

NEWS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

OCTOBER 2018 / No. 1

WHITEHIRST PARK PRIMARY newsletter



Read all about our
Achievements and
up and coming
events!

- ❖ Staffing Update
- ❖ Family Learning
- ❖ Fundraising and much more!



WELCOME FROM...

The Head Teacher



Welcome to the first Newsletter of Session 2018/2019. I can't believe Term 1 is almost over ...how did that happen? So here is an update about what has been happening at Whitehirst Park this term and a chance to look forward to what is happening in Term 2.

As always hard copies of this newsletter are available from the school office.

Kind regards,

Lynn Robertson



Educating Today's Learner for Tomorrow's World

FAMILY LEARNING NEWS



Hi all

Thank you for all the support during this busy first term back. Breakfast clubs have been well attended by many families and I'd love to see even more families next term.

Thanks also for attending the class topic activity sessions.

Children really love to spend time sharing learning experiences with any family member so make sure you check the Family Learning Calendar for details of family learning activities in Term 2 such as Halloween Crafts, Stay and Play, Soup and Sums and lots of events where you can support your child with their literacy. I am looking for volunteers for a school Gardening Club so please contact the school office if you can help at all.

My colleague, Jenny, will also run 'Arriba Familia' Spanish classes for P6 and 7 and Read, Write and Count for P1-3 classes.

I am also available to support families with any issues at home e.g. sleeping, eating, behaviour so please don't hesitate to contact me.

Jane





Digital Communication



Check out our updated Website at the new address:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/whitehirstparkprimary/>

@WhitehirstPs



Facebook.com/groups/whitehirstparkparents

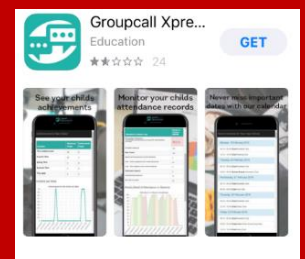


Don't forget to check the class blogs for all the latest news.

P4-7 pupils can also share their individual profiles with you!

There has been a good uptake for the Groupcall School App. After some small teething issues parents are reporting this is working well. If you haven't already downloaded the App we would strongly advise you to as this reduces costs for the school dramatically which means we can spend our budget on other vital resources.

Mrs McKie is happy to support you to download and install the app so pop in and see her if you would like some help.



😊 **Proud to be a Digital School** 😊

Parents' Night Feedback



Thank you for taking the time to complete our Visible Learning Survey.



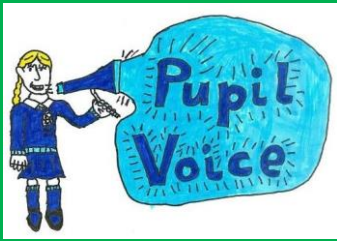
96% of Parents and Carers attended Parents Night which is fantastic.

This year reports and targets will be glued into Homework Jotters for reference.

Remember: Don't wait until the next Parents' Night if you have anything you want to discuss. Just call the office and make an appointment with the class teacher or a member of the leadership team.



Next Parents' Night:
Wednesday 4th and
Thursday 5th December



Pupil Voice

Our P3-7 School Committees have started and all pupils from P3-7 are involved. The committees meet fortnightly on a Thursday afternoon to ensure pupils are involved in all aspects of school life. We are looking forward to hearing about the committee plans at Assemblies ...watch this space! If you would like to join a committee we would love to hear from you so please contact the school office.

Committee	Facilitator	Where
Eco Committee	Mrs Conway and Miss Dobson	Room 14
P.E. Ambassadors	Mrs Burns	Room 11
Pupil Council (RRS)	Mrs Davidson and Mrs Elstone	Meeting Room
Fairtrade	Mrs Reid	Room 12
Charities	Mrs Gillan	Library
Junior Road Safety	Mrs Gaw	Room 15
Community Links	Mrs McInnes	Open Area
1+2	Miss Johnstone	Room 8
STEM	Mrs Manning	Room 13
Health Promoting	Miss Taylor	Room 9
School Environment	Mrs McKie and Mr Phillips	Packed Lunch Area





Horizon Photography will be in school on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th November to take P1 class photographs and P1-7 Family and Individual Photographs.





A few highlights from Term 1...



*Our new Captains
and Vice Captains*

*Our football team in
their new strips!*



*Choosing our new
toilet colour scheme.*



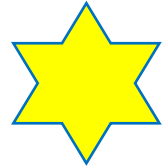
*Road Safety
Theatre Show.*



*Staff presenting at the
Scottish Learning
Festival*



Amazing News!!



