



Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we are already into our final term of the school year. I hope you enjoy reading about the goings on at Wallace during March and April.

### Vision and Values

As you will be aware, as part of our school improvement plan, we have been reviewing our school vision and values. Thank you very much to parents who came to our workshops and who completed our survey.

We spent a long time discussing this with parents, staff and pupils and I was delighted to reveal our new school vision in the recent published leaflet. The vision statement was developed from an idea from Joe Gribben, one of our P7 pupils, and we are so proud of him!

Our school vision is...

**Happy Together. Learning Together.  
Succeeding Together.**

Our values are:

**Kindness Ambition Respect**

**Honesty Friendship**

We will be working hard on these with pupils during assembly. We want these to be what we are all about at Wallace and to be at the core of everything that we do across the

school and nursery. You will already see these statements and values throughout this newsletter.

We will be hosting a parent workshop to launch our new values and this will be combined with an introduction to our new Accelerated Reading programme. We hope you can come along on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 6.30pm.

### Creating Engineers - Succeeding Together

We are delighted to share the success of our P6 pupils who took part in the Creating Engineers challenge. Two of our teams progressed to the cluster final and came in first and third place. Well done to our third place finalists Ava Macleod Herron and Emma McCallum and congratulations to Rory Boyd and Sean McKeary who will represent us at the regional final in May.

### Primary 2 Trip - Learning Together

Primary 2 had a wonderful time at the Sealife Centre, Loch Lomond. The children watched the otters being fed and learned about lots of different species of sea life on show in the different exhibits. The children's behaviour was excellent and staff were very grateful to our helpers.

## Easter Service - Happy Together

We had a wonderful Easter Service on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March where we were certainly "happy together". It was lovely to have our whole school together including nursery pupils and the parents of P5. The pupils were excellent telling the Easter story through drama, poetry and song. It was also great to enjoy performances from the choir, the recorder group and the strings.



## Parental Engagement - Working Together

Huge thanks to parents who joined in with our consultation at Parents' Night about communication and Pupil Equity Fund. The results are on our website and we were delighted with the positive comments and suggestions for improvements.

We are delighted to announce that following consultation, 94% of parents we spoke to were positive about the new school app. It is now available to all parents to download for free. For this term it will work alongside our text message system, this will mean a little duplication as we allow parents time to download the app and for us to iron out any teething problems.

Download "My school app" and select Wallace Primary School and Nursery. We hope you enjoy using it and it helps to continue to improve communication.

## Reminders

### School Uniform

In line with our school policy, I would like to remind you of our school uniform:

- Grey or navy skirt/trousers
- Sky blue school polo shirt or white shirt and tie
- School sweatshirt (navy)
- Blue checked summer dress

We are trying to promote full school uniform for all pupils and are discouraging the wearing of black and also of sports tops or hoodies. Of course we do not expect new uniforms to be purchased at this point as a result of this reminder, however we ask that you consider this when purchasing next year's uniform. We appreciate your support with this matter. **Value - RESPECT**

### Absence

Please remember to call the school to inform us of your child's absence. School office is open from 8.30am.

We will send a text out for any unexplained absence and this will be followed by a phone call. When we do not hear from you we become concerned for your child's safety and have a strict policy to follow. This includes home visits by school staff.

I continue to monitor attendance on a monthly basis and letters are issued to all pupils with less than 90% attendance or more than 5 instances of late-coming.

## Literacy Update - Learning Together

We have been working hard to develop our reading strategies in line with the Renfrewshire Literacy Project. Staff have completely embraced our new approaches to ensure we are getting the text level right for all pupils in Primary 1-3. We have purchased books, furniture and a 3 year subscription to Accelerated Reading as part of our Pupil Equity Fund. This is an individualised reading scheme, which will be used for all pupils in Primary 3 -7 and for some in Primary 1 and 2. It is an excellent programme, which assesses pupils' reading age and then allows them choice in their reading book within an appropriate level. An information event for parents will be held, along with vision and values, on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm. Thanks to Mrs Robertson and Miss Sanderson who have worked extremely hard as Literacy Champions this year to take these developments forward. **Value - Ambition**

