



## Kilsyth Primary

# December 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parent /Carers

Welcome to our January newsletter. A belated Happy New Year to you all! I am writing our newsletter whilst the school is in the midst, of learning and celebrating Burns Night!

### **Robert Burns Celebrations**

Many of the classes have revisited Burns once again this year, increasing their knowledge and enjoying Burns texts. Indeed, the whole school will be taking part in a Ceilidh on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February before the half term break.

P5/4 have been learning all about Burns in more depth this term and shared their learning at the recent Kilsyth Kuppa that was very well received by parents/carers and friends of the families. We all enjoyed watching the dancing and even took part ourselves. Mrs Burrows has mentioned that some of the children's art work is also being entered into the Cumbernauld and District Burns Competition! Good Luck P5/4!!

### **Clubs**

We have had more clubs up and running this term.

Running club and athletics has already started by Miss Kemp and Miss McKeown. Soon there will be a handball club up and running by Active Schools Student Coaches. The Parent Council Football Club will also be starting up.

Finally, I will be running a Lego club for P1-3 pupils on a Thursday after school starting next week. Letters will go home soon.

Next week the athletics club pupils will be attending the NLC Sporthall Athletic competition. Good luck everyone! There is also a handball festival coming up soon too.

The classes have all been very busy so far this term. Below is a brief round-up from each class.

### **Primary 1**

Primary 1 have had a strong start to Term 3. We are continuing with the Active Literacy programme and are all becoming confident writers in our weekly writing lessons. For Maths and Numeracy we have been identifying and describing 2D shapes and 3D objects. We extended our knowledge into

child lead play and have built exciting objects such as castles, car garages and even created our own robot costumes. We are now beginning to look at fractions.

We have been exploring the world around us through our Scotland Mini Topic and created our own flags of Scotland and Tartan Teddies. In Term 3, we will be looking at 'People Who Help Us'. So, if anyone has an interesting or exciting jobs they would like to share with the children, then please get in touch with Miss Kemp. Thank you.

### **Primary 2**

For numeracy, we are learning all about fractions. We have been finding halves and quarters of quantities before we move onto learning about time in a couple of weeks. Alongside this we are continuing to develop our numbers to 100, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills. In literacy we have been learning new sounds, common words and progressing with our reading. For writing, we have been learning all about instructions and writing instructions of our own. Primary 2 will continue to look at the wellbeing indicators and follow the RSHP programme for health and wellbeing. We have also been learning how to keep safe online and we will begin our new topic all about Rainforests, after the February break.

### **Primary 4/3**

Primary 4/3 have made a great start to 2024 and have dived right into our new topic - Clyde in the Classroom. We had the best time on our trip to the Glasgow Science Centre & learned a lot of information about the fish we would be raising over the next few months.

Our scientist arrived and delivered our hatch for the fish. We got time to practise keeping the water temperature cold for our brown trout eggs - they like it between 8 and 10 degrees! Brrrr! Our brown trout eggs arrived soon after. We have been watching some of them hatch already! We are looking forward to the journey together.

We have also been learning and practising some ceilidh dances in preparation for our ceilidh before the end of term!

### **Primary 5/4**

P5/4 have been super busy preparing work for their Robert Burns Kilsyth Kupa.

In literacy this meant looking at biographies first. The class looked at what non-fiction was. They then read a number of biographies both in books and online. They gathered facts when they read to later write about what they had learned. This lead into looking at information texts in taught writing. First, they learned all about Marie Curie and wrote about her life using a biography layout. Next came poetry. The class looked at what poetry was and why people write in this style. They then looked at a simile and a metaphor poem and identified these in the poems given. They also learned that there are lots of different types of poems and tried their hand at haikus.

In maths the class have worked on multiplication. They looked at different strategies to help them multiply. They figured out there were 5 different strategies including counting in groups, doing repeated addition, using arrays, using a number line, and of course, the one they are most used to, times tables. They looked at how to use arrays and started to look at patterns and rules for times tables to make them easier to work with. They will soon be doing the column method for multiplication which is also something they revised for addition and subtraction work. The last thing they managed to do in maths was looking at shape, especially 2 d shape so far.

The main focus of the rest of their time has been learning about Robert Burns and the times that he lived in then using this information to create a keynote on their ipads to show what they learned. They also completed a few art pieces these being a haggis person and a detailed recreation of a painting of Tam O'Shanter by a famous Scottish artist. Along with this they learned a few poems and a song off by heart. The class also learned a Scottish country dance for their Kilsyth Kuppa and will be learning more for an up-and-coming school ceilidh.

As you can see P5/4 have been exceptionally busy and have worked very, very hard. Well done.

### **Primary 6**

Primary 6 have progressed greatly throughout the year! So far in term 2 in mathematics pupils have been learning about addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, we have began learning about fractions, decimals, and percentages and this will be taught throughout term 3. In Literacy, pupils have been working through their reading books, completing activities that builds their understanding on the reading strategies. All pupils are managing greatly with this. In Health and Wellbeing, we have been focusing on Healthy within the SHANARRI wheel, learning about the Eatwell Guide and how we need to have a balanced diet for our bodies to grow. Children have created their own Eatwell menu that consists of balanced diet foods. For our topics, pupils have been learning about the Vikings and Bridges. Pupils created their own Viking shield, drew their own longboat and were able to write their name using Viking alphabet. We also learned about the different types of bridges, created posters, and used maps to find bridges in Scotland. We have completed many paintings throughout the term – pupils love for art has shone through massively! They are continuing to improve and grow each day they are in the classroom!

