



Dear Parents and Carers,

Red Nose Day

What a lovely day we've been having, celebrating Red Nose Day! There have been jokes galore, red outfits, funny outfits, fundraising and the all-important Red Noses themselves! A big thank you to Mrs Stewart for organising the event and for our Primary 7s and 7/6s for distributing the Red Noses.

Our school assembly considered the purpose behind Red Nose Day and the various charities it supports. In particular we looked at what is meant by the words 'refugee' and 'asylum seeker'. We learned that these words are labels and that we should look beyond the label to think about the person and their life story. We celebrated our value of being Welcoming and becoming an Effective Contributor in the world around us.

Primary 7 Ardentenny

Our Primary 7s had a fantastic time on their residential trip to Ardentenny last week. I have been so proud to hear from staff, how wonderfully the pupils conducted themselves. They were a credit to the school and their families. I was so pleased to be able to share our Ardentenny Values Awards at the assembly today, with those pupils who put those values into action across the week.

Parent Council Meeting and info

Our next Parent Council Meeting will be on Thursday 24 March, 7-8pm on Teams. Please contact the office for a link to the meeting.

The Parent Council are also organising some fundraising activities through their Facebook page. If you are interested in helping to raise money for the school whilst also being in with the chance of winning yourself, please head to their page to find out more!

Class Sway

We listened to your request for more information about what pupils have been learning recently and put together a Class Sway presentation. A big thank you to each class for explaining their learning and taking the photographs. We would also like to thank Miss Montgomery for giving of her time to put the Sway presentation together. We hope you liked what you saw and that it sparked some further conversations at home about what our pupils have been learning.

It is our hope that we put such a document out once per term, so watch this space!

Pupil Council

Our first Pupil Council meeting took place this week with the 20 class representatives coming together to discuss what the council does, the role of the Chair and Vice Chair and ideas for our first task. In collaboration with our Parent Council, the pupils will be organising a competition to design our very own school Road Safety banner which will be displayed along our fence.

Our Primary 7 reps will be working with me next week to put together the pupil entry forms that will be subsequently delivered to classes. The Pupil Council will decide on a closing date and the format for voting for winning entries to ensure the process is fair for all. We can't wait to see what creative ideas the pupils come up with!

Parents' Nights

As previously outlined, our Parents' Nights this term will take place online. Letters explaining how to access this system will go out on Monday and parents/carers will then be able to select times that best suit. This system will also allow parents/carers to join the same meeting from different locations, particularly helpful if families live apart or if one parent/carer is working away from home.

Creativity Classroom

We have been developing our Outdoor Classroom recently, turning the space in to what will be, a 'Creativity Classroom'.

The World Economic Forum states that by 2025, the top five skills employers will be looking for include innovation, complex problem solving, critical thinking, creativity and originality. Creativity is one of our most essential skills. In Scottish education we define creativity skills as being:

- Curiosity
- Open-Mindedness
- Imagination
- Problem solving

As you can imagine there has been significant investment in this project, with resources continuing to arrive over the next few weeks. We hope to have this area open for classes to use after the Spring Holiday and will post pictures on Twitter of the learning that is taking place there.

ParentPay

You will notice that most of our communication and all payments for trips, activities and fundraising events currently goes through ParentPay. It is vitally important that parents/carers set up their ParentPay account however we do understand that the system can prove tricky. Should you need any assistance, log in help or guidance with the ParentPay system please contact Chloe Young, our Senior Clerical Officer, who will be more than happy to help.

If you wish to get in touch with the school with any questions, ideas or suggestions, please lift the phone or send an email. We love to hear from you!

Yours faithfully,

Fiona MacKenzie

Head Teacher