

Barr Primary and EYC

Newsletter

October 2019



Head Teacher message

I cannot believe we are at the end of September already and the holiday is just around the corner. As you can see from the newsletter, we have had a very busy month! Have a super October break when it comes! Paula Murphy

Assemblies

I am looking forward to welcoming you into the school to watch your child's class assembly. You will find out a little more about what they have been learning this term and it gives us the chance to celebrate their recent achievements and award certificates.



GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child)

As part of our health and wellbeing curriculum, all pupils have been learning what Scotland's national policy of 'GIRFEC' means. We are currently looking at the wellbeing indicator 'SAFE': who keeps us safe; where/what is a safe place; what we can do to keep ourselves safe and internet safety.

Curriculum

Science - along with Ayr cluster schools, the Girvan cluster are piloting a Primary Science project in conjunction with SSERC (Scottish Schools Education Research Centre). All staff have undergone training from Miss Burton and experienced mentors to help develop and extend skills in science teaching. This learning has been taken back into the classrooms and playrooms with children focussing on the outdoors and making 'ice gardens'. Numeracy - our pupils enjoyed a hands-on practical learning session with Chris, from Count On Us Education, to develop their conceptual understanding of maths through concrete and visual learning resources.



JRSO (Junior Road Safety Officers)

The P6 JRSOs and Mrs Sinclair recently attended an induction seminar at Maybole Town hall. They participated in peer workshops to extend their knowledge and designed an eye-catching poster which is now displayed in the school.

Play based learning

Children learn best when they're having fun, and they are more likely to be having fun when they are playing. (PlayScotland.org) This session Mrs. McIlwraith and the junior class have an area dedicated to learning through play, with a focus on literacy or numeracy. Using natural resources, tuff trays and block resources, the children work in a creative and imaginative manner to develop their skills and knowledge. Please see attached sheet to help us extend this into our outdoor area.



Rights Respecting Schools Award

As a school and EYC, we strive to put children's rights at the heart of everything we do. This session we hope to achieve the silver level of UNICEF's Rights Respecting Schools Award and have recently worked together to devise a whole school charter, led by Mrs. McBirnie. We will also be celebrating World Children's Day on the 20th November.

ACE

With thanks to Parent Council funding, we have organised another programme of ACE activities. This year includes beach visits, an indoor climbing wall and mountain biking. Further information will be sent out soon.



Junior Coaching Academy

The Active Schools team will deliver the Junior Coaching Academy leadership programme to our primary 6&7 pupils.

The programme aims to provide P6&7 pupils with the skills and knowledge to support them to deliver sport and physical activity sessions to younger children. The leadership skills are taught through a wide range of games and activities. The Junior Coaching Academy focuses on specific skills such as giving instruction, the organisation of people and equipment, and the use of space. The Academy teaches these topics through practical activities allowing the pupils to learn by doing. By the end of the programme the pupils will have the confidence and ability to lead others, but will also have the knowledge and experience to deliver a wide range of activities



Girvan Academy Open Evening P4-7 parents are invited to Girvan Academy on Tuesday 8th October for an open evening. Times will be advertised on School website and twitter account.

Communication



Groupcall - you will already have received information from the office regarding Groupcall, which brings us in line with all other South Ayrshire schools and streamlines admin processes. This will be our principal means of sending out information unless we require a signed permission slip or written information. Download the Xpressions App for instant notifications of messages received.



Website - we are no longer using our previous website and are in the process of migrating to a 'Glow' version. Miss Burton is setting this up and will send out information when it's up and running.

Twitter - a reminder to follow the school and EYC to receive updates and information @BarrPrimary

Upcoming Authority parental events

ASN Parent Forums - forums are open to all parents of children/young people in South Ayrshire - whether they have diagnosed or identified Additional Support Needs or not.

Wednesday 20/11/19 6:30-8pm - Girvan Academy, Girvan

Wednesday 19/2/19 6:30-8pm - Marr College, Troon

Thursday 7/5/19 - 1-8pm - ASN Information Hub - Ayr Town Hall

OCTOBER

Dates for
your
diary.....

Tuesday 1 st	Netball P5-7 3-4pm
Thursday 3 rd	Sportshall Athletics P6/7
Tuesday 8 th	P5-7 Assembly for parents - 9.30am
Friday 11 th	Close for holiday
Monday 21 st	Staff In Service
Tuesday 22 nd	Pupils back to school/EYC
Tuesday 22 nd	School Library - 1.00pm
Tuesday 29 th	P1-3 Multi-sports 3pm village hall
Thursday 31 st	Flu Immunisations
Thursday 31 st	Halloween Party 1.00pm