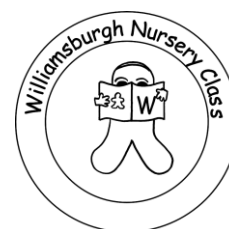


Williamsburgh Primary School & Nursery Class

Newsletter



May 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the second last newsletter of this school session. I thought you might appreciate the dates of events planned so far for the rest of the term.

Diary Dates for May and June

Monday 2 nd May	May bank holiday – school and nursery closed
Tuesday 3 rd May	Parent Council meeting – 7pm; all welcome
Wednesday 4 th May	PACE in to work with P6 on the Harmony project
Thursday 5 th May	Scottish Parliamentary Elections. School closed. Nursery open as usual- access only from East Lane.
Friday 6 th May	STEM engineering day for P7
Friday 13 th May	NYCOS in to do music workshops with P3 & P4
Saturday 14 th May	Parent Council Spring Fayre- 11am – 1pm
Monday 23 rd May	P5 visit to Kelvingrove
Thursday 26 th May	In-service day; school and nursery closed to children
Friday 27 th May	May Bank holiday - school and nursery closed
Monday 30 th May	May Bank holiday – school and nursery closed
Tuesday 31 st May	School and nursery re-opens; 9am
Wednesday 1 st June	P7 Induction Day at Paisley Grammar. New P1 induction afternoon at Williamsburgh.
Thursday 2 nd June	P7 Induction Day at Paisley Grammar. New P1 induction afternoon at Williamsburgh.
Friday 3 rd June	Report cards out to parents today.
Tuesday 7 th June	Parent Council meeting- 7pm; all welcome
Wednesday 8 th June	School show “Wizard of Oz” – afternoon performance
Thursday 9 th June	School show “Wizard of Oz” – evening performance
Monday 13 th June	Health Week begins – more information to follow
Friday 17 th June	Art Exhibition and coffee afternoon – 1.30-3.30pm
Monday 20 th June	P7 Leavers’ Dance 6.30-10.00pm
Wednesday 22 nd June	Nursery Graduations – 10.50am and 2pm in school hall
Thursday 23 rd June	EU Referendum – school closed. Nursery open as usual- access only from East Lane.
Friday 24 th June	School sports day at Lagoon. P4-P7 in the morning and P1-P3 in the afternoon. Parents and friends very welcome to come to spectate.
Monday 27 th June	P7 Leavers’ Service – 10am at Sherwood Greenlaw; families and friends welcome.
Tuesday 28 th June	School closes 1pm for summer break!

Newsletter Consultation

There were only a few responses to the newsletter consultation. Almost everyone likes the paper copy, particularly for the dates section which seems to get posted onto fridges! I will take on board other comments, particularly the one about it not being out for the start of the month. This is my fault entirely and it is simply a workload issue. I will try to do much better! I am also going to put it onto the website as soon as it is finished and will send a text to let folk know it is there so you can at least have a look at it online if there is a delay at the printers. Thanks to those who took the time to feed back about this.



Attendance and Latecoming

As you know, punctual attendance at school is hugely beneficial for children's learning. We have noticed that latecoming is on the increase. This means a disruption to the class and to learning and teaching; a poor start to the day for the children and a huge increase in workload for the office staff.

The Senior Management Team will be monitoring this very closely this term and we hope that parents will work with us to try to reduce the number of latecomings. A member of the SMT will now be at the front

door every morning to monitor this.

We are also aware that an increasing number of children are being collected early from school. Please ensure that your child is in school until 3pm unless there is an emergency or medical appointment. Thank you for your cooperation.

Encouraging children to be independent

We constantly strive to encourage children to be independent in their learning and in their life skills. It would be much appreciated if parents could work closely with us to ensure that their child takes responsibility for packing their bag with everything they need for the day including snacks, lunch, gym kit etc. Our school office is a very busy place and it would be very helpful if they did not have to be delivering forgotten kit on such a regular basis. Thank you.

