



Welcome to Bushes Primary's **April and May** Newsletter!

Parent Council



Our Parent Council have run a number of successful events so far this year and are a credit to our school. From raffles to discos and winter fayres, a number of events have been offered to all pupils and their families. The money raised from these events goes directly to improve the educational experiences of all pupils funding new resources, trips and visitors to our school. They also run fundraising events that help to provide the school with new equipment. This includes all of the new outdoor equipment we have been able to purchase along with 3 lovely new containers to keep the equipment in. This is only made possible with your continued support of, and attendance at, the events run by the Parent Council. Thank you!

Our next disco is scheduled to be held on **Thursday 29th May**.

Our Parent Council are always looking for new recruits so if you are interested why not come along to one of their meetings?! These usually take place on the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm. However because of holidays, the next meeting of 2025 will take place in the staff room on **Tuesday 29th April at 6.30pm**. We look forward to seeing you there!



Primary 1 and Primary 7 Induction

On Wednesday 14th May and Thursday 15th May, our Primary 7 pupils will be attending Gleniffer High School for their induction days. Further details will be shared via Seesaw before these dates.

On Thursday 15th May, we will be welcoming our new Primary 1 children and their parents/carers to Bushes, and we are very much looking forward to meeting and working with them all!

P6 Residential Trip



A huge thank you to Mrs Paterson, Mr Bannerman, Mrs Diver, Miss Fowler and Mrs Grier for looking after our Primary 6's on their residential trip - what a fantastic week everyone had! I would like to state that the trip would not be possible without staff giving up their time and leaving their families for a week, and I am very grateful to them. I was delighted when I heard how much our Primary 6 pupils enjoyed their week and how well they had represented the school.



Staff Car Park and Parking around School

Please remember that the school car park is for staff use only. Parents should not be using the car park at the beginning and end of the school day. I appreciate your understanding and support in this.

There are a number of vehicles who are parking around the school in a way that is a danger to our pupils and their families. It is also causing a nuisance for people who live in houses around the school as well obstructing access for emergency service vehicles. If you are parking in the streets around the school, please do so safely and sensibly for the benefit of our school community as well as members of our local community. I anticipate, and thank you in advance, for your support in this matter.

Nut Free School



I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we are a nut free school. Nuts and products containing nuts e.g. Nutella, Snickers bars etc. should not be brought into school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

We are also a school that promotes healthy eating. A number of children have been bringing large bottles and cans of fizzy juice with them to school. I would appreciate your support in not sending your child into school with these fizzy drinks as we have found consuming them can make it harder for children to concentrate.



Celebrating Children's Successes!

I have had some more lovely visits from pupils who have been very keen to share with me their successes outside of school. A huge congratulations to:

Stuart P1 – medal from football club

Daniel P3 – medal for completing the million steps challenge for Diabetes charity; medal for completing a sponsored walk for a Diabetes charity.

Thomas P4 – trophy for seasons 2024 from Glenbrae Colts football team

Amber P5 – 7 highland dancing medals (4th in Fling; 3rd in Sword; 4th Seann Triubhas; 4th Reel; 3rd in Special Fling; 4th in Flora; 2nd in Lilt) and a trophy for coming in 3rd overall

Stuart P1 – football medal

Sunday P1 – certificate for completing first swimming lesson

Charlie P3 - Medal from a football tournament

Miller P3 - Medal from a football tournament

Rebecca P3 – certificate for being 'Netball Player of the Week'

Amber P5 – 7 highland dancing medals (2nd in Fling; 2nd in Sword; 4th Seann Triubhas; 2nd Reel; 2nd in Special Fling; 2nd in Flora; 3rd in Lilt) and a trophy for coming in Highland Runner Up

Lewis P3/2 - Medal from a football tournament

Connor P4 – football medal

Romi P1a – medal from gymnastics

Nelly P1a– medal from gymnastics

Adam P7/6 – Certificate for gaining Chief Scouts Silver Award at Cubs

Lewis P7/6 - Certificate for gaining Chief Scouts Silver Award at Cubs

Lexie P4a – Visited Dinsneyland Paris

Bolusha P4a – trophy for being star of the month at dancing club

Marla P6/5 – 2 medals for 4th place finishes in Latin and Ballroom dancing

Neve P1 – built a train out of building blocks

Denny P4 – IDL certificate for earning 100 stars in numeracy lessons

Luke P5 – Trophy for being 'Player of the Year' with St Mirren Youth Team

Harrai P4 – certificate for Star Grade 1 at Taekwon-Do and certificate for achieving yellow striped belt at Taekwon-Do

Lucy P7 – medal and certificate for passing level 1 (advanced) in gymnastics and medal and certificate for passing level 2 (advanced) in gymnastics

Avni P2/1 – badge for for Star Grade 1 at Taekwon-Do

Lexie P3 Trophy from end of football season

Lucy P3 Trophy from end of football season

Evie P1 – certificate for swimming 5 metres

Ellis P2/1 – certificate for STANley 1 Award

Rosie P2a – medal for taking part in a ski race while on holiday in Austria. Also created a journal of her holiday