We are so proud to have been awarded the Gold Sports Scotland Award!

This award recognises all the hard work that staff, pupils, parents and partners have put into ensuring we promote sport and physical activity.

We are delighted to receive this prestigious award and will have our official presentation on Friday 7th December. There will also be fun activities for all pupils in the afternoon to celebrate this tremendous achievement.





Parent Council News



Where?
Whitehirst Park
Primary Staffroom

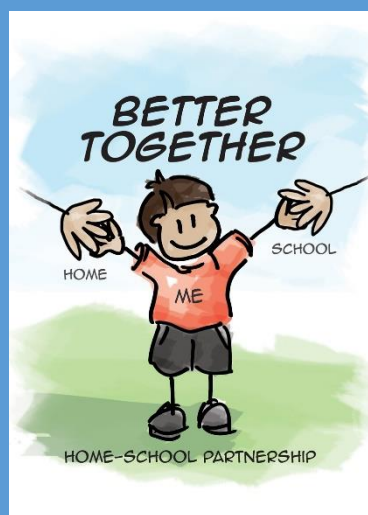
If you would like to join us please contact Mrs Robertson or the Parent Council Chair Ann Scott at: whitehirstparkparents@gmail.com

Check out the minutes of our meetings and more at: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/whitehirstparkprimary/test-2/>



Events for Term 2:

More details will follow in school bags after the October Holidays!





Parent Council Fundraising Sub-Committee News!

Last year the Fundraising Sub-Committee
raised over £5000 for the school!
What did we spend the money on?

Willow Structures



Additional Staging

Panto Buses

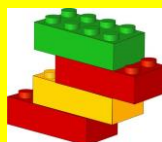


Sumdog Subscription



Outdoor Play Equipment

Lego Club Resources



Events Planned So Far....

Halloween Discos 1.11.18

Christmas Fayre 30.11.18

Valentine Discos 14.2.18

Easter Discos 17.4.18

Whitehirst in the Park 24.5.18

Next Event: Halloween Disco...Thursday 1st November

Check school bags and the Facebook Page for future events to raise
funds to further enhance our outdoors!!



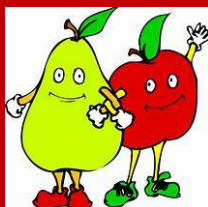
As you know one of our school volunteers, Dana Milligan, runs the school tuckshop.



Snacks prepared by school catering will include pancakes, scones, fruit and toast. There will also be small cartons of apple and orange juice. Items will cost no more than 20p and any profit made will contribute to school funds. A trolley will visit classes before playtime to allow the pupils to purchase their snack.

Dana is looking for parental support and if you would like to get involved please contact Mrs McKie and she will pass your details on. We really hope our tuck shop is a success and hope you and your children will support this initiative.

In the interests of promoting a healthy balanced diet please provide your child with either a play piece or money for the tuck shop as both is too much for a playtime snack.





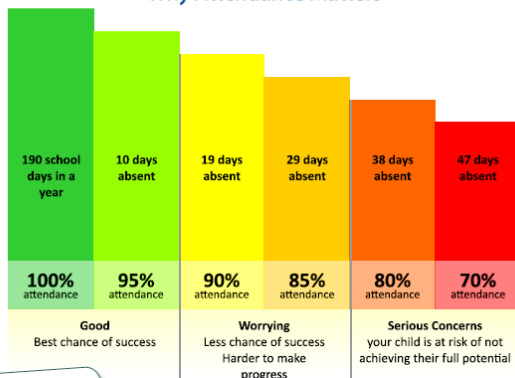
Attendance Matters!

As a school, in line with North Ayrshire's Policy we monitor attendance monthly and will contact you when we see attendance drop below 90% to offer support and guidance.

Our average attendance from August to October is 97.57%. In the interests of your child's education please avoid unnecessary absences where at all possible as the impact on your child socially and in terms of their attainment can be hugely detrimental.

The impact of non-attendance on North Ayrshire's children and young people

Why Attendance Matters



Did you know?...

... there are 175 non school days a year! ideal days for holidays, visits, shopping, appointments and household jobs

MINUTES LATE / MINUTES MISSED	IMPACT ON ATTENDANCE IN A YEAR
5 minutes a day =	3.4 days absent = 98.4% attendance
10 minutes a day =	6.9 days absent = 97.6% attendance
15 minutes a day =	10.3 days absent = 94.6% attendance
20 minutes a day =	13.8 days absent = 92.9% attendance
30 minutes a day =	20.7 days absent = 89.2% attendance

CARS AND KIDS DON'T MIX

**Please park away
from our school**



Parents continue to approach me again to raise concerns over how a minority of parents are misusing the school carpark.