Classes for next session

We will soon be sending out information, asking about classes for next session. An information leaflet about composite classes will also be sent out. Could I please ask you to read this carefully and if you have any questions about composite class, please contact me or Mrs Thomson or Mrs Vandal so that we can reassure you and give you any additional information you might need.



Open Evening

A huge thank you to everyone who came to our Open Evening. It was a great success. Thank you for the lovely comments which were overwhelmingly positive. This will certainly be an event that stays on our annual calendar.

Building works

The factory behind the school and the boundary wall are going to be demolished. Fortunately the majority of this work will take place during the summer holidays. There may be a need for scaffolding and security fences to be erected during the last couple of weeks of term. We are working closely with the demolition contractors and HQ to ensure that this is done safely and with the minimum of disruption to the school. When we come back in August, it should be completed and we should have a lovely new fence instead of the crumbling wall.

Growing Family!

We have had a significant number of new children recently and our family is continuing to grow! We now have a school roll of 440 with another 100 children in the nursery. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new children and families to Williamsburgh; it is great to have you. Talking about growing families.....



It's a boy!

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Harvey had a beautiful, baby boy on 6th April. Noah Alexander Harvey was a bouncing 9lbs 4 oz. Both Mum and baby are doing well and they have already been in to visit P3a and the staff. We all loved having a wee cuddle. I am sure you will join with me in wishing Lyndsay and Andrew every happiness and blessing for baby Noah. Isn't he absolutely gorgeous? As you can see from the photo, he has already learned to put his hand up – clever lad!

P7 Residential Trip and Activity Week

Some of our P7s recently enjoyed a 4 day trip to Lockerbie Manor where they had a fabulous time taking part in all sorts of activities. This was a joint trip with Ralston primary and children have already made some friends which makes going to high school a wee bit less daunting.

The children who opted to stay at home had a fun week doing activities such as baking, swimming and a trip to the cinema.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Thomson for organising the activity week and to Mrs Wishart, Mr Miller and Mrs Weir for supporting it. Thanks also to Mrs Goodwin and her team from Reid Kerr for the fantastic team building day they gave the children. Finally oodles of thanks to Mrs Peden, trip leader and to Miss McCrear (and her sister Kelly) and Mrs Fulton for giving up so much of their own time and energy (and maybe a wee bit of their sanity!) to ensure the trip went well.

Here is what some of the children said.

It was really fun because we got to meet new people.
Kitty

It was a unique way to spend a week!

Chloe G

It was exhausting but fun!
Nathan

I got to try new things I've never tried before. **Mia**

See some photos on next page!

The activities were really fun and we got to meet new friends from Ralston. **Lois**



Clockwise from top left: "The back of the bus they canny sing..." / Ready for action / Finlay senses victory / Funny faces!

Superstar Samantha at the National Hate Crime Conference

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievement of Samantha Wilson, P6a who recently spoke at the National Hate Crime Conference at Hampden. Samantha met the First Minister and spoke to a huge crowd of people. We are all so proud of her and she also got a thank you email from Peter Macleod, Director of Children's Services. Here is what Samantha said about it.

On the 22nd of March, I went to the Hate Crime Conference in Hampden to speak about dyslexia. Nicola Sturgeon was there. Before my speech in front of about 200 people I was very nervous. My talk was about 5 minutes long and it was mainly about my dyslexic cousin Jay. I told the audience how Jay often got the blame when something went wrong. Then I moved on to talk about a film about a girl who was dyslexic and how she got bullied for it.

Wow! What a brilliant thing to do. Here are some photos of Samantha in action for you to enjoy.



Clockwise from top left: Samantha ready to speak / Samantha with First Minister Nicola Sturgeon / Samantha chatting to Chief Constable Phil Gormley. / Samantha delivering her speech like a professional!