## Gardening - Succeeding Together

Huge thanks to parent Andy Jackson for developing our new garden area - it looks great and we can't wait to start planting in it! Thanks to the PTA for funding this. On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May we are holding a gardening day, pupils will be helping to clear up an area of the school grounds and begin planting in their new planters. This will link in with Renfrewshire's Team Up to Clean Up campaign. Old clothes, suitable outdoor clothing and footwear should be worn to school on this day. We would welcome any parent helpers to support our gardening day either on the Thursday or any day they are available.

## SMT Remits

Since Mrs Brooker's appointment we have taken the opportunity to clarify SMT Remits. Please find below a summary of management team remits. The full version can be found in the Useful Documents section of our website and app.

### Mrs Brooker

Nursery, Primary 1 -3, Primary 1 Transition, Health and Wellbeing (including Sports, Health Week and Sports Day) and ICT.

### Miss Docherty

Primary 4-7, Additional Support Needs, Numeracy, Fair Trade and Rights Respecting Schools.

### Miss Harper

Modern Languages, Growth Mindset, Expressive Arts and responsibility for student teachers and probationers.

I would like to encourage parents with any concerns or questions to approach the class teachers as their first port of call. They know your children best and should hopefully be able to answer your questions about their learning or day to day events. If you still have questions or concerns, please contact the Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for their class.

Whilst I feel the class teachers and deputies are best placed to deal with any queries or issues, this does not change my open door policy. Please get in touch if I can help at all or you have concerns to raise with me.

## Dates for your Diary

23/4/18	Parent Council Meeting
25/4/18	Growth Mindset Workshops
30/4/18	Cinebus visiting
1/5/18	Cinebus visiting
3/5/18	Gardening Day
4/5/18	In service Day
7/5/18	Holiday
11/5/18	P6 group to Riverbrae
15/5/18	P6 Winners to K'Nex Final
16/5/18	6.30pm Parent Workshop
18/5/18	P6 group to Riverbrae
24/5/18	Non uniform charity day
25/5/18	Holiday
28/5/18	Holiday
29/5/18	P6 + P7 Parent /PLC Appointments
30/5/18	P6 + P7 Parent / PLC Appointments
31/5/18	P7 Induction Day at Castlehead P7 Parents' Night at Castlehead
1/6/18	P7 Induction Day at Castlehead
1/6/18	New P1 Induction Session 1
4/6/18	Health Week
6/6/18	Sports Day
6/6/18	Summer Disco
7/6/18	New P1 Induction Lunch
11/6/18	P7 to Loch Insh
13/6/18	New P1 Induction 'Stay and Play'
16/6/18	Summer Fayre
18/6/18	New P1 Induction Session
TBC	P7 Valedictory Service
TBC	P1-3 Service
26/6/18	P7 Dance
27/6/18	Non uniform - no charge 1pm Close for Summer Holidays

## Plans for Term 4

### **Learning Together in Term 4**

- **P6 Bikeability Training** - on road cycle training for P6 pupils. This will be delivered by Paul Keegan, Primary 6 teachers, Mrs Brooker and myself. Cycling is an important skill which we are keen to promote and support.
- **Growth Mindset** - 25th April. This will include workshops for pupils, staff and parents. Parent workshop at 6.30pm

### **Happy Together in Term 4**

- We will celebrate with Primary 7 their 7 happy years at Wallace with their valedictory and dance.
- **Parent Council Summer Fayre and Summer Disco.**
- **Health Week** - week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> June. If anyone has any skills or talents or would just like to support us then get in touch with Mrs Brooker. Remember we will focus on all aspects of health and healthy lifestyles, not just fitness.
- **Sports Day** - Please look out for a Survey Monkey questionnaire about Sports Day to be issued soon.

I would like to remind you of our open door policy at Wallace. Please don't hesitate to contact me at any point. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

*Susan Dalrymple*  
Mrs Susan Dalrymple  
Head Teacher