  
Head Teacher

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