



Rashielea Primary School Term Two Newsletter



MacMillan Coffee Morning



We had a fantastic coffee afternoon in the school last term, raising over £700 for this a worthy cause! I'm sure you all agree that this is a wonderful amount of money from our school community and we would like to thank everyone who bought tickets, contributed raffle prizes and bought tickets. Thanks to the children and staff who made it all happen.



Pupils entertain our guests



We were so pleased that our neighbours from the Care Home, Little Inch, attended our afternoon too. We continue to foster this relationship further in the coming months as the children enjoyed having them and from the looks of things, the residents enjoyed it too.

Children In Need 2018



Rashielea Primary school will join in with this year's Children in Need appeal on 16th November. Primary 3/2 and P3 will lead the arrangements, sell the mini Pudsey's and organise the collection of any donations. This will start from Monday 12th and finish on Friday 16th with an own clothes day. The children will collect donations from this and keep us informed of any other details through See saw.



Christmas Cards

Our Primary 6 children have been very enterprising! They have organised for all children to have their own designs printed on high quality cards with their name printed on too so you can all send personalised cards to friends and family this festive season. The cards will be coming home shortly and should be returned with payment ASAP so we can have them delivered to you in plenty of time. This will act as an effective fundraiser for the school, too, as money from each order goes directly to the school.

Primary 6 & 7 Football

Well done to our hardy team of Primary 7 players who have begun to take part in our local league. We have started the season well and are currently mid table, with a game to look forward to this week. Our players look very smart in their new strips thanks once again to the Rotary Club and John the Coach



Parents' Association Christmas Fayre

We look forward to seeing as many families as possible at the school's annual P.A. Christmas Fayre on Saturday 8th December from 10am until 1pm. Crafts made by the children will be on sale along with all the other goodies!



Library Visits

After our popular visits to our local library last session, all classes will be visiting the library throughout the month of November. We will keep you posted about dates and will no doubt be looking for some willing volunteers to accompany the children.

Remembrance Day

Our House Captains and Vice Captains will once again be selling poppies in the school on the run up to the 11th November. The children will all be learning, through their assemblies, why it is important to remember this date each year.



Curriculum Matters

Literacy

Mrs Ritchie and Ms McCusker have been leading our working group on developing approaches to writing across the school.

As part of our work in the Literacy Working Party we had a meeting with Renfrewshire Council's Literacy Development Officer. She spoke to us about the new writing framework that is currently being developed by Renfrewshire Council in conjunction with Strathclyde University. Following this we applied for places on the Dive into Writing course. Two staff members are currently attending this course.

We decided as a group to pilot some of the strategies that the Development Officer discussed with us. One of these was the development of 'free writing' within the class. This provides the opportunity for children to write for enjoyment and develop their identity as a writer. If you ask your child about EWIC (Everyone Writing In Class) time they will be able to tell you about the things they have been writing and how much they have enjoyed them.

Learning Buddies

We have extended our literacy Buddies from last session with almost all Primary 5 - P7 pupils taking on the responsibility to lead the learning of younger pupils. They will be coached in how to teach specific skills in literacy, numeracy and health and well being in Primary 1 - 3 pupils. The learning from this whole experience will go both ways as the older pupils will consolidate their learning while introducing the younger pupils to new ideas. The teachers are very excited to see how well the Primary 5 pupils carry out this challenge and will be there the whole way to facilitate this initiative and provide the teaching and support in order for the project to be a success. Watch this space for more information!

Numeracy



Mrs Whiteford has been leading our working group on developing approaches to maths and numeracy across the school.

The Mathematics and Numeracy Working Party met and evaluated this years School Improvement Plan as well as the Renfrewshire Framework Maths and Numeracy Checklist. Our working group has identified four areas to develop practice within Rashielea Primary School. The four areas include:

1. Working Walls
2. Problem Solving
3. Number Talks within a Context
4. Consistent Vocabulary

We are currently trialling new approaches within our classroom through working walls, numbers talks within a context and problem solving. We are using pupil voice for feedback and tracking the effect the approaches have on the children's learning and teaching using questionnaires. In addition, a vocabulary handbook is being created to ensure a whole school consistent vocabulary approach.