WILLIAMSBURGH PARENT COUNCIL

WPC

Parent Council News

WPC have had a fantastic year so far and not just with fundraising. We have also run events like discos, film nights and, of course, the annual P1 scarecrow drive, which are all about meeting people and having fun. Having said that we've raised over £2000 for school funds so far and are hoping to double that by the end of June. Our biggest event of the year is the Spring Fair which this year will be on Saturday 14th May from 11am - 1pm. There will be stalls, games, refreshments, activities and prizes to be won so please put the date in your diary and bring the whole family down for some fun! We are looking for donations of any **good condition school blazers or Williamsburgh jackets** that we can sell on at the fayre for a very reasonable price. If you have any lying in wardrobes, **please hand in to school.**

WPC is made up of about eight parents who attend meetings and organise events, which we are happy to do, but we really need your help on the day to make sure we can cover all of the stalls etc.

Please let us know via our Facebook page if you are able to help or just drop a note into the school office. (We've been having some difficulties with our email account so best to avoid using that just now). Thank you.



Nursery News from Mrs Vandal

Transfer of Information

Parents of children who are due to start school in August should make an appointment with their child's key worker to discuss their child's Transfer of Information report. Meetings will take place during week beginning 16 May 2016.

Tour of Williamsburgh Primary School – Monday 16 May 2016

I am offering an informal tour of the school for parents of children who are due to start in August 2016. Anyone who wishes to attend should meet in the school on the above date at **9.20am or 1.10pm**.

Transition Programme

Children who are due to start school in August will now be making contact with their chosen school. Those children in our nursery who are moving to Williamsburgh have been visiting on a regular basis. Prior to starting school they will have visited primary one classrooms, played in the playground, visited other areas within the school and had contact with senior pupils who will support them when they start school. Staff from a number of schools have been to the nursery to meet with the children who are due to join them at their school too.

Graduation – Wednesday 22 June 2016 @ 10.50am and 2.00pm

A celebration will take place to mark the moving on to Primary education for a group of our children. This will take place in the school gym hall to allow parents to attend. We will have space to accommodate some additional adults, however please be aware that there will only be seating for approximately 70 adults. There will be space at the rear of the hall to stand.

Summer Trip

You may have noticed that I have intimated on the nursery screen that we have no plans to hold a large scale trip this term. Following feedback and a directive from the council for establishments to be more aware of costs involved for parents, we have decided to organise fun sessions at Barshaw Park for the children which parents are welcome to attend. More details will follow.

Mystery Storyteller

A huge 'Thank You' must be conveyed to all the following parents/carers who have taken the time to come in and read to the children. It is really appreciated and the children have expressed their delight and enjoyment following these sessions. Once again this has raised the profile of literacy within the nursery environment in such a positive way as well as encouraging links with parents too.

Marni's mum, Oscar's mum, Harrison's mum, Louis mum, Orla's gran, Orlaith's mum and Amy's dad.

Early Years Teacher

We welcome back Lesley Young to our school and nursery. Lesley has been on secondment but has returned this term and will be supporting the children at Early Years stages.

Chicks

Our chicks have been holding everyone's interest in the nursery. The presence of the chicks has enhanced the learning of the children greatly and supported the work of their current topic. 'Thank You' to Heather who took them home to 'baby sit' over the long weekend.



School Show

Miss McNeil and Miss Rai have been working very hard with some of our senior pupils to produce a school show. Our talented duo of teachers have written a “localised” version of The Wizard of Oz which promises to be funny and entertaining.

We are hosting 2 performances of the show in the gym hall on Wednesday 8th June at 1.30pm and Thursday 9th June at 7.00pm. Tickets will be on sale at the Spring Fayre next Saturday and then will be available in school.

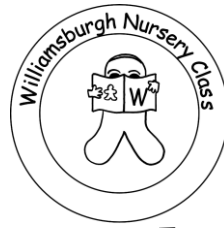
We are hugely grateful to a grant of £300 from our Parent Council which will allow us to hire lights and a sound system to make the show even more professional.

We hope lots of people will come to see the show and I am sure tickets will sell out quickly so be sure to get yours as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Nova Scott
Head Teacher

Celebrating Achievement



in Williamsburgh

Dear
Parent/Carer

Please use the space below to tell us about your child's achievement. This can be sent in to school at any time.

Child's Name..... **Class**.....



<i>Successful Learner</i>	<i>Responsible Citizen</i>	<i>Effective Contributor</i>	<i>Confident Individual</i>