

St Peter's Primary School

May/June 2016

Newsletter



Saint Peter's Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Our summer term is now well underway and our children are participating in many exciting and engaging learning experiences. The smiles are getting wider by the minute! I would like to think that this is because they are enjoying school so much but I suspect it may have something to do with all the lovely sunshine we've been lucky enough to have. Long may it continue.

Staffing Update

Mrs Campbell is currently teaching Primary 1a full time during Mrs Lawson's secondment and Mrs Fergusson has increased her days to teach Primary 2 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with Susan Clark teaching the class each Wednesday. Nicola and Judith from our nursery class are currently on sick leave. We have been fortunate enough to obtain supply nursery officers and I would like to reassure you that we work each day with the correct adult: child ratio.

We are very open to welcoming students here at St Peter's and this term Mr Sean Merrick and Miss Maria Greene have enjoyed their teaching experience with us. They both finish on Friday 20th May and I would like to wish them both well in their future careers.

Mrs Lawson would like to say a special thank you for all the best wishes and gifts she received as she took up her secondment at St Fergus Primary School.

Religious Life of the School

Congratulations to Primary 4 and Primary 7 pupils who received the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Both occasions were very spiritual and extremely uplifting. The children were an absolute credit to their families and the community of St Peter's. Well done, boys and girls! I would like to offer a special thank you to their class teachers, Miss O'Neill and Mrs Thomson for preparing them so well. Thank you, also, to Canon Eddie, Deacon John, Sister Anne and Mrs Geddes who have been instrumental in encouraging the children to continue on their faith journey. A final thank you goes to Mrs Mackenzie, Principal Teacher, who coordinates our religious activities within the school.

Sadly, Canon Eddie's dad passed away recently. I am sure you will all remember Canon Eddie and his family in your prayers.

Bishop John has appointed Fr Eddie as a Canon of the Cathedral Chapter. The Mass of Installation took place on Friday 13th May in St Mirin's Cathedral. Congratulations, Canon Eddie!



Achievements



Well done to Lewis Cameron and Katie McLean who came first and second in their category at the recent Robert Burns Competition held in Renfrewshire. Lewis played the piano and Katie played the violin. Fantastic!

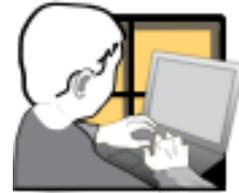
Congratulations to our netball team who made it to the Primary Games finals. Thank you to the parents who volunteer their time every week to support and encourage all our netball players. Keep up the good work!

Career Day

Thank you to everyone who supported our Career Day on 23 March. The children thoroughly enjoyed hearing from all of our parent/carer volunteers and they learned about various skills and qualifications needed for life in the workplace.

Well done to all of the children who worked so hard preparing their own talks about what they would like to be when they leave school. We had 10 winners (one from each class) who had to then present their talk at a whole school assembly. They were:

P1a	-	Aiden Wood	Spaceman
P1b	-	Sarah McAllister	Scientist
P2	-	Amy Ellen O'Neil	Police Officer
P2/3	-	David McInnes	Clown
P3	-	Michael McClelland	Footballer
P4	-	Oliwia Thompson	Archaeologist
P5a	-	Liam Malle	Teacher
P5b	-	Brenna Millar	Nurse
P6	-	Owen Cochrane	Football Commentator
P7	-	Allysa Clark	Policewoman



Each child in the school voted for the person they wanted to win overall. Michael McClelland came out on top and his reward was to be Head Teacher for the day on 9 May 2016. Michael did a wonderful job and I enjoyed having a trusted companion for the day.

Assessment

Your child is continuously assessed through the year as part of the teaching and learning process. Often, at this point in the year, children will be completing work which would be described as summative assessment. The outcome of these assessments are not stand alone and, together, with information from ongoing assessments and class work help to form the teacher's professional judgement of your child's level of attainment.

Pupil Progress Reports

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parent's Evenings in March. You will be aware that we are trying to encourage you and your child to feel more included in setting goals for your child's learning within many curricular areas. It was very helpful that many of you welcomed the new approach and brought your child along to be involved in the discussion. Teachers use this information to ensure that learning is planned with your child's needs and interests in mind.

Last year, Mrs McRobbie spoke with many of you who came along to our 'Engaging with Parents' meeting and the focus of the discussion was to improve the format of our end of year progress report. Primary 1 and Primary 5 provided these to parents in June 2015 and the feedback was very positive. Our intention is to ensure that the report is very personal to your child. I am sure you are all looking forward to receiving your child's report on 10 June 2016

Our Primary 1 new entrants have been enjoying many visits to a primary 1 classroom over the past few weeks. We look forward to welcoming them for their induction afternoons on 12 and 19 May. Mrs McFarlane will be the primary 1 teacher this year.

Primary 7 – S1 Transition

Primary 7 pupils have participated in some transition events throughout the year. They will enjoy a two-day visit to St Andrew's Academy on Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 May. Please remember to complete the necessary paperwork to ensure your child is able to attend.

