H P S News

10th January 2020 www.howwood.renfrewshire.sch.uk

# A NEW TERM



The Christmas holidays now seem just a distant memory and our new term is in full swing. This term we can sometimes encounter some extreme weather and issues arise around contacting parents. To this end if you, or one of your child’s emergency contacts, has changed phone number, please let us know as soon as possible. Also, as you know, the mornings have been very dark. We would encourage you to put bright colours or a fluorescent strip on your child’s school bag or clothing to ensure they are safe on their walk to school.

**SCHOOL MEALS**

The school no longer has a cook in residence at this time and meals are being cooked and transported from St. Anthony’s Primary. The school menu remains the same. Pupils are encouraged to eat most of their lunch and to have fruit along with their meal.

Please support us by discussing the menu with your child and providing a packed lunch if your child is unable to choose an option.

**REGISTRATION**

Registration for new P1 pupils is on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th January at Howwood Primary School. We are looking forward to welcoming new pupils to the school and hoping for a bumper crop this year.

**PLAYGROUND**

During a recent school survey some parents felt that the playground could have more to offer pupils. We recently purchased a climbing wall, which was the choice of the pupils.

Although we have a large grassy area, pupils were very rarely on it last year due to the wet weather.

We have now changed some of the grass area to a bark are with the help of Paisley’s Unpaid Work Team, hoping that this will allow the pupils to

access the swingballs, even when the grass is too muddy.

We would also like to make a play area for our youngest pupils on the bark with a playhouse and natural materials for them to sit on, build with and walk on (stepping stones). If you



know where we could acquire some free tree trunks, wooden playhouses or wooden building material please contact the school office.

**FIRST MINITER’S READING CHALLENGE**

All pupils will be given a passport for the First Minister’s Reading Challenge and I would encourage you to support your child in recording each book that they have completed. The

children complete their passports in class or during library time, however they can also add in any books they have completed at home.

**THE NATIVITY**

Our Christmas show was extremely popular this year and we were delighted to see so many families attending the show. The children performed amazingly well and many of you left feeling full of

Christmas cheer and complimenting the children and staff. We managed to raise a fantastic £365 from fundraising activities over three performances, thank you for your support in this.

**CHURCH SERVICE**

A special well done to the Primary 7 boys who led the Christmas service so well. I was so proud of them.

**PUPIL VIEWS AND GROWTH MINDSET**

Pupils from P4 to P7 recently completed a survey on Growth Mindset. This will be used to measure any impact on pupils from our new Growth Mindset programme. Pupils are confidently discussing growth mindset and their understanding of this and the way they can apply it in school.

We would welcome time with parents to share the concept of growth mindset and will be running a parent workshop in the summer term to address this.

**MYSTERY ITEMS**

Although we are still in the first few weeks of term, we have dealt with quite a few items of lost property. Please continue to ensure that all uniform items are clearly named.

**PRIMARY 7 BURN’S SUPPER**

Our P7 pupils will celebrate Robert Burns with a Scottish afternoon on Thursday 6th February at 1.15pm-2.45pm.

An adult will be invited to join them for the afternoon.

**CELEBRATING SUCCESS**

We continue to encourage pupils to share their achievements with us and celebrate these at assembly on a regular basis. If your child has reached a goal outside of school, please let us know about it. It helps to build self-esteem and gives the teacher further insight into the pupils in their care.

Children can bring in any certificates, medals or badges they have gained, the whole school really enjoys celebrating successes together.

*We have a display in the entrance headed ‘Creating Great Citizens’ and we would really love pupils to add their outside achievements to this.*

**PARENT COUNCIL/FUNDS R US**

The Parent Council will be meeting on Tuesday 14th January at 7.30pm, with Funds R Us meeting at 7 pm.

We would really like to have at least one representative from each class and would be keen for as many people as possible to attend.

**SPORTS RELIEF WEEK AND PARENT HELPERS**

The health committee will lead some sporty activities to support sports relief and keep our pupils focusing on a healthy lifestyle.

If you feel that you have something you could contribute to our health week then please let us know by phoning the school office.

In the past, we have enjoyed parental input on different sporting activities or healthy lifestyle choices and this has really enhanced experiences for pupils.

Parents are always welcome to support pupil learning within school. Our new class topics are listed below. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel you have something you would like to contribute to these.

P1-Castles

P2-Dinosaurs

P3-Healthy body

P4-Scottish lands, myths and legends

P6/5-Titanic

P7-Robert Burns

**HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME**

I realise from time to time it can be difficult for a family to holiday during the school holiday period and you may have to take your child out of school. This does not usually impact greatly on a child unless this is a frequent occurrence.

It can however result in pupils missing out on important events in their school life such as school shows, end of term prize givings and dances.

We will endeavour to give you dates for these however, they do tend to be near the end of term.

**OPEN AFTERNOON**

P1.P2 and P4 will showcase their work to parents this term. The dates are listed below.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**



**Tuesday 14th January** 7/7.30PM

Funds R Us /Parent Council Meeting

**Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th January**

P1 Registration 1-3pm

**Friday 31st January**

Come as you Please Day

**Thursday 6th February**

P7 Burn’s event 1pm

**Friday 7th February-Wednesday 12th February –**HOLIDAY and IN-SERVICE

Pupils return on Thursday 13th February

**Thursday 27th February**

P4 Open Afternoon 2.15-3pm

**Friday 28th February**

Come As You Please Day

**Monday 2nd March**

Spring Disco

**Thursday 5th March**

World Book Day

P7 to Johnstone High

**Thursday 19th March**

7/7.30PM

Funds R Us /Parent Council Meeting

**Tuesday 24th March**

P2 Open afternoon 2.15pm-3pm

**Wednesday 25th March**

P1 Open afternoon

**Wednesday 1st April**

Parents’ Night

**Thursday 2nd April**

Final day of term

**Friday 3rd April-Friday 17th April**-HOLIDAY

**Monday 20th April**

Pupils return to school

***A wee heads up….***

**10th, 11th and 12th June –**P7 pupils to Johnstone High. They will need to be transported there and back.

**Thursday 18th June-**P1 prize giving 9.30am

**Wednesday 24th June**

P7 prize giving 9.30am

P7 leaving event- evening event