



# Williamsburgh Primary School & Nursery Newsletter June 2018



Dear Parents and Carers,

A final newsletter for this school session. It always makes me feel very old when time seems to pass so quickly!



## Nursery news from Mrs Vandal

### ***Nursery Graduation***

This year, all children will celebrate together on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 11am in the gym hall in school.

Those children who normally attend in the afternoon, should meet in the nursery at 10am for a final rehearsal.

### ***Nursery Sports Event***

This will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June within the usual nursery session times.

### ***Picnic and Ice Cream***

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June- our nursery children will enjoy a picnic and ice cream to celebrate the end of session. Again, this is within the usual nursery session times.

Any parents who do not wish their child to have an ice cream, please notify a member of nursery staff in advance.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June** – Nursery closes at the end of the morning session. There will be no provision for lunch that day and no afternoon session.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their support this session. We look forward to welcoming families old and new back in August.



***Royal Wedding Fun in the nursery class!***



Our next big event is the Summer Fayre. We usually have a

Spring Fayre but the date clashed with a certain Royal Wedding so we moved it.

Our summer Fayre takes place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June in the school from 11am until 1pm. We hope to see lots of you there, helping to support funding for the school.

Thanks as ever to the staff for their support and to all the members of the WPC who come along and contribute to our monthly meetings!

This year we see a number of our regular WPC members and post holders go as their children leave P7. We would like to bid them an extra special thank you for all their hard work and commitment to the school. It has been much appreciated!

Please find us and follow us on Facebook and Twitter for regular updates!

*Ros Hay, Chair*



## Seeking your views

You may remember that we posted details of a couple of online surveys that we had set up to ask your views on the pledge diaries and homework.

There was a very poor response with just 37 responses on Pledge Diaries and 49 on homework. I had hoped that an online link would make feedback easier but perhaps this is not the case?

Here are some figures and key messages that came out of the surveys however it is important to bear in mind that the numbers returned amounted to only around 10% of the number of families in the school so can't really be said to be a full representation.

### Pledge Diaries

- 37 responses in total
- 43% of those 37 preferred the old, daily diary
- 47% of those 37 preferred the new, weekly diary
- 10% of those 37 would prefer no diary

Some issues around the diaries appeared to be about them not being filled in or the child not bringing them home.

With the figures we have, we don't feel there is a strong motivation to change back to the daily diary, however, it is something we will look at again in the future.

## Homework

- 49 responses in total
- 51% did not feel homework was a family stress
- 12% felt it was a family stress and 37% felt it could be sometimes
- 84% felt it was beneficial for homework to be given out in advance
- 33% felt they helped their child a lot with homework while 59% felt they helped a little and just 8% felt they didn't help at all
- 53% felt that homework was at the right level though 47% felt it was too easy. Nobody felt that homework was too difficult.
- 92% said that their child had online access at home that they could use for homework.

There were vast differences in the homework type and amount received across the school. It would appear from the very small number of responses that those who responded are in favour of homework and are keen to see reading, spelling and numeracy homework.

This is something that we need to look more closely at as a school. We will hold further consultation on homework with parents, children and staff in the new session.



You will soon receive a leaflet about our new school app. This is an easy to use, quick method of communication between home and school and all done from your smartphone.

We have begun to populate the app but will use it extensively from August 2018. If you did not receive a leaflet you can pick one up from the information pockets at the front door or you can find the parent guide at this link <https://myschoolapp.co.uk/parents-page/>

If you are having any difficulty setting up the app or would like to know more about it, we are offering a drop in session on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June between 5.15pm and 6.45pm in the GP room. Feel free to drop in at any point during that period and we can learn together!

### **Saturday Super Skills**

15 of our P4 children were lucky enough to be able to take part in a pilot project with our friends at Todholm Primary.

This is a series of 4 sessions on a Saturday morning at Todholm. Each week the children are immersed in a different aspect of Numeracy, learning in a fun and active way. The children are lucky enough to have guitar lessons each week and some time to enjoy a snack and a packed lunch with friends.

We are very grateful to Mrs McGinn and her staff for allowing us to be part of this and hope it is something we can extend in the future.



*Fun in the sun at Saturday Super Skills!*

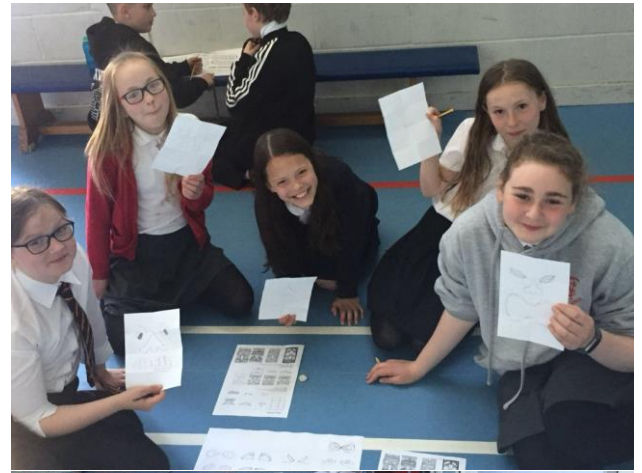
## **Transition Programmes**

This is always a busy term for thinking about endings and new beginnings.

Our P7 children have been working with staff from Paisley Grammar school as they prepare for their move to high school in August.

Our partnership with Paisley Grammar begins in P6 with children visiting the school for events. There are many more visits in P7 and staff from PGS also come to visit P7 to talk a little about their subject and about expectations.

We have also been working with Lynsey Meechan from Barnardo's along with our very own Mrs Gibson and Mrs Thomson. They have been leading the "Moving On Up" programme which looks at the wellbeing aspects of moving to secondary school.



*P7 pupils enjoyed the Art lesson from PGS and there was great hilarity when the science department brought the Van Der Graaf machine for some hair raising fun!*

At the other end of the school, Mrs Vandal, Mrs Wishart and Mrs Gibson have been busy working with Lynsey on the "Ready, Steady, Learn" programme with some of our up and coming P1 parents.

Feedback so far from both programmes has been great and is allowing both children and parents to have more peace of mind about moving to "the big school!"

## **Growth Mindset**

A small group of our P6 children had the opportunity to work with Dr John Paul Fitzpatrick of Teach Mindset and actor and musician (and former pupil) Tom Urie.

The group had a great time learning about Growth Mindset and putting together a short drama to portray what they had learned.

It was super to have so many people attend during our Open Evening to see the drama and hear a bit about Growth Mindset from John Paul.

## **Graphic Artist Visit**

Some of our P5 & P6 children had a wonderful opportunity to work on their writing skills with graphic novelist, Edward Ross. This was made possible thanks to a grant from the Scottish Book Trust.

It is so inspiring for our children to be able to meet and learn from people who are so successful in their field.

As you can see from the photographs below, it was a super visit.



## The Littlest Willybug!



Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Milne on the safe arrival of their beautiful baby daughter, Holly Rose. Welcome to our littlest Willybug!

## P7 Residential Trip to Ardmay House

Finally, some photographs of the P7 residential trip to Ardmay House.



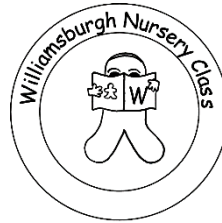


Kind regards

*Nova Scott*

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*.....





