

April 2017

Barsail Primary News

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| May Day (schools closed) | Monday 01 May 2017 |
| Election In-service Day | Thursday 4th May |
| In-service Day | Thursday 25 May 2017 (IS) |
| May weekend | Friday 26 May 2017 and Monday 29 May 2017                                                |
| Schools re-open | Tuesday 30 May 2017 |
| Election – probable In-service day | Thursday 8th June |
| Last day of session | Wednesday 28 June 2017 |

**Parents – Thank You!**

We are incredibly grateful that so many of our parents volunteer and make a difference to our school. The parent and child garden club are transforming our front entrance. The coloured tyres are looking great and they have more plans which will look fantastic.

This years cycling proficiency is underway. We run the on road course which is advocated to improve cycling skills and safety. Parents undertook training and work tirelessly to support our pupils.

The World of Work days were wonderful. A diverse range of parents and family members worked with classes.

Parents help on outings to make trips possible. Sport is improved through parents who run teams and clubs, going over and above for our pupils.

Our regular helpers provide support for teachers and pupils to enhance their learning experiences.

Credit union and Book Club continue to thrive and are led by parents and former parents.

There are too many people to name but we want to thank you on behalf of the pupils and staff.

I am keen to form a joint working party with staff, parents and pupils to look at the behaviour system and I ask that any interested parents leave their names with the front office. It is likely to start this session and run into next term.

We are looking for helpers to support Health Week and to play in teachers and parents versus pupils sporting matches. More information to follow.



April 2017

**Feis Phaislig visit**

On Wednesday 26th April, we had a musical performance promoting Feis Phaislig – a week of traditional Music and culture in Renfrewshire. Following this promotion last year, Aaron Gooding was inspired to go along to the summer workshops which he thoroughly enjoyed. He then started accordion lessons and has since played during various school events. This year the week is 18-21 July and there are workshops in Paisley Grammar School 10am – 4pm where participants pick subjects to learn in 4 days including e.g. accordion, guitar, drama, filmmaking. Let us know if you go along and what you achieve!

**Celebrating Achievements**

Lots of pupils have represented Barsail during Term 3 e.g. Burns recitals, netball, basketball, girls football, boys football, athletics. The achievements blog has been kept busy! Remember to sign up for email alerts through our school website.

**House System**

**Winners** Well done to Jura who won the House Point totals for Term 3. As a reward, the children enjoyed a House celebration organised by the Captains and Vice Captain.

**Fundraiser** An outstanding fundraising event took place last term, organised by the Jura and Bute Captains and Vice Captains. As a school we raised £694!!! Renfrewshire Council will charity match £500 so we now have a total of £1 194 allowing us to donate £600 to Save the Children and £600 to Team Mila as these were the pupil chosen charities. Representatives from both charities came along on the day.

**Term 4 fundraiser** Skye and Mull Captains and Vice Captains are currently working together to plan their event which will take place during Health Week.

**Health Week 12th – 16th June**

During Health Week the children should wear sports clothing to school each day. They will need a full water bottle every day. Every class will take part in indoor and outdoor P.E. sessions, many of which will be led by visiting experts. They will also be involved in Health lessons as part of our Health and Wellbeing programme. Sports day is part of Health Week and takes place on Tuesday 13th June. The children have to wear a **house coloured t-shirt** on this day. If you can help lead activities or visit classes during Health Week e.g. coaching, police input, dental / nurse input, please contact Mrs Gibney, Principal Teacher.

**Uniform**

We are aware that parents often start buying items of uniform early in preparation for August or that you may be topping up uniform if your child has taken a stretch. We would like to remind parents that our school uniform is grey and not black. We would also like to ask that pupils are not wearing bright coloured trainers to school. These trends seem to be mainly in the upper school and as there will be plenty of time to wear black at Park Mains, please don’t be pressured into buying a ‘high school’ uniform for Barsail.

The Gilmour Sports order form has been sent home or you can order through Tesco online if you wish to buy items with the Barsail badge on them.

It is important that the children have indoor shoes to wear for P.E. and to change in to when their outdoor shoes are covered in blaze from the pitch.

An order form for gym kit for next session is being sent home. This is optional. Gilmour Sports are offering shorts and a t-shirt (with the Barsail logo on it) in a gym bag for £9.95. The t-shirt colours are red, yellow, white and purple so that you can order the colour for your child’s house. Whilst P1-5 don’t tend to change their t-shirt for gym, it is always handy to have a house coloured top for events. P6-7 are encouraged to change their top for hygiene reasons. In Park Mains the P.E. kit is strictly white t-shirt and navy/black shorts. We want to discourage children from wearing designer sports wear, vest tops etc for sporting activities in Barsail. Our P.E. kit is shorts and a t-shirt / Barsail polo shirt.

**Free Meal Entitlement and Clothing Grant**

Please check the Renfrewshire Council website to see if you are entitled to apply for free school meals and/or clothing grant. If you are applying for the first time, there is a form you must complete. With P1-3 all receiving free meals, if you meet the criteria and your child is in Primary 3 moving into Primary 4, please apply in advance so that the free meal is available from August. Here is the webpage:

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3338/Free-school-meals-and-clothing-grants>

**Erskine Gala Day 24th June**

We were involved in this community event in August 2016. The Gala Week for 2017 is in June and we will be part of the relay race and walking parade again. The theme for the parade is movies and Barsail will be…Star Wars! We hope that lots of our pupils will want to take part and dress up in a Star Wars costume/theme. We hope that adults who are helping at the parade will also dress up! Kim Clark is running a p4-7 craft club who will create props for our parade.

**Loch Insh**

There is a Loch Insh blog and children will be updating it with photos and information while they are away. Parents can visit the blog – <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/lochinsh>

You might want to save this to your favourites! You can even leave a comment! We will add the link to the school website as well.

**Questionnaire**

We have analysed the results of the parental questionnaire and we are happy with the results. I will share the full report with Parent Council on Monday 8th June. As a staff, we are currently identifying next steps and actions to continually improve based on your comments. I will send out a summary of the results once I have feedback from staff, parents and pupils. As the questionnaire was anonymous, I was unable to respond directly to parents. If you would like to discuss any matter raised, I am happy to do so.

The pupil questionnaire will take place this term. The senior management team meet with groups of pupils every term to discuss their learning and views. Over the course of the year we endeavour to meet with every child. The pupil questionnaire will provide a whole school snapshot and the views of our children will be taken onboard.

**Election**

Although not officially confirmed at present, Barsail Primary is highly likely to be used as a polling station on 8th June therefore we have taken the decision to change the Nursery – P1 induction days (as a session was planned for this date).P7 pupils will be able to attend Park Mains for their P7-S1 transition days as planned.

**Upcoming events**

3rd May – P6-7 Football

8th  – 12th May – Loch Insh P7 trip

17th May – Final football league game

18th May Football tournament

23rd May Whole School Talent Show – see letter

24th May P7 transition event at Park Mains and Rashielea (more information to follow)

June – Reports issued this month

2nd June – P1 induction

6th June P1-2 disco with nursery pupils who will be P1 next year AND P3-7 disco

8th and 9th June - P7 to Park Mains

9th June – P1 induction

12th – 16th June – Health Week

13th June – Sports afternoon

15th June – P7 School Dance 6:30pm start

22nd  June – 9:45am P1-3 Service for parents

22nd June – 10:45am P4-6 Service for parents

22nd June – 1:30pm P7 Service for parents

23rd June – Meet the Teacher event for pupils

28th June – 1pm close