

# Ravenswood Primary



## Newsletter - August/September 2017

Welcome to the first Ravenswood Primary newsletter of this session and what a busy start to the term it has been! As always, our newsletters will be one of the ways in which we keep you up to date with what's happening in the school so you may find it useful to keep them handy as a reminder for upcoming events.

### Staffing Update

We are delighted to report that our roll has increased and our structure this year includes 10 classes. We would also like to welcome 5 new teachers and 2 new support assistants to our team. Many people managed to come along and learn more about our staffing at Meet the Teacher. Thank you for your support at this event. If you didn't make it along, do not panic! We are all looking forward to getting to know you all over the coming year.

Primary 1	Miss Robertson
Primary 1/2	Miss Purdon/Mrs Simpson
Primary 2/3	Mr Clark/Mrs Spowart
Primary 3	Mrs Merrison
Primary 3/4	Miss Goodbrand
Primary 4/5	Mrs Caggiano
Primary 5	Miss Park
Primary 5/6	Miss McFarlane
Primary 6/7	Miss McLean
McCrone	Mrs McBlain
SfL	Mrs Spowart
ASNA	Mrs Summers and Mrs McCallum

### Teaching Dream Team!



### Meet the Teacher

Our Meet the Teacher Night was held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August.

We shared school information and our plans for the year in the hall to kick the evening off. Following this short presentation many had the chance to visit classes where their teacher talked through the year ahead, class routines and reminded you of arrangements for our Progress Conferences. We took the opportunity to inform you about our HMIe report which was published on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August. The crèche was buzzing despite the downpour of rain. Typical Scottish weather! Our parent/carer feedback was very positive, thank you for taking the time to write your comments. We will have these displayed on our school blog very soon. Thank you for supporting this event, it was great to see so many new and familiar faces.

### Buddies

Our Primary 1 learners have settled in and have thoroughly enjoyed their first few days of primary school. They all look lovely in their uniforms. Our buddies have been exemplary and have brilliantly carried out their role as a support for their new friend. Thank you to all of the buddies, we are very proud of you.

### House Captain Elections

Our P7 pupils will soon be preparing to do battle at the hustings as they participate in our House Captain Elections. Each P7 pupil will deliver their election speech to their house members and try to convince them that they are the best person to lead the house to victory this session. Following the speeches P7 will run the election with all pupils and staff completing their ballot papers. The votes will be counted and after lunchtime the elected captains will be announced at a whole school assembly. This will take place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September. **GOOD LUCK TO ALL!!!**

### Progress Conferences

Our Progress Conferences will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. There will be two sessions available - 3.30pm - 5.30pm and 6.00pm - 9.00pm. A crèche will be available. Additional information on this event was issued at Meet the Teacher. If you did not receive this, please contact your class teacher and they will be happy to provide you with everything you will need. This parent/pupil/teacher conference is an important part of your child's target setting for the year and we look forward to your support.

### Citizenship and Enterprise Learning

To provide meaningful contexts for our learners to develop their understanding of citizenship each class will be responsible for running a fundraiser for their chosen charity. All of our classes have been researching charities over the first weeks of school and this was included in our initial homework grid. They are busy deciding which charity they would like to support ensuring a range of local, national and international charities will receive our support.

### September Weekend

The school will be closed for the September weekend on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

### Homework Diaries

We have issued our new homework diaries for August to the October break. We have been able to include a number of our school documents in the front section. Please take the time to look at these with your child and sign the ICT and Positive Behaviour agreements with them. Thank you.



### Follow Us on Twitter

We love sharing your child's learning with you and tweeting our successes!!! We are looking forward to continuing to amaze and astound our followers this session. We will use it to keep you up to date with the academic journey and many achievements our learners enjoy throughout the year. Search for us on '@RavenswoodPS'.

## Peanut Allergies



We have a number of pupils and staff in our school who suffer from peanut allergies. This condition is very serious and we would ask that you make sure the snacks and packed lunches your child brings to school do not contain nut products.

## After School Clubs

Miss Elliott (P6), is our physical education, physical activity and sport champion and has organised our after school activities for this term and is arranging more throughout the year. We hope to be able to offer a range of activities to suit all ages, interests and abilities. Watch out for updates regarding clubs that we will be offering.

## Daily Mile

We are looking forward to continuing our daily mile sessions this year. As part of Outdoor Learning Week, we will be using the local Ravenswood Marsh. This will be an ideal opportunity for our children to refresh their memory of our jogging route round the Ravenswood Marsh in preparation for our run/jog/walk daily mile starting very soon. Staff and pupils will be able to tackle the route in whatever way they want - walk it, jog it, run it. Our pupils are very clear on the rules of running the course and have school staff completing it alongside them. The benefits of the daily mile are improved physical health and fitness, improved behaviour and improved concentration in class...and not just for the pupils!!!

## Parent Council Association AGM

Our Parent Council Association Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm. There are four vacancies on the PCA going into this new school year. A letter detailing the process for filling these vacancies will go home by pupil post on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Our PCA provides valuable support for the school and we'd love to see you at our AGM if you'd like to join our merry band.

## Have you Labelled???

We are already the proud owners of a number of school uniform items that have no names on them so we are unable to return them to their rightful owners. Please, please, please label everything. We'll happily provide a Sharpie marker if required. 😊

## School Parking

As most of you know, we are unable to allow parents and carers access to the school car park at the start and end of the day. This includes those in a taxi. We understand this can be very frustrating for some parents/carers but I am sure you understand how congested and unsafe our school grounds get very quickly. Mr Mullholland has been out at the gate every morning and has been impressed and delighted to see that the entrance has been mostly kept clear. The 'Keep Clear' at the top of the hill was not being used as a turning circle and many of you were choosing to park further down the hill and walk the last little bit with



your child. This really improves the safety of all who are entering the school from the road entrance and I'd like to thank you all for putting the children first! More information on how to support our school travel plan can be found in your child's Homework Diary.

### Outdoor Learning Week



Next week, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September, we will be celebrating the outdoors as part of Outdoor Learning Week. A flier was sent home during Meet the Teacher night with all of the information you require.

We advise to dress for the Scottish elements, uniform will not be required on these days. Rain, hail or shine we will be learning and having fun outside! On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September we will be fully involved with the House Captain elections. This means all pupils will be dressed in their school uniforms, looking their best for the press!

### Primary 7 Cross Country

Our Primary 7's have been invited to Greenfaulds High School to participate in the Cross Country Championship on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September. This will be one of the many amazing transition events organised to support all pupils as they move on to high school. All pupils will be invited, even if Greenfaulds High School will not be their future secondary education.

We have great competitive spirit in Ravenswood Primary.



# Good luck P7!

### PCA Tote Bags

Many of you purchased tote bags prior to the Summer holidays organized by the PCA. Unfortunately they did not arrive in time for the Summer Fair, we apologise for this. We are pleased to say they are here safely and your children are working hard to create their personalized A4 insert to make your bag one of a kind. All PCA bags will go home on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September by pupil post. We are looking forward to seeing many happy shoppers around Cumbernauld!