

# NEWS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

# WHITEHIRST PARK PRIMARY newsletter



Read all about our  
Achievements and  
up and coming  
events!

FEBRUARY 2020 / No. 2

- ❖ Staffing Update
- ❖ Fundraising and  
much more!



# WELCOME FROM...

*The Head Teacher*



A very belated welcome to our second Newsletter of Session 2019/2020. This newsletter was good to go at the end of Term 2, but due to my absence is much, much later and for that I apologise!

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 3 and beyond!

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**



# Staffing Update

We are delighted to welcome another new permanent member of staff...

Mr Jamie Anderson has joined us as Principal Teacher. Mr Anderson has responsibility for Primary 4 as well as his leadership remit. Miss Johnstone and I are delighted to have Mr Anderson join the leadership team!

Many thanks to Mrs Williams and Mrs Timmons who had been teaching previously teaching Primary 4.





# Digital Communication



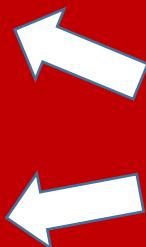
**Check out our updated Website at the new address:**

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/n/a/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!**

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

**The App is called 'Groupcall Xpressions' and can be downloaded from the App Store or from Google Play.**



**☺ Proud to be a Digital School ☺**

# Target Talks Feedback



Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey at our recent Target Talks.

See the next page for your feedback and further information...



97% of Parents and Carers attended November Target Talks which is fantastic!

New targets should have been glued into Homework Jotters for reference.

Remember: Don't wait until the next Target Talks 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 Target Talks:  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

# Target Talks Feedback...



Question 1: In Term 1 we had an Open Evening where pupils shared their targets and work. The reason we chose this format was to encourage pupils to take more ownership over their targets. How well did this experience help you to understand your child's learning and next steps?

## Big Messages:

- ❖ Most parents/carers found that Term 1's Target Talks was very helpful and gave them a good understanding of the format of target setting.
- ❖ Almost all parents/carers thought that the experience of understanding their child's learning and next steps went very well.
- ❖ Most parents/carers found that this format was a positive way for pupils to share their learning.

A few parents/carers were not keen on the format and having other families in the classroom at the same time.

2. Term 1 targets were then placed in homework jotters. How often have you and your child referred to these?

- ❖ Almost a third of parents/carers referred to targets 1-2 times in term 1.
- ❖ Almost a third of parents/carers referred to targets 3-4 times in term 1.
- ❖ A Few parents referred to targets more than 4 times in term 1.
- ❖ A Few parents did not refer to targets at all during term 1.

3. Thinking about today...Did you find that setting targets with your child and teacher helped you to understand their progress and next step in learning?

- ❖ Almost all Parents/Carers felt that setting targets with their child and teacher helped them to understand their progress and next steps in learning.

4. Was your child present with you during Target Talks?

- ❖ Almost all pupils attended Target Talks.

5. To help us keep evaluating our Reporting process, is there anything you think would improve our reporting and 'Target Talks'?

- ❖ Almost all parents/carers did not think there was anything to improve on and was happy with the process.

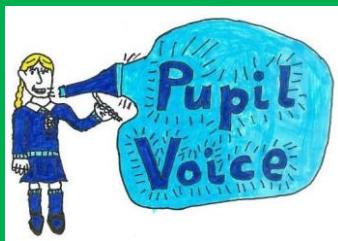
A few parents/carers felt that it would be helpful to have a better understanding of Curriculum for Excellence Levels to be able to set targets.

## So What/Next Steps:

- Providing further information about Curriculum for Excellence levels, targets and what is expected from each meeting.
- Conduct a survey to find out thoughts from teaching staff and pupils to understand from all stakeholders what worked well and what could be improved on.

## How will we do this?

- Information booklet about levels and target setting.
- Information to parents/carers as to what each Target Talk session means and the format of each.
- Survey to Pupils and Parents.
- Feedback to all stakeholders.



## 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	Emma Dobson, Lorna Conway, Gordon Phillips	Room 15
Pupil Council/RRS	Jamie Anderson	Room 9
Fairtrade	Karen Taylor, Tracy Martin	Room 11
Charities	Allison Gillan, Wayne McCutcheon	Room 3
Junior Road Safety	Fiona Gaw, Angie McKie	Room 14
Community Links	Hollie Johnstone, Carol Boyd	Family Learning Area
Digital Leaders	Louise Johnstone	ICT Suite
Health Promoting	Claire Williams, Jeff Hughes	Room 6
Sustainability	Angela Munro, Lorraine Manning	Room 12



On the next page we will focus on the work of a few committees.

The Digital Leaders have started working towards the Digital Schools Cyber Resilience Award. They will be leading assemblies and work in class to ensure all at Whitehirst Park Primary are safe online!