Please remember that there should be no parking in the drop off area or in the school carpark at all. I am aware this is a particular problem at home time. Parking in this area at home time increases the number of vehicles crossing the pedestrian crossing at the most busy time when all pupils are being dismissed.

We have an arrangement with the Church where we can use their carpark every day except a Thursday.

Please take care around the school area and think very carefully about where you park.

Can I also remind parents and relatives that ONLY cars with disabled badges should be using the allocated spaces in the staff carpark.

LOOKING AHEAD...



OCTOBER

Harvest Service	Tuesday 2 nd October
Seasonal Flu Immunisation	Monday 8 th October
P2/3 Outing to Abbey Tower -am	Monday 8 th October
P2 Outing to Abbey Tower - am	Thursday 11 th October
Close for holidays 3.15pm	Friday 12 th October
School Opens	Monday 22 nd October
P5 Multisports at Kilwinning Academy	Tuesday 23 rd October
P7 Football at Kilwinning Sports Club 1pm	Wednesday 24 th October
P3 at Abbey Tower - am	Friday 26 th October
Halloween Activities in School - PM	Wednesday 31 st October
Halloween Discos P1-3 6.30pm-7.30pm P4-7 7.45pm-9.00pm	Thursday 1 st November

NOVEMBER

World of Work Week	Monday 5 th November
Close for holidays 3.15pm	Thursday 15 th November
School Opens	Tuesday 20 th November
P7 Football at Kilwinning Sports Club 1pm	Wednesday 21 st November
Dress down day - bring a bottle P4-7, bring chocolate P1-3 for Xmas Fayre	Friday 23 rd November
Christmas Fayre 3.30pm -5.30pm	Friday 30 th November



LOOKING AHEAD...



DECEMBER

Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 5 th December
Parents' Evening:	Wednesday 5 th December
Parents' Evening:	Thursday 6 th December
Sports Scotland Gold Award Day	Friday 7 th December
P6 Christmas party	Monday 10 th December
P1-3 Christmas Show/Nativity 9.30am and 11.00am	Tuesday 11 th December
P4-7 Pantomime Show in School 9.30am, 11am and 6.30pm	Wednesday 12 th December
P5 Party	Thursday 13 th December
P2 and 3 Christmas party	Friday 14 th December
P4 Party	Monday 17 th December
Pantomime at Palace Theatre Kilmarnock (PM)	Tuesday 18 th December
P1 Christmas party	Wednesday 19 th December
Christmas Service	Wednesday 19 th December
P7 Christmas party	Thursday 20 th December
Close for holidays 2.30pm	Friday 21 st December



LOOKING AHEAD...



JANUARY

School Opens	Monday 7 th January
P1-3 Burns Supper	Friday 25 th January

FEBRUARY

P4-7 Burns Supper	Friday 1 st February
STEM/DIGITAL FORTNIGHT	Monday 4 th February
Close for holidays 3.15pm	Thursday 7 th February
In-service Day	Tuesday 12 th February
Valentine Discos	Thursday 14 th February
School Opens	Wednesday 13 th February

MARCH

World Book Day - Dress up	Thursday 7 th March
Parents' Evening:	Wednesday 13 th March
Parents' Evening:	Thursday 14 th March
Close 2.30pm	Friday 29 th March

APRIL

School Opens	Monday 15 th April
Easter Service	Wednesday 17 th April
Easter Discos	Wednesday 17 th April
Close	Thursday 18 th April
School Opens	Tuesday 23 rd April

MAY

Holiday	Monday 6 th May
Outdoor Learning Week	Monday 20 th May
Sports Day	Wednesday 22 nd May
In-Service Day	Monday 27 th May

JUNE

P7 at Dalguise	Friday 14 th June - Sunday 16 th June
P7 Leavers Assembly	Wednesday 19 th June
Move up Afternoon/ P7 to Kilwinning Academy	Thursday 20 th June
Move up Afternoon/ P7 to Kilwinning Academy	Friday 21 st June
Final Reports Out	Friday 7 th June
Summer Service	Wednesday 26 th June
Close for Summer 1pm	Friday 28 th June
In-service Days	Friday 16 th August
Re-open for Session 2019-20	Monday 19 th August

FOR UPDATES CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/whitehirstparkprimary/>