Emma P7 – trophy for 3rd place Lyreco duet; trophy 2nd place Lyreco team dance; trophy 3rd for hip hop and a medal all for taking part at 'Dance Inzane' competition

Lucy P7 – trophy for 3rd place Lyreco duet; trophy 2nd place Jazz team dance; trophy 2nd place Lyreco team dance trophy; 3rd for hip hop and a medal all for taking part at 'Dance Inzane' competition

Eilish P4a – trophy for 4th place finish in hip hop duo at 'Dance Nation' competition

Poppy P2a – 3rd place medal for taking part in a ski race while on holiday in Austria

Olivia P4 – trophy from competing in a dance competition

Erin P6 – created a painting and a drawing in her own time

Georgia P3 – certificates for passing dance exams in Ballet (Highly commended), Tap (Distinction) and Cheer (Highly commended)

Mylie P5 – IDL certificate for completing 50 literacy lessons

Josh P7/6– IDL certificate for completing 150 numeracy lessons

Michael P7– IDL certificate for earning 1000 stars in Numeracy lessons

Amira P6– IDL certificate for earning 500 stars in Numeracy lessons

Orla P3/2 – moved onto level 4 in gymnastics

Orla P3/2 – certificate for being 'Netball Player of the Week'

Denny P4a - ,created a painting on a canvas of a sunrise

Emily P4a - certificates for passing dance exams in Ballet (Highly commended), Tap (Distinction), Jazz (Highly commended) and Modern (Highly commended)

Olivia P3/2 – made crafts at home – jewelled Stitch and a snow globe

Parker P2 – Has been scouted to join Hearts pre-youth football team

Hollie P6 – certificate for achieving 1000 stars in IDL Numeracy lessons

Roma P3/2 – certificate and medals for passing dance exams in Tap (Merit), Ballet (Merit), Freestyle (Merit)

Ruaridh P4 – 5 x medals for swimming – Silver for 50m Fly and 100m IM; Bronze for 50m Breast stroke, 50m back crawl, 50 front crawl

Lucy C P7 – medal for taking part on 'Gymtastic' gymnastics event

Lucy S P7 – medal for coming in first place in Lyreco team dance at a dancing competition

Rose P3 – made a custom cat tree and scratching post for her cat

Elsie P3 – Medals and certificates from dancing for passing: Pre Bronze One Dance Dance Cheer-Pom (Highly commended); Pre-Primary Grade Tap (Distinction); Pre-Bronze Merit Test Ballet (Highly Commended)

Georgia P3 – Medals and certificates from dancing for passing: Pre Bronze One Dance Dance Cheer-Pom (Highly commended); Pre-Primary Grade Tap (Distinction); Pre-Bronze Merit Test Ballet (Highly Commended)

Penny P1 – certificate and medal for passing Starlite Level 1 Ballet

Daniel P4 – working on learning division at home in his own time

Mylah P4 – made own watercolour painting at home

Connie P4 – achieved yellow belt in TaeKwon-Do; medals and certificates for passing exams in Tap, Ballet, Modern

Sophie P1 – certificate from dancing for always remembering her routines

Aila P3 – certificate for taking part in a gymnastics competition; 2 x 2nd place medals for Floor; Ribbon for 6th place in Vault

Euan P4 – took part on a Cycle Cross (SXC) race at Cathkin Braes and got a medal and a bell

Archie P7 - has been successful at the National Trial and secured a place in the SFA JD Performance School

Romi P1 – 'Star of the Week' at swimming club



Health

I would like to remind you of the NHS' guidance that children should not return to school or nursery until 48 hours after a bout of sickness or diarrhoea (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/>).

I would also like to draw your attention to the following advice from the NHS about checking your child's hair regularly for Head Lice. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Travelling to School



It is wonderful to see so many pupils walking, cycling and scooting to school. I have reminded pupils at assembly that as soon as they enter the playground in the morning they must come off of their bike or scooter and push it round to the bike shelter. At the end of the day children should push their bike or scooter whilst they are in the playground. I would appreciate your help in reminding your child of these rules.

We have also been successful in a grant application. We will soon be taking delivery of an extra bike shelter along with some scooter storage. These will be installed next to the current bike shelter soon.



School Sports Day

Our annual school sports day will take place (weather permitting) on the afternoon of Friday 2nd May. Parents and carers are invited to join us in the playground with children from P1-P7 taking part in a variety of activities. Our Sports Day will begin with an opening ceremony. Please note that children will be dismissed at the usual time of 3pm. Further details will be sent home soon.

Primary 7 School Show



Rehearsals are under way for this year's Primary 7 school show – 'Frozen Jr'. The show takes place on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th June with a 7pm start on both nights (Doors open at 6.30pm). Letters regarding how to acquire tickets will be sent home soon. As always, it is sure to be a fantastic event!



