



Inchinnan Primary School

Small school.... big aspirations

February/March 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents

Welcome to the February/ March Newsletter. Term 3 is always the longest term in the school year and with dark mornings and evenings, it can often feel a bit 'dreich' that good Scottish word for dull and gloomy, but this has not held us back from taking part and exploring using a wide variety of learning experiences and opportunities to stimulate and interest your child. Read on to find out about just some of the adventures we have been having of late.

Primary 7 -

Although only February, Primary 7 have already started transition events in preparation for Secondary School, with the first visit to Park Mains High School (PMHS) to take part in a Modern Foreign Language event. The event was aimed at encouraging and supporting children feel confident and secure about both the transition to a new, bigger school as well as, speaking a different language, while building on skills already learnt at Primary. This went alongside a couple of visits from staff from the Modern Foreign Languages department coming to visit the primaries and support, the children's confidence in speaking French. Tres bien, tout le monde! 🇫🇷

House System? House Parties

The start of February saw the first house Party of the year taking place as term 1's winners **Old Greenock** decided to wait until term 2 to see who won, congratulations **Beardmore**. They then put House party budgets (real life maths) together to have a joint house party with their favourite a 'bouncy castle' 🎈.

As a school we have spent a long time thinking about the value of House teams/points and the effect these have on children. The vast majority of children really enjoy the House system and although it means some teams don't win at any given point, it does teach children life lessons about the value of teamwork and the importance of doing your best, even although it means you might not win every time. Teamwork and Houses are more than just winning, it's about having a common goal and the relationships within the team. However, we hope our new additional target points approach will encourage all children to continue to try their best, as all houses that achieve the target will receive a special treat. This term it's a bonus 'Golden Time' and I'm delighted to say that already this term all Houses have achieved the target set by the House Captains and Vice Captains. The bonus Golden time will be on Friday 4 April. 🍌

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics - STEM



A huge thank you to one of our parents – Mrs Thursby and her team from Thales who provided a wonderful morning of fun filled activities learning about engineering. The children had the opportunity to learn about different ways that engineering support us in our life as well as potential careers in engineering. We enjoyed using the thermal imaging camera in the school hall and learning about how they help armies and for search and rescue missions. Learners were then given the opportunity to build their own periscope and look at the science behind how they work. Pupils were able to ask the engineers who visited their class questions about their careers. Some of the skills we used included: Teamwork, problem solving, organisation and active listening.

Assembly

We have had a wide variety of different assemblies in the last few weeks, ranging from pupil led committees sharing their work to date like the Travel Committee, the mini eco committee and the library committee. It's wonderful to see the children sharing their enthusiasm for the mixed age and stage committees and the range of activities they undertake. We have also been having a real focus on our school value of equity and how this links with diversity. A guest speaker from 'Who's Cares' Scotland spoke about the different experiences that some children might have when growing up and the impact this can have on their lives. We started a focus on Anti Racism, what this means and what role we play. This has then been followed up in classes using the new Scottish Government resources.

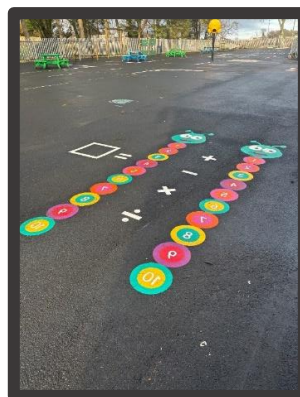
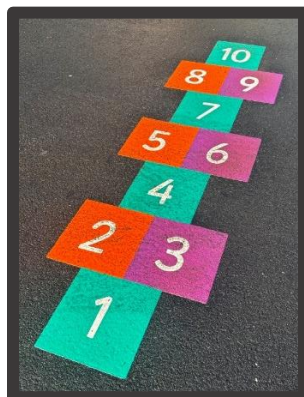
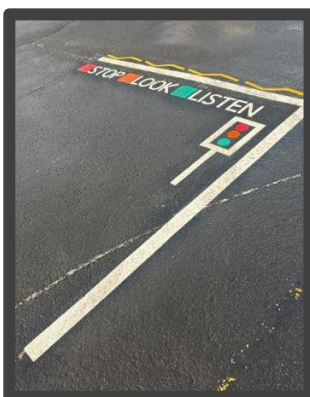
Class Assembly - P5 invited the whole school and their families to a special assembly where they shared a number of traditional songs that they had been learning over the past 8 weeks from the input from Fèis Phàislig. Many thanks to Grant and Kathleen who organised and delivered this input.

P4/3 Class Assembly - What a wonderful class assembly from P4/3 who shared their learning about 'The Romans'. We could see many skills in action, such as teamwork, with groups of children exploring different aspects of Roman life and then applying ICT skills to share their finding with their audience. It was also interesting to see the creativity skills being used to share learning through song, dance and art/craft work. Well done P4/3 an outstanding job! 🍌

24th February saw the start of **World Gaelic week**, with classes taking part in online assemblies to share traditional games, songs, stories and quizzes, inspired by this year's themes of 'building connections', exploring Gaelic locally and internationally.

Playground

We were fortunate to secure a grant of £1000 from Tesco to enhance our outdoor learning space. We were able to purchase new markings to enjoy and to support our learning. Our wonderful Parent Council also contributed £470 to help us redo the road markings which help us to learn about road safety and carry out our Bikeability programme.



Inchinnan Primary School – Values

Respect, Kindness, Trust, Teamwork, Equity, Perseverance

Visitors/ Volunteers

To follow up on the P6 Safe Kids event from last session, P7 had a visit from the Youth Officer from Renfrewshire Council to talk to P7 about Anti-social behaviour and the impact this has on communities.

