

### JRSO News

There have been some instances of pupils walking through the staff car park in the mornings as a short cut to the junior playground. Please make sure your child walks through the infant playground to avoid any cars. It has also been noticed we still have a minority of parents parking on the zigzag lines, once again, in the interests of the safety of all our pupils do not do this.

### Dates for your Diary

<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>	P1 Registration Day
<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Scottish Opera Performance 2.00pm
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Auld Kirk Burns Celebration Service 11.00am
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	School Burns Competition Final
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	P1 'Stay and Play' afternoon
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>	P7 and Southcraig Assembly at Holmston
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School Closed – February Weekend
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	School Closed – INSET Day
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	P3 visit to the Gaiety Theatre
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	STEM Fayre
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parents Evenings
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parents Evenings
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	School closes for Easter 2.30pm
<b>1st April – 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	School closed – Easter Holiday
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	School re-opens for pupils

Yours faithfully,



Richard Hardy  
Head Teacher

#### Article 3

All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

**United Nations  
Convention on the Rights  
of the Child (UNCRC)**

#### Article 29

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

**United Nations Convention on  
the Rights of the Child**

## Holmston Primary School January 2019



Christmas already seems like a distant memory. The pupils, staff and parents thoroughly enjoyed the festive celebrations. Our P1-P3 Nativity wowed the audiences and the P5 and P6 performance of 'The Big Sing' really put everyone in the mood for Christmas. Our Christmas Service with Southcraig at the Auld Kirk finished the term off perfectly – thank you to P4 for leading this.



Further photos can be found on the school website under the latest news section.

### Lego Mindstorms

Well done to our Digital Leaders for taking part in the Lego Mindstorm competition at Kilmarnock College. The team built and programmed their Lego robot to perform challenges related to the theme of 'Space'. They also delivered a presentation on the effects of isolation on astronauts. The judges were impressed by their teamwork.



### **Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Week**

I am really looking forward to our STEM week in March. Our objective is to inspire our pupils and celebrate learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. We are busy planning lots of exciting experiences. We will finish our STEM celebrations with a pupil-led STEM Fayre on March 15<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon for parents and families to attend.

#### **If you use Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths as part of your job – WE NEED YOU!**

As part of Scottish Education's "Developing the Young Workforce" agenda, if you have a job that involves any of the above and would be prepared to come and speak or lead workshops for the classes during STEM week, please contact the school. This could include cooking, hair-dressing, beautician, builder, engineer, accountant, web-site designer, submarine driver, oil rig worker – the list is endless. We would like to work together to inspire our pupils and support them to make links between their learning in school and the world of work, increasing their awareness of career and further education choices.

### **Accelerated Reader and STAR Reader**

We have been busy setting up Accelerated Reader for Primary 4 to Primary 7. This is a computer program that helps us manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. Your child picks a book at his or her own level and reads it at his or her own pace. When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.) Accelerated Reader gives feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher can then use to help your child set targets and direct ongoing reading practice.

Further information will come out for parents along with details about how you can access your child's progress through this scheme. It is also possible to use this information to identify appropriate books for your child to read at home.

### **Lunches**

If your child brings a packed lunch to school, although we promote being kind and sharing, please encourage your child not to share food or ask to swap food with other pupils. This is to ensure pupils with allergies and intolerances are kept safe and so that you can monitor what your own child is eating. We strive to be a nut free environment, please remember this when putting together packed lunches. This includes spreads such as Nutella-type