

**Coupar Angus Primary School
Newsletter 6
January 2017**

Happy New Year to everyone and I hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday. The whole school is taking part in a learning context this term which is **The World of Work.**

Teachers have been asking local businesses for their support. If you would like to come in and work with a class to talk about your own career we would love to hear from you, you can email the school address or phone and ask to speak to the class teacher or myself.

Nursery and P1 are looking at jobs in the school and in Coupar Angus.

P2 are planning on finding out about the jobs their parents do and they are also going to be running a café as part of an Enterprise project as well, planning how to set this up and what they will need to ensure they make a profit!

P3 are looking at careers in Perth and Kinross Council, researching a variety of departments such as housing, education and culture. We have some exciting visitors lined up already from Building Standards, the Youth Services team and Trading Standards. Our classroom has become the 'P3 Council Offices' and visitors will be asked to report to our very own reception when they arrive!

P4 are focusing on IT and are looking at Careers with Computers. How people can use computers in their jobs, how computers have changed over time, how computers work and some of the computing-specific jobs we could do.

P5 are learning about Tourism and careers in tourism, as well as working with local artist Frances Law this term on the Coupar Angus Burn project. They have a visit to Perth Museum planned. P6 are focusing on Engineering. They will have the opportunity to put science, maths and design technology into practice in a way that will enhance their learning in the classroom.

P6 are taking part in the Scottish Engineering Leaders Award and will have the chance to think up and design their own invention. They will have the opportunity to interview real engineers and learn all about what it takes to become one.

P7 are starting the term planning their Burns Supper and then are moving on to focus on careers in journalism and have made links with DC Thomson.

Thinking Room 2 are looking at People at Work with a focus on skills, jobs using IT, work from home, working with other people, trades, earning money.

Thinking Room 1 will focus on jobs their parents do and then people who help us in school and in the community.

We have **two very exciting events to invite you to this term.** Firstly a **Curriculum Workshop event on Thursday 9th February from 4-5pm**, with a buffet tea afterwards and secondly a **Careers event on Friday 24th March** in the afternoon.

More information below.

Remember for up-to-date information on school please go to our Coupar Angus Primary school Facebook page and our website.

www.couparangus.pkc.sch.uk).

Curriculum Event 2017

Date for diary!! Date for diary !!

Thurs 9th Feb 4-5pm with buffet tea afterwards from 5-5.45pm

We will be offering a range of curriculum workshops from readiness for school, numeracy, reading to IT and Active Literacy. We will be sending out more detailed information next week about this and some children will be involved in delivering the workshops as well.

We will be asking for replies to say if you can come along so that we can prepare enough food for everyone!

World of Work Careers Event:

In the afternoon on Friday 24th March we will be holding a careers event for children and parents. We are still planning this and will send more information soon. We will have some local businesses at the careers event and some of the classes will present some of the learning they have been doing on World of Work. If you would like a table at the event to talk about your career we would be delighted to hear from you on the school email address or via your child's teacher.

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.

Enrolment for P1 and nursery session 2017-2018

School enrolment starts on Monday 17th January until Friday 20th January. Parents need to come to the school office with their child's birth certificate and current council tax and a utility bill and Mrs McGregor and Mrs McLellen in the office will give you a form to fill in.

Nursery Enrolment is from Monday 23rd January to Wednesday 15th February. Even if your child currently has a place in nursery you need to re-enroll them for next session. This is done via the school office, but nursery staff will also have forms available.

Home phone numbers and contact details

In the last week I have had to contact a couple of parents when their children have been taken unwell in school and have discovered the contact details to be out of date. Please ensure that you let us know of any changes to your phone numbers as it is vital that we can contact you if the need arises during the day. We also hope to have the Texting service set up this month and this will only be effective if we have the correct phone number.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Staffing news

Mr Billen joins the staff team full-time from Monday 17th January as Mrs Harrison has left to take up a post at Rattray in the nursery. Mrs Kellie has taken up a post as Deputy Head Teacher at Invergowrie Primary School and although she was only with us a short time we wish her well in her new post.

Mr Sutherland the PE teacher has also left to take up a new post and so we are currently advertising for a new PE teacher, in the meantime class teachers will take the classes for both PE lessons each week.

School development up-dates

Coupar Angus Curriculum Rationale

We up-dated this in May 2016 with support from SOC and we are now about to review this in the light of recent changes in our curriculum. We will aim to send this out to parents in the near future, if you would like to be involved in reviewing this with us and the children, please get in touch via email.

couparangus@pkc.gov.uk

Listening and Talking:

During the November in-service the staff worked on updating our Listening and Talking progressive programme. Over this session we have had a focus on Literacy from nursery to P7 and children have been challenged and supported in reading skills through initiatives such as Active Literacy in P1, Literacy circles in P6 and P7 and attractive reading areas in all the classes. We have been looking at how we can 'up-level' our writing by adding more description and detail and the children have been able to see the improvements in their writing.

