# Coupar Angus Primary School Newsletter 5 December 2016

A quick up-date on what we have been up to in the last few weeks and what is coming up soon.... You will find more information on our website and facebook page and remember you can contact me through the school email with any queries or comments.

N.Drew

Facebook and school website (www.couparangus.pkc.sch.uk).

## <u>Curriculum Event 2017</u> <u>Date for diary!!</u> <u>Date for diary!!</u>

Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 5-6pm with buffet tea afterwards! There will be a variety of Workshops from Early literacy and Readiness for School to Big Maths and Science. Some of the children will help us present the workshops and parents and children will be welcome to take part and join us for tea after. More info to follow in January 2017, just pop the date in your new diary for now!

# Early Learning and Childcare Parent and Carer Consultation November - December 2016

Perth & Kinross Council is seeking the views of all families with babies, under-fives and school age children. We would like to hear your views on:

☐ the future	delivery of Early Learning	and
Childcare;		

- □ your experience of arranging and using childcare services;
- □ your anticipated needs around childcare in the future.

Please complete our online survey by visiting

#### www.pkc.gov.uk/families

Paper copies are available from all Local Authority Nursery Classes Severe Weather Arrangements – please see the attached sheet on Severe weather arrangements. We will keep our facebook page up-dated with any changes due to weather over the winter period and you can use the numbers given.

Coats: Speaking of winter weather please can we ask that children come to school with coats, hats, gloves as we do go outside every day for break and lunch and many children say they don't have a coat, or don't wear it. We do our best to send them in to get one, but your support in this would be very helpful.

Chapped lips Some children have sore dry lips due to the change in the weather, please feel free to send them in with chapstick if you think this would help, we are unable to give them anything for sore lips in school, but can encourage them to apply chapstick if you give them this.

# Give it up for Mary's Meals

We held a 'Give it Up for Mary's Meals' week in **November.** During this week, we asked the children (and staff and parents if they wanted) to give up one item for the week and donate the money for that item to Mary's Meals. This was led by the Rights Respecting Schools vertical group. They prepared pledge sheets to give out to children and they spoke to the children about this at assembly and have had a stall at both Parents' Evenings. The idea behind this is that children experience going without something they like for one week to try to have a small understanding of what it must be like for less fortunate children. If you took part, please send in your pleage money and pledge sheet in an envelope to Miss McQueen in P3.

#### Rag Bag

We raised £33.20 from the November Rag Bag collection for school funds. Thank-you for supporting this and bringing in your rag bags. The next collection will be on14/02/2017.

# Hour of code -IT news!

From the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> December we are having Hour of Code week where everyone will have the chance to take part in coding activities. This is very easy to access – just go to code.org/learn

Quotes from the Digital Leaders Vertical Group who have taken part in coding activities already:

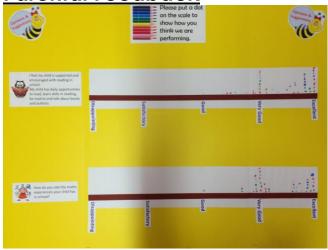
"it is really fun"

"I like trying to figure things out"

"I like playing the games on the computer"

"It helps me with other things like angles"

# Parental Feedback



On Parent evening we asked for your feedback on how you feel your child is supported in reading in school and how you would rate the maths experiences provided for your child in school. In the diagram above the majority of responses to both questions were in the very good to excellent category.

This is great to hear as we have been working very hard on developing Literacy across the school with Active Literacy, word aware, Literacy circles and a focus on up-levelling our writing.

In maths we are about to undertake an evaluation with pupils and staff about the Big Maths mental maths programme and we are currently looking at our Problem Solving programme. We welcome all your feedback and you can email me at <a href="mailto:couparangus@pkc.gov.uk">couparangus@pkc.gov.uk</a> if you want to add any further comments.