P6 and P4/3 have been lucky enough to be supported at their P.E. times this term by volunteer helpers from Park Mains High School, who had done a marvellous job, many thanks.

While P1/2 had 2 visitors from the Teddy Hospital to undertake TEducation with the aim of helping to reduce children's fear and anxiety about visiting hospital.

P1/2 also went on a very exciting visit to the Science Centre, which they thoroughly enjoyed and learned a lot from.

As part of the normal Quality Assurance programme within the authority, Mrs Yvonne Ward the school's link Education Manager came for a visit on Wednesday 19th March. Mrs Ward was very impressed by all aspects of her visit. She specifically noted

- The very positive ethos and culture across the school community with strong relationships between pupils & staff
- Pupils feel their teachers listen and respond to their needs in an appropriate manner,
- Pupils enjoy active learning approaches and spoke very highly of the leadership opportunities available to them,
- Almost all learners are motivated and interact well with each other during lessons

PARENT COUNCIL.

The next scheduled Parent Council Meeting is online on Monday 12th May 2025, a link will be distributed nearer the time. If you would like to contact the Parent Council please email:

inchinnan@renfrewshire.npfs.org.uk

As per my recent communication re the changes within the Parent Council, please consider, if there is anyway you might be able to spare a few hours each year to the work of the school, to ensure we have the best outcomes for all Inchinnan Primary pupils, many thanks in anticipation – *Nicola McGlynn*

Staffing.

I'm delighted to say that we now have Miss Ferguson with us on a temporary basis, covering while Mrs Derrick is on leave. Welcome and good luck Miss Ferguson.

We have also recently appointed a temporary Additional Support Needs Assistant (ASNA) Mrs Sanderson and a Lunchtime Supervisory Ms Savinova. Both who should be starting soon into the new term

Celebrating Success and Experiences outwith school - Please let us know of any awards / achievements / interesting experiences or opportunities that have been undertaken outside school, sending them to the school office or adding them to Seesaw, allowing us to celebrate and share them with peers

Daisy Kilgour (P4) can now do a back handspring.

Mallie Bowes (P3) auditioning for part in Matilda stage show.

Avneet Shergill (P4) passed her Taewondo grading in December and has now achieved a green belt.

Charlotte Kirkhope (P5) achieved Brownie Bronze award, following achieving 2 theme awards.

Sarah Jeffrey (P1) "Star Award" from dancing for amazing effort, with show.

Abbie McDonald (P5) won 1st place in recent hip hop dance competition.

Emily McArthur (P7) took part in Ceilish for Gaelic week with her choir "Coisir Gaidhlig Feis Phaislig" on 1st March at the Community Circus at Paisley

Louis O'Brien (P1) completed his first Park run (2km)

Etahn Hainey (P6) won 3rd place trophy at recent Chess event

Skye Stevenson (P5) achieved white belt in Jiu Jitsu and blue belt in Kickboxing

Layla Dean (P6) attended Northern Jamfest and achieved Portugal bids

Charlotte Hughes (P5) demonstrated a dance to a group, who copied and enjoyed!

Mallie Bowes (P4/3) passed her Tap, Ballet and Modern dancing exams with Distinction.

Tilly Brunton (P2/3) has been baking and made up her own recipe.

Parent / Family Volunteers - WE NEED YOU!



Many thanks to Mrs Black, who is organising some volunteers to help glue our artificial grass at the front playground, to help develop the lower schools indoor/outdoor, free flowing outside area.

As we continue to try and develop many different areas and aspects of the curriculum, we are looking for any volunteers that could offer short or long-term help with various aspects in and around the school. For example, if you have an interest in gardening, our school grounds committee could do with extra pairs of hands to weed and plant within school grounds.

Watch out for next month's newsletter - for the full story on the highly successful P5-7 Show Cinderella Rockerfellar!

Diary Dates -

Session 2024-25 - Term 4

- 1st April - P7 Parent residential info evening - 5pm
- 4th April - Come as you Please (Fundraising on ParentPay)
 - Special Easter themed dessert on Lunch menu
- *2.30pm Early finish for Easter**
- 7th - 21st April - School closed for Easter break.
- 22nd April - School re-opens for Staff & Pupils
- 29th April - 11-11.30 - P6 Swimming at Erskine pool
- 29th April - Football Festival at PMHS (P7 footballers)
- 2nd May - Come as you Please (Fundraising on ParentPay)
- 5th May - **Holiday School closed**
- 6th May - 11-11.30 - P6 Swimming at Erskine pool
- 13th May - Sports day (Weather permitting - please note change of day, due to STEM event on 15 May)
- 13th May - 10.30-11.30 - P6 Swimming at Erskine pool
- 14th May - 12-2.30pm - P6 Safe Kids event
- 15th May - P7 to STEM event at UWS
- 16th May - Golden Choices
- 22nd May - Come as you Please (Fundraising on ParentPay)
- 23rd May - **Inservice day- Only staff to attend**
- 26th May - **Holiday School closed**
- 28th May - P7 to PMHS (PM)



New Entrants – Transition dates

- 19th May (2pm) – informal “Meet and Greet” Session
- 27th May (2pm) Class Intro Teambuilding/Sports Activity (children only)
- 3rd June (11am) Parent and Child Visit
- 6th June (4pm) Fun Day - Parent Council Event
- 12th June (1.45pm) Parent and Child Visit
- 19th June (12 pm) Lunchtime experience (parent and child)

For ease of reference, the school website has all diary dates for the rest of the session.

We really do value your thoughts, opinions and welcome comments you may have regarding any issues or concerns, no matter how small. Please feel free to email the school inchinnanenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk or, for a longer discussion, make an appointment through the school office on 0300 300 0161.

Kind regards

Nicola McGlynn

Head Teacher

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