### **Primary 7**

Primary 7 have settled well after the Christmas holidays and are working well for both Mrs Thomson and our teaching student Miss Wildsmith.

We have been looking at the structure of poems and have written our own odes to a favourite item. We will then be moving on to our group novels before working on some non-fiction reading in the lead up to Easter.

We are going to be writing some narrative stories and thinking about the life of people during the Scottish Wars of Independence and using this as the basis of our story. We will also be looking at making information reports about the solar system and will be putting our digital skills to use to create digital stories based upon our research and note taking.

In numeracy we have been revising our number skills and applying these to decimal numbers as well as whole numbers. We are currently looking at interpretating and calculating with fractions and will be learning how to convert between fractions, decimals and percentages. We will also be looking at time and aspects of our lives where we need to use these skills.

Finally, we will be planning to run our own business at the Easter Extravaganza in order to raise money for our primary 7 leaver trip. We will be working on our team working skills, thinking about planning and marketing our products and also looking at how to budget and calculate a profit (hopefully!)

### **Non – Class Contact**

The Non-Class Contact Time afforded to all class teachers is currently covered by Mr Lees. He currently covers P1, P2, P4/3, P5/4 and P7.

The NCCT time covered, has two slots per class, per week. The first slot is PE and the second covers science, STEM and outdoor learning.

For PE the classes have been focused on training towards the Athletics Competition at the end of the month. The competition is geared towards the upper school but it is relevant to the lower school as in term 4 they will be engaging in activities all to do with the Olympics. We have been engaged in field and track events.

After January, P7 will continue with Invasion Games, P5/4 and P4/3 with Football and P2 and P1 with games focused on attack and defence.

For their science/STEM input in term 3 classes will focus on energy and forces.

P1 have been investigating pushing and pulling through stories, play and investigation.

P2 have been learning about elastic potential and kinetic energy, building cars and investigating how a change in force can affect speed.

P4/3 have been exploring gravity through research and practical activities such as building helicopters.

P5/4 have been focused on sound. They have conducted practical experiments testing movement of sound as well as doing research on the human ear and different adaptations of the ear that animals have evolved.

P7 have been investigating energy conversion: looking at energy sources and how energy is converted and potentially wasted.

### **Library – New Library Stock**

The Library here in school continues to evolve. The Mrs Thomson and the Reading School Ambassadors are working very hard to get all the new books classified, labelled and set up in order in the new library.

We were delighted that when we visited the local Kilsyth library back in December. They were having a book sale! We were able to purchase over 600 books at a heavily discounted rate.

We are very much looking forward to organising a Library Open Event for Parents and the Community to mark an official opening of the Kilsyth Primary Library! We are hoping this will take place in March around World Book Day!

### **Eco- Schools**

Mr Lees is our STEM teacher here in Kilsyth Primary and leads on our Eco -schools. The committee have been invited to take part in a bulb and seed planting activity down in the Burn Green in February that we are very much looking forward to.

### **Transitions**

Our new P1 pupils have enrolled for next session and already there have been some transition activities taking place for P7.

P7 pupils have submitted their S1 enrolment forms. Behind the scenes staff have been liaising and some children have begun enhanced transition visits. The Pupil Support Department are due to visit P7 before easter break then there is a full programme of teachers visiting the class and planned transition sessions for P7 to attend up in The Academy.

Mrs Pearce is already engaged in liaison visits with nursery staff and the after easter there will be enhanced transition arranged for some pupils and visits for P6 pupils to attend nursery classes to meet their new P1 buddy for next session. The new P1 pupils and their families will also come and visit our school too.

I will round off by thanking everyone once again for all their hard work and for the continued support of the parent Forum.

Best wishes,

Louise Duncan Bain

### Key Dates

#### **Term 3**

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	- All Resume
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	- P5/4 Burns Kilsyth Kuppa
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	- RSHP Morning and Digital Afternoon
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	- Parent Council Valentines Disco
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	- Mental Health Day
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	- School Closed Half Term
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	- School Closed Half Term
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	- School Closed Inset Day
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	- Fairtrade
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	- Fairtrade
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	- P7 Kilsyth Kuppa
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> d March	- RSHP Morning and Digital Afternoon
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	- Parent Council Meeting – Virtual
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	- World Book Day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	- Science Week
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	- P6 Kilsyth Kuppa
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	- RSHP Morning and Digital Afternoon

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March- Parent Council Meeting – Virtual

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Extravaganza

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Last Day of Term – School Closes 2.30pm

#### **Term 4**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April - All Resume

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May - School Closed – Early May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May - School Closed – Inset Day

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Computing Science Week

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May - Parent's Night

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - P1 and P3/2 Kilsyth Kuppa

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May - RSHP Morning and Digital Afternoon

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May - School Closed Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May - School Closed Spring Bank Holiday

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Day at Kilsyth Primary School

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June - P7 Leavers Service Church

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Shorts and Shades Day

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Last Day of Term – School Closes 1pm