The Pupil Council have been very busy at their first few meetings. They planned and delivered an Assembly during Anti-Bullying week and will be reviewing the school policy in the New Year. They have also planned all the UNCRC Rights they would like to learn more about in Assembly in 2020. In Term 3 and 4 they also plan to review how we approach Homework. It's going to be a busy year!



The Charities Committee raised £240 for Children in Need and are excited to hear how they have collected for Poppy Scotland. They also had a huge collection for North Ayrshire Foodbank!



## A few highlights from Term 2...



Staff working hard  
with Heartstart  
Ayrshire and Arran

Delivering Harvest gifts to our  
friends at West Doura



Travel Smart  
Awareness Workshop

World of Work Week...so  
many visitors!





## A few highlights from Term 2...



Our P7 Football Team.  
Great sports in the  
Kilwinning League!

Child Friendly Improvement  
Plan created by our Captains,  
Vice Captains and Learning  
Leaders



Pupil Voice Committees  
hard at work to improve  
the school.

Golden Table pupils being  
rewarded for being Ready,  
Respectful and Safe.





## A few highlights from Term 2...

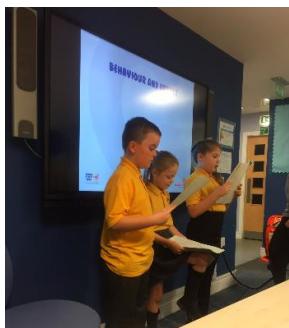
Halloween Fun!



Our Athletics Team made it to the North Ayrshire final and came fourth! Our best ever result!



P1 had a lovely visit to Kilwinning Library.



Pupil Council delivering our Anti Bullying Message to our Parent Council.



# Exciting News!

We are delighted to announce that from August 2020 Whitehirst Park Primary will offer both English and Gaelic Medium Education in Primary 1.

## What does this mean?

- From August 2020 we will have an additional Primary 1 class who will be taught in Gaelic.
- We will still have other P1 classes who will be taught in English.

## Who can access this?

- Any parent of a P1 pupil due to start school in North Ayrshire in August 2020 can register their child to start in the Gaelic Medium class.

## What about staff?

- The class will be taught and led by a Gaelic speaking Principal Teacher.
- Mrs Robertson will have strategic responsibility, as this class will be part of Whitehirst Park Primary School.



# Special Praise



British Mens Gymnastics  
Finals  
2nd November 2019

This pupil took part in the British Gymnastics Championships in Birmingham for the Second year in a row. His dedication, determination and sportsmanship are an inspiration to us all!



These pupils did so well at the Ayrshire Primary Schools Swimming Competition.

Amazing role models and ambassadors for our school!



This young man holds no less than 5 Scottish records for Archery! That's some pretty sharp shooting!!



#rolemodels



# Parent Council Fundraising Sub-Committee News!

Thank you so much for all your support at our Christmas Fayre. The place was buzzing and we managed to raise approximately £900 for School Funds. Each class also raised funds for class resources which I am sure they will share on their blogs soon.



We are well supported at most events but we are desperately keen to recruit new fundraisers!

We need more help to plan and organise events. We will be meeting early in the New Year. Please consider coming along to our very informal meetings which purely focus on fundraising!

## Events Planned So Far for 2020

....

Easter Discos 1.4.20

Big School Spring Clean 16.5.20

Whitehirst in the Park 22.5.20

Next Event: Easter Disco...Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Check groupcall, school bags and the Facebook Page for future events to raise funds to further enhance our school and experiences for pupils!



# The **BIG** Term 1 School Fundraiser!



Thank you all for your most generous sponsorship! We raised £ 2591.88 .

We have received really exciting news! North Ayrshire are refreshing our IT and as part of this, we will be getting new Promethean Boards!

This means we could use the wonderful money you have raised for other school ventures.

We could use the money to subsidise school trips as we have no capacity to do this at present or we could buy some play resources for P1-3 and games for P4-7.

We will speak to the pupils to gather their views and Mrs McKie will send a text to gather yours!

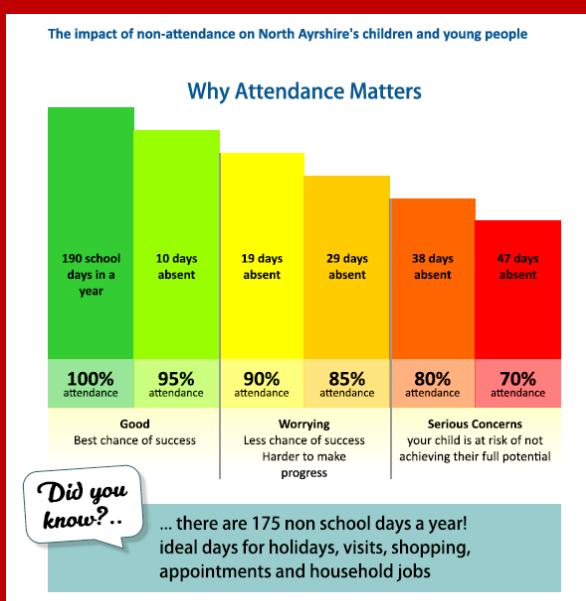


# Attendance Matters!

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.

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.

Letters for those with less than 90% attendance will be in bags soon.



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



**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.**

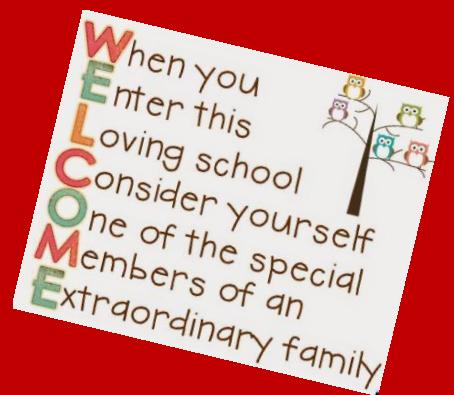
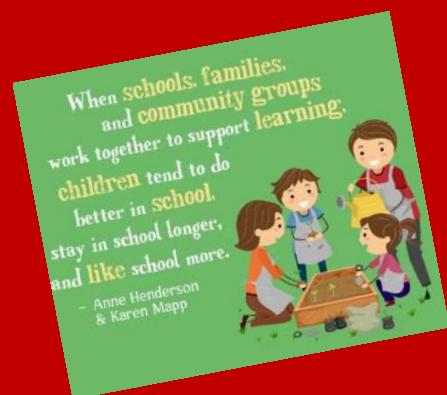
**Please take care around the school area and think very carefully about where you park.**

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

**We have had a number of complaints about speeding vehicles around the school. Please observe the 20 is plenty rule around the school. Our local police and Junior Road Safety Officers will be supporting us to raise awareness of this in Term 3. Pupils will be out with a speed gun to monitor the speed of vehicles in the local area!**



# Family Learning News



Hi everyone!

Just a wee reminder of what is happening this term!

Family Morning Club	
Monday 8.30am	Monday Mindset
Tuesday 8.30am	Arts and Crafts
Wednesday 8.30am	Word Wednesdays
Thursday 8.30am	Number Fun
Friday 8.30am	Friday Fitness in the Gym Hall



Mondays and Wednesdays

3.15pm - 4pm

Access to i-pads, laptops and support!

Need help or advice with supporting learning or behaviour at home?

Call and make an appointment with Hollie for support and advice.

01294 554538 or [gw19johnstonehollie@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk](mailto:gw19johnstonehollie@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk)

# Family Learning - Term 3

In Term 1 we asked you about the type of family learning events you would like.

Here are our term 3 plans based on your responses!



Term 3 Family Learning Events	
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2.15pm	P2 Read, Write and Count Workshops
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2.15pm	P3 Read, Write and Count Workshops
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 5.30pm	Whole School Family Quiz and Food
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2.15pm	PI Stay and Play
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 3.15pm	Whole School Outdoor Workshop 1
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 3.15pm	Whole School Outdoor Workshop 1
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2.15pm	PI Stay and Play

Remember any family member can attend.  
Flyers and reminder texts will be sent out one week before each event.

# LOOKING AHEAD...



## FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY	
In-service Day	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February
School Opens	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February
Reverend Hilary Visiting Assembly	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February
Parent Council 6:30pm	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February
P3 Read, Write, Count Workshop 2.15pm	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February
Burns Final Judging in school	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
P7 Enhanced Transition Week 1	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
P5 pupils MultiSports visit to Kilwinning Academy 12.30pm - 2.30pm	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Family Quiz Night 5.30pm - 6.30pm	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
P6 Enhanced Transition Week 2	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February
Cross Country 2 at St Matthews 10am	Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February
Junior Road Safety visit to Road Safety Event	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February
P1 Stay and Play 2.15pm	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February
P7 Football League at Sports Club	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February
Chinese New Year Lunch in Dinner Hall	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February
P7 Enhanced Transition Week 2	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February
P6 Enhanced Transition Week 3	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February



### MARCH

Mr Cordiner Visiting Assembly	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March
World Book Day - Dress Up and Book Swap	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
P7 Enhanced Transition Week 3	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
P7 Rotary Quiz at Kilwinning Academy 1.30pm	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March
P6 Enhanced Transition Week 4	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March
Reverend Hilary Visiting Assembly	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March
Parents' Evening: Target Talks	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March
Parents' Evening: Target Talks	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
P7 Enhanced Transition Week 4	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March
International School Meals Theme in Dinner Hall	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March
P6 Enhanced Transition Celebration Parents and Pupils - 9am at Kilwinning Academy	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March
LAST WEEK OF HOMEWORK FOR TERM 3	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March
Whole School Family Outdoor Fun Session 1 3.15pm	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March
P7 Discussion Dinner at Kilwinning Academy 5.15pm	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
P7 Enhanced Transition Week 5	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
P6 and P7 Puberty Talks - Nurse Hodge	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Whole School Family Outdoor Fun Session 2 3.15pm	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March
P7 Football League at Sports Club	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March
P7 Enhanced Transition Celebration - Parents and Pupils 9am at Kilwinning Academy	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
Cross Country 3 at St Matthews 10am	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
Mr Cordiner Visiting Assembly	Monday 30th March



## APRIL

Easter Service	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
P1 Stay and Play - 2.15pm	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
Easter Disco P1-3 6.30-7.30, P4-7 7.45-9.00	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
P6, 6/7 and 7 Visit to Titanic Belfast	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April
School Closes 2.30pm	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April
In-service Day	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April
School Opens	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April
Reverend Hilary Visiting Assembly	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April
P7 Social Subjects Transition Visit at Kilwinning Academy 9am-11.45am	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April
P7 Football League at Sports Club	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April
P7 Family Learning Transition Evening 5.30pm	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
HOMEWORK STARTS TERM 4	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April
Nursery/P1 Transition Group A Week 1 2.15pm	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April
Nursery/P1 Transition Group B Week 1 2.15pm	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April
P7 Kilwinning Academy Open Evening	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April
P1 Stay and Play 9am	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April



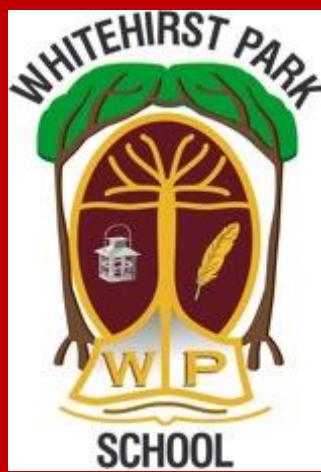


Cross Country 4 at St Matthews 10am	Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
Holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May
Holiday	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May
Reverend Hilary Visiting Assembly	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May
Nursery/P1 Transition Group A Week 2 2.15pm	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Language Transition at Kilwinning Academy 9am -12.30pm	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May
Nursery/P1 Transition Group B Week 2 2.15pm	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Numeracy Challenge Transition at Kilwinning Academy 9am -10.30am	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May
Transition Concert at Kilwinning Academy - All P7s and some P5-7 instrumentalists	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May
School Big Spring Clean 9am	Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May
Sustainability Week	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May
Eglinton Park Ranger Visiting Assembly	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May
Sports Day	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Athletics Team to St Matthews 9.30am	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Nursery/P1 Transition Family Fun 2pm	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Whole School Health and Wellbeing Event 3.15pm	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
P7 Family Engagement at Kilwinning Academy 5.30pm -7pm	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Whitehirst in the Park 5pm-7pm	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Holiday	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May
In-Service Day	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
LAST WEEK OF HOMEWORK TERM 4	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
P1 Stay and Play 2.15pm	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Football League at Sports Club	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
P4-7 Girls Football at Sports Club 10am-12.30pm	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May
Nursery/P1 Transition Teddy Bears Picnic	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 at Wellbeing Event Kilwinning Academy 9am-11.30am	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Dalguise Parent Meeting Kilwinning Academy 5pm-6pm	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May
P7 Football Champions of Champions 10am-2.15pm	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May



## JUNE

JUNE	
Reverend Hilary Visiting Assembly	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June
Seaside Special Lunch in Dinner Hall	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
Mr Cordiner Visiting Assembly	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June
Nursery/P1 Transition Assembly 9.30am	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June
Whole School Summer Trip to Kelburn	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June
P7 Health and Wellbeing Transition Taster 9am -11.45am	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June
P7 at Dalguise	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June - Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> June
P7 Leavers Assembly	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June
Move Up Afternoon/ P7 to Kilwinning Academy	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June
Nursery/P1 Transition School Lunch 1.15pm	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June
Move Up Afternoon/ P7 to Kilwinning Academy	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June
School BBQ Themed Lunch in Dinner Hall	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June
Summer Service	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June
Close for Summer 1pm	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June
In-service Day	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> August
Re-open for Session 2020-21	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> August



**FOR UPDATES CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE**

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