# **Extreme Reading Competition**

For the month of **November** children, parents and staff were being encouraged to take a photograph of themselves engaging in Extreme Reading, which is simply reading in either an unusual location or position. For example upside down, at the beach, at work, in the car (not while driving). Bring in your photos by Friday 9th December marked for Mrs Drew with your name, age and class (or if an adult, the name of your child in school) and we will have some wonderful prizes for the most imaginative or extreme examples. We are also focusing on reading and authors in school and each class choses an author of the term or month to share their books. Primary 4 told us about their four favourite books last week at assembly they are:

- -Charlie and the chocolate factory 'Roald Dahl'
- -My mum and dad make me laugh
- 'Nick Sharratt'
- -You can swim Jim 'Kaye Umansky'
- -Beegu 'Alexis Deacon'

Next week Primary 5 will tell us their favourite books.

# School development up-dates

We had two very productive In-service days in November and started work on our Listening and Talking Programme, looking at the New Literacy and English Benchmarks that the Scottish Government have published. We also recently had a Local Management Schools group looking at Listening and Talking, which is where all the local schools' teachers come together to discuss joint developments.

We had iPad training in the afternoon and also spent time looking at our school self-evaluation against quality indicators in How Good is Our School 4. The nursery team also attended training from Perth and Kinross on Positive Behaviour Management.

Our key focus this session has been literacy, but we are still continuing with Big Maths and are about to do an evaluation on its impact.

#### **Nursery news**

In preparation for the nursery, p1 and p2 nativity productions we are looking for donations of adult size white t-shirts, silver or gold tinsel and any fairy or angel wings.



#### **Pupil Council**

Are asking children their views on **IT** in the classrooms this month and talking about any issues children raise. The Pupil Council are also keen to help us re-vamp the school library and run a lunch-time book club.

## <u>Career's Fair 2017 – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March in</u> the afternoon

Next term the whole school is going to be finding out about careers in the local area and nationally and talking about what skills are needed for jobs. We have just started to plan this, but if you would like to get involved, please let us know by popping into the office and leaving your details with Mrs MacGregor. We will be looking for parents to come in and talk to the children about what jobs they do and the skills and qualifications you need.

At the end of the project we aim to have a career's fair on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017 during the school day where pupils and parents can go round the stalls of various local businesses and workers who will be telling them all about their jobs.

### Dates for Diary 2016/2017

School Xmas Lunch: 16<sup>th</sup> December 16<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Jumper/outfit day cost £1 for school funds.

#### **Christmas Parties:**

Monday 19th December: P6/7 party in

school in the afternoon

Tuesday 20th December: P3/4/5 Party in

school in the morning

Wednesday 21st December: P1/2 Party in

the afternoon

#### **Christmas Nursery events:**

Wednesday 21st December AM – Nursery AM 9.30am-Nativity **followed by** the Party in the main assembly hall. Parents welcome.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December PM – Nursery PM 1.30pm-Nativity followed by the party in the main assembly hall. Parents welcome.

#### P1 Nativity:

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2pm in the main assembly hall, parents of P1 children and friends welcome. AND

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 9.30am – end of term service and P1 nativity – all welcome

End of term service: 9.30 am Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>
December all welcome in the main hall.
After the service we will serve tea and coffee and mince pies for parents.

# School holidays Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 12.00

School resumes – Monday 9th January 2017

Travelling Books: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017 for a week in school.

SOC meeting – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017 5.30pm all welcome

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 – inset day4 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017 holiday. No pupils in school from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February for mid-term.

# Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Bingo Tea in town hall

Parent evenings – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 5pm-7.30pm and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 3.30pm-6pm.

Career's Fair – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in the afternoon

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, Easter holidays, school finishes at 3.15pm. End of term service, more information will follow.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – pupils return to school after Easter break.

SOC AGM Monday 8th May 5.30pm.

Report cards to be issued in June 2017.

Charity shop week Monday 5th June 2017.

DISCO – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

P1-3 6pm-7pm

P4-7 7.15pm-8.30pm

P7 leaver's meal at Red House 5.30pm.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017- School closes at 12.00noon. End of term service, more information will follow.

Class assemblies are held on a Friday at 10.50am for 11am, parents and friends are welcome to attend.

### Class Assembly Dates:

P1 17th March 2017

P2 10th March 2017

P5 9th December 2016

P7 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017