We hope you will come along to the curriculum workshops on 9th February to find out more about school developments in the curriculum.

Nursery news

Coupar Angus Primary School

Rhymetime

**Every Friday from 20th January 2017 9am –
10am**

Juice and Biscuits provided

ALL WELCOME

Lending Library request:

Nursery staff will be setting up a small lending library this term from which nursery children can borrow books and games to take home and share with their families. If you are having a clear-out now that the children are back at school, the nursery would be delighted to receive donations of good quality picture books or educational games. These can be handed in to nursery or to the main school office at any time. Thank you.

Garden Vertical Group request

The Gardening Vertical group are entering a competition this term to upcycle garden equipment and win prizes for their designs. So if anyone has any unwanted and old garden equipment could they please hand these into the garden room with Mrs Robertson and Mrs McGregor. Thanks in advance.

Pupil Council

Met to discuss the presentation in the jotters and how we can all make our work neater and drew up a code.

Devised an IT questionnaire for classes for Jan/Feb 2017. Reviewed class issues and have agreed to talk about the school playground in our next meeting as well as looking at the progress made with the School Improvement Plan.

P6/7 Ski Trip

This is planned for Monday 23rd January – Wednesday 25th January, snow dependent! The P6/7 children not on the trip will be taught by Miss Kerr and Mrs Canning while Miss Gourlay, Miss Sinclair and Mrs Hastie accompany the children on the ski-ing trip.

Absence and Punctuality

If your child is unwell and off school, please phone the school office on 01250 871400 before 10am. Please do try to have your children arrive at school on time. Recently the number of children arriving late has increased and this really impacts on their learning. Thank you for your co-operation in this.

If any parents have not yet activated their Parent pay accounts can you please do so. If you are unsure about this, please see the school office.

Coupar Angus Primary School was inspected by HMI in November/December 2015 and the inspectors will be returning later this term to see the progress we have made. Later this month I intend to send home an update for parents about the key areas for development and what we have developed over the last 12 months.

Please note Fizzy drinks are not allowed in school so please ensure your child brings an alternative in their packed lunch or for snack such as water or fruit juice.

P4 swimming

P4 children usually have the opportunity to go swimming for 10 weeks. At the moment Perth and Kinross council are arranging the swimming lessons with Blairgowrie Recreation Centre and Live Active and it may be that P4 have swimming lessons in Term 4 or it may be that they have their lessons in P5. They will still get swimming lessons at some point, and we will let you know when this has been finalised.

P7 news

Last term P7 ran two competitions. A raffle for the bear and a guess the number of sweets in the jar. Julia in P3 won the bear and The Garden room and Calvin in P3 were joint winners of the Sweeties. There were 393 sweets in the jar and both guessed 400 (plenty to share!). The competitions made £117.40 to go towards the P7 Burns supper in February. Many thanks.

Dates for Diary 2017

Lots of new dates so please look carefully!

Monday 23rd January P6/7 3 day ski-ing trip

Tuesday 31st January – P7 parent (& child) meeting about BHS at Coupar Angus PS 6pm

Curriculum Event Thursday 9th February

Workshops 4-5pm and buffet tea 5-5.45pm. More information to follow very soon, but children and staff will present workshops on a variety of curriculum areas, some of which you suggested in November, for parents to find out more about key areas from maths to reading.

SOC, Parent council meeting – Thursday 9th February 2017, 6pm all welcome.

Monday 13th February – P7 Burns Supper 6.30pm

Monday 13th February – P6 trip to Sky Academy, world of work.

Wednesday 15th February 2017 – inset day 4 - Pupils not in school.

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February 2017 holiday. No pupils in school from Wednesday 15th February for mid-term.

Friday 24th February – Bingo Tea in town hall doors open 7pm.

Wednesday 1st March – P7 Show Racism the Red card in school

Wednesday 8th March P7 Healthy drama workshop

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

Career's Fair – Friday 24th March 2017 in the afternoon. Come along and find out about careers in the area and also the children will present some of their learning about the World of Work from the term.

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

Wednesday 19th 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 26th June 2017.

P1-3 6pm-7pm

P4-7 7.15pm-8.30pm

P7 leavers' meal at Red House 5.30pm

Thursday 29th June 2017- School closes at 12.00 noon. 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

P7 28th April 2017