The Classroom Assistants have been enthusiastically taking part in training for Thinking Boards, Number Talks and CUBES problem solving strategies to support and enhance the pupils understanding in numeracy and maths. Teachers and pupils are enjoying using the wide range of new maths resources in classes which are providing children with opportunities to explore concepts with practical and visual materials.

Health and Wellbeing (HWB)

Renfrewshire Cross country

40 of our P6 and P7 pupils participated in a gruelling 2km course and we are hopeful that our teams will be placed within the top 4.

Tammy, one of our Active School's coaches, is training the P7s and P7/6s to be playground games leaders.

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Anti - Bullying Week November 12th - 16th

We have been reviewing our Ant-Bullying Policy in line with national and local authority guidelines. We are working with Brian Donnelly to gather and collate the views of our children, staff and parents/carers which will inform our new policy. Brian will also be delivering an information and discussion session for parents and carers on the evening of Monday 12th November at 7pm.

All the children will be participating in lessons relating to Anti Bullying throughout the week of 12th - 16th November.

Renfrewshire Nurturing Relationships Approach

Rashielea Primary has started the journey to become a nurturing school. Mrs McKillop and Mrs Steedman attended a 4 day training course and are leading our school through this journey by working collaboratively in partnership with Education Psychological services and the authority PT for Nurture to develop this approach in the school.

Supporting all staff in developing Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Approach. The Nurture Group are focussing on Principle 6 - 'Transitions'. The aim is for class teachers to recognise the importance of how day to day transitions are managed as well as carefully preparing pupils for more significant changes and events. Class teachers will welcome pupils into their classroom during a soft start and do a daily check in with regards to how they are feeling. This links in with our Paths Programme. All classes will display a visual timetable which pupils can refer to so they are clear about what they will be doing during the course of a day. We believe that if our pupils are happy and comfortable in school then they are ready to learn.

Raising Attainment

As part of the Scottish Government's drive to raise attainment, our children in P1 to P3 will bring home either a Book Bug bag or a Read, Write Count bag. These are wonderful resources which should be used at home to encourage talking about learning and will be distributed towards the end of term.

See Saw

With the support of Miss Denholm we have successfully introduced the use of the See Saw app throughout the whole school after an initial trial period in P1 and P5. We appreciate the efforts Miss Denholm has put into resolving the technical issues experienced and providing Drop in sessions for parents to help them the feedback from parents, pupils and staff have all been very positive. We have found it has been a very effective way of sharing the learning and experiences that our children have on a daily basis and keeping you informed of your child's progress.

Anybody experiencing difficulties getting started please let us know and we will work together to get any issues resolved.

Dates For Your Diary

November 12th		Anti bullying - Parent session
November 16 th	All Day	Children in Need Non uniform Day
November 29th	PM	P4 - P7 Open Afternoon
November 30th	All Day	School Holiday - St Andrew's Day
December 11 th	AM	Nativity dress rehearsal - nurseries
December 12 th	1.30pm	Nativity
December 13th	9.30am	Nativity
December 17 th	PM	P1 - P3 Party
December 18 th	PM	P4 Party
December 19 th	AM	Hopscotch Panto in school for pupils. "Beauty and the Beast"
December 19th	PM	P6 & P7 Party
December 20 th	PM	P5 Party
December 21 st	2.30pm	School Closes for Xmas Holidays
January 7 th	9.00am	School reopens
January 25th	PM	Burns' Celebration
February 1st	AM/PM	Scottish Celebration
February 5th	7pm	Maths Games Night
January 16th	PM	P1 Registration
January 17th	PM	P1 Registration
March 13 th - 15th	3 days	Dalguise Residential Trip
March 26th	3.30-6.30pm	Parents' Night
March 28th	3.30 - 6.30pm	Parents' Night



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