Free School Meals and Clothing Grant / Transport Application Forms

Parents need to re-apply every year for Free School Meals / Clothing Grants. Forms will be available on the Renfrewshire Website from June onwards.

As part of the transition process, P7 children have been issued with School Transport Application forms. You can also apply online at the Renfrewshire Council Website.

Classification

At present, our classification for school session 2016/2017 is as follows;

- P1 Mrs McFarlane
- P2 Mrs Campbell / Mrs Fergusson
- P2/3 Mrs Thomson
- P3/4 Miss Gordon
- P4 Mrs Catherine McLean
- P4/5 Mrs Everett / Mrs McAlaney
- P5/6 Mrs Mackenzie
- P6 Mrs Caitlin Maclean
- P7 Miss O'Neill

As always, this is subject to change.

Homework



I have recently looked at your child's homework diary. We are pleased with the attitude of most in keeping these clean and tidy and it is evident that you support your child well at home when completing tasks. There certainly are a wide variety of tasks being carried out. Please continue to sign your child's homework each night.

Our access to Education City has been enhanced to allow children to use this website at home. Each child has been given a username and password. Please have a look at this with your child. I'm sure you will agree that this wholeheartedly supports learning while having fun.

School Improvement Planning

I will meet with various groups of children over the coming weeks to gather their views about how well we think St Peter's is doing and consider any areas for improvement. As always, I am very keen to hear your views and would appreciate you completing the tear off slip attached.

Thank you to all parents/carers who completed questionnaire during Parent's Evening. The remarks were very positive indeed. I intend to provide more detailed information regarding this shortly.

Health and Safety

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club cannot open before 8.30am as there are no staff employed before this time to supervise the children. Please ensure that your child is accompanied through the car park and brought to reception. Thank you to all who are making use of it. Your children are benefiting from a very positive start to the school day.



End of school day

Please ensure that your child knows who will be collecting him or her at the end of the school day. This helps to alleviate any anxiety that some children feel then they are unsure.

Parking

Parking continues to be a problem around the school at the beginning and end of the school day. I am concerned that someone may be hurt if people do not park safely. Please remember that you can be issued with a fine if you do not adhere to the rules of the road.

Suitable Clothing

It has been lovely to see our children enjoying the hot, sunny weather and being able to play outside without jackets. However, we all know how quickly our weather can change. Please ensure that your child brings a jacket to school for those days when it becomes cooler.

Pride of Paisley Lion

Mrs Quinn (Art & Design teacher) will be working with our children over the coming weeks to design and decorate a model of a lion which has been delivered to our school. Once decorated, the St Peter's lion will join lions



from other primary schools in Renfrewshire to support the 'Pride of Paisley' which is the town's biggest ever mass participation public art event. The children are very excited about the project and we look forward to seeing their designs.

School Fundraising

Our very enterprising children have worked extremely hard throughout the year to raise funds. They raised just over £2900. Special thanks to P6 who raised approx £1000 of this amount. Fabulous fundraising! Parents/carers have also contributed £1012. This money has been used to fund the many trips and shows throughout the school year which have cost £3052. The remainder of the funds will go towards end of year celebrations.

All funds raised are spent on the children and go towards enhancing the learning experiences of each individual. Thank you very much for your continued support.

Netball Pupil vs Teachers Event

There will be a netball match taking place in St Peter's School hall on 23 June 2016 at 3 – 4.15pm. This should be lots of fun!



Stronger Communities

You are invited to attend Glenburn Community Centre on Wednesday 1 June 3.30 – 5.30pm for a meeting focused on improving the lives of everyone living or working in the Glenburn area. The meeting will focus on 3 wellbeing indicators:

Safe

Active

Included

Food and childcare will be available. Please contact the school office if you are able to attend.

Parents

I would like to sincerely thank all of our parents who have been extremely helpful this year in organising many events and supporting the life and work of the school. St Peter's Primary has always been very well supported by industrious parents who have the children's best interests at heart. It is refreshing to have new members and office bearers but also very encouraging to see familiar and friendly faces continuing to contribute. Please consider coming along and participating in meetings and events – your presence is greatly valued.

P5 – P7 Drama Show

Mrs Maclean, P6 teacher, has been working with many children from P5 – P7 each Wednesday after school to prepare a performance which will be enjoyed by the school community on Wednesday 8 June at 7pm. The play is called Porridge and I am sure you will all be thoroughly entertained. Tickets can be obtained from the school office at a cost of £1.00.

P7 Awards Ceremony

This will take place in St Peter's Primary School hall on Thursday 16th June at 7pm. Parents/Carer, friends and family members of P7 pupils are all invited to attend. This is an evening of celebration and an opportunity to applaud the skills and talents of our senior pupils. It is extremely important that we take time to recognise the achievements of



each individual during their time here at St Peter's. Please save this date and don't forget to bring your tissues!

As always feel free to contact me at the school if you wish to discuss any matter.

Yours sincerely

S Mazzone
Head Teacher



School Improvement Plan 2016/2017

Please write any suggestions that you would like to see included in next years school improvement plan 2016/2017.

Child's Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Parents' Name _____ Parents' Signature _____