

NEWS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

WHITEHIRST PARK

PRIMARY newsletter



**Read all about our
Achievements and
up and coming
events!**

- ❖ **Staffing Update**
- ❖ **Fundraising and
much more!**

FEBRUARY 2020 / No. 2



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/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!

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 11th and
Thursday 12th 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.

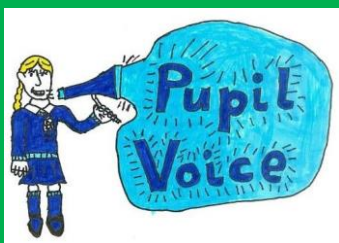
A few parents/carers felt that it would be helpful to have a better understanding of Curriculum for Excellence Levels to be able to set targets.

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.





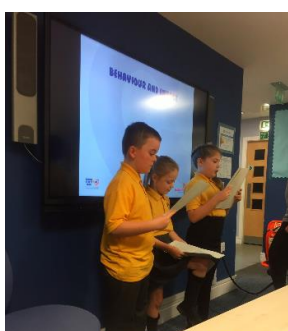
A few highlights from Term 2...

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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MRS ROBERTSON

Special Praise



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 1st 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!

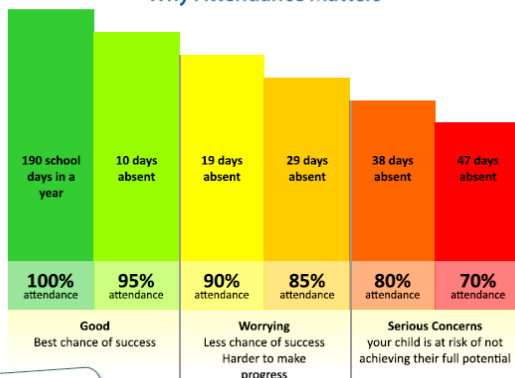
As a school, in line with North Ayrshire's Policy we monitor attendance monthly and will contact you when we see attendance drop below 90% to offer support and guidance.

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.

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 |



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.

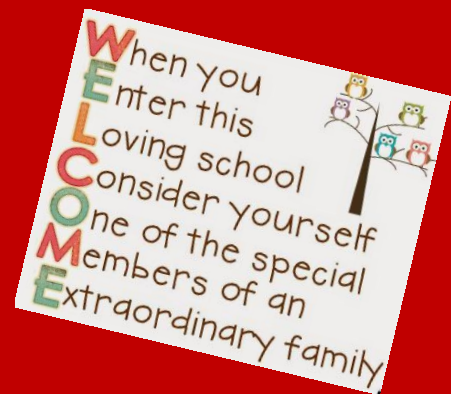
Please take care around the school area and think very carefully about where you park.

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 gwgjohnstonehollie@ea.n-nyrshire.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 th February 2.15pm | P2 Read, Write and Count Workshops |
| Tuesday 19 th February 2.15pm | P3 Read, Write and Count Workshops |
| Thursday 20 th February 5.30pm | Whole School Family Quiz and Food |
| Wednesday 26 th February 2.15pm | P1 Stay and Play |
| Tuesday 17 th March 3.15pm | Whole School Outdoor Workshop 1 |
| Tuesday 24 th March 3.15pm | Whole School Outdoor Workshop 1 |
| Wednesday 1 st April 2.15pm | P1 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

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



March

MARCH

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



APRIL

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



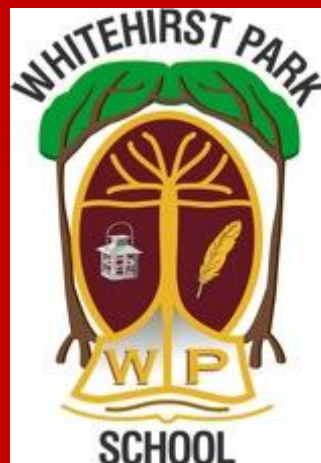


| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Cross Country 4 at St Matthews 10am | Saturday 2 nd May |
| Holiday | Monday 4 th May |
| Holiday | Friday 8 th May |
| Reverend Hilary Visiting Assembly | Monday 11 th May |
| Nursery/P1 Transition Group A Week 2 2.15pm | Monday 11 th May |
| P7 Language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



JUNE

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



FOR UPDATES CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

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