Dogs in the Playground

A reminder that dogs are not permitted within the playground regardless of whether they are on a leash. This rule also applies to any dogs that are being carried by their owner within the playground. I appreciate your understanding and support in this.



Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices



If you deem it necessary for your child to bring a mobile phone with them to school, it must be switched off and kept in their school bag at all times. Children are not permitted to use their mobile phones within school time and the school takes no responsibility if they are lost or damaged. Children should not be using their mobile phones to take videos or photographs within the school grounds.

I would ask for you to support us in ensuring your child is using their mobile phones safely by:

- Regularly reviewing your child's social media accounts and their online communications
- Regularly reviewing their privacy settings on any social media accounts, they have
- Reporting any inappropriate behaviours or actions to the police

Also, children should not be bringing other electronic devices to school. At Bushes, we like to encourage children to build friendships and relationships with one another and find that the use of such devices does not support this.

I am grateful to you for your support in these matters.



Pupil and Parent/Carer Feedback

Thank you very much to all the parents and carers, 65 of you, who took the time to complete our recent parent/carers feedback questionnaire.

In the pupil survey:

Examples of themes pupils fed back that they felt makes Bushes a good school:

- Safe, friendly and welcoming school where we support and help each other
- Staff are kind and helpful
- Opportunities to play with friends and making new ones
- Values, house points, rewards and chance to represent school
- Fun toys and resources
- Playground has things in it that are fun and enjoyable

Examples of themes pupils fed back that they felt would make Bushes an even better school:

- More clubs including expressive arts ones
- Outdoor resources and opportunities to learn outdoors
- Playground – resources and older pupils supporting younger pupils and being role models
- Resources for PE, art and learning and organise ones we have

In the parent/carers survey:

Examples of themes parents/carers fed back that they felt the school does well:

- Seeing, treating and supporting children as individuals
- Creating a safe, welcoming, inclusive, caring and nurturing learning environment
- Recognising achievements and encouraging children to uphold school values
- Organising and running events and activities
- Older pupils working with and supporting younger pupils e.g. House groups, PATHS buddies
- Staff are available to help, are approachable and respond to concerns/issues and communicate appropriately
- Communication
- Style of teaching and lessons are enjoyable and of good quality

Examples of themes parents/carers fed back that they felt the school should look to continue to develop:

- Outdoor learning including use of grass areas and more equipment
- Sports clubs (after school and lunchtime)
- Continuing to build on links between home and school to support and challenge children's learning e.g. homework, clubs to support learning etc.

- Continue work towards accreditations that support children's educational and wellbeing development e.g. Rights Respecting Schools, Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Approach (RNRA) etc.
- Continue work to support children's emotional wellbeing
- Explore further opportunities for educational day trips
- Resources to support learning including ICT

Examples of themes parents/carers feel Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) money could be considered to be used for:

- Continue spending on online subscriptions, assessment resources and extra staff
- Outdoor learning and equipment
- Clubs including Expressive arts clubs
- Support for pupils - ASN training, staffing to help with anxieties and mental health, challenge for learners, home learning links, targeted reading and literacy groups

Lastly, please be assured that we do take on board all your views. I read every response and make sure that the themes are noted and analysed. Your views do genuinely matter, and we take them on board. We will add this feedback to the feedback from other stakeholders and utilise this to inform our improvement priorities going forward. These are then added to our Standards and Qualities document and Improvement plan that are available via the school website

Attendance



On average, attendance **above 95%** is what would be aimed for across the school year as there are direct links between attendance and children's attainment. I monitor attendance across the whole school on a monthly basis, to ensure that children are attending as often as possible. I am fully aware children may need to miss school for occasional appointments or illness, but I would like to ask for your continued support in helping your child to attend school as much as possible. It is also extremely beneficial when children attend school on time as it sets them up positively for the day ahead. If you are facing any difficulties in supporting you child to attend school or to do so on time, please reach out to us and we will do all that we can to support you in this. The more children attend school, the better opportunity they give themselves to reach their full potential.



Dates for your Diary

April	
Tuesday 29 th	Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm
May	
Thursday 1 st	P7s Parents and Carers Evening at Gleniffer High School 6.30pm
Friday 2 nd	P1-P7 Sports Days PM
Monday 5 th	Holiday
Wednesday 14 th and Thursday 15 th	P7s Induction at Gleniffer High School
Thursday 15 th	New Primary 1s Induction at Bushes
Thursday 22 nd	Non-Uniform Day
Friday 23 rd	Inservice Day (school only open to staff)
Monday 26 th	Holiday
Thursday 29 th	Parent Council Disco
June	
Tuesday 3 rd	Parent Council AGM Meeting 6.30pm
Wednesday 18 th and Thursday 19 th	P7 School Show
Tuesday 24 th	P7 Prom
Thursday 26 th	P7 Leavers' Service PM
Friday 27 th	Finish at 1pm

Please note some dates may be unavoidably changed

If you have any concerns regarding your child's education, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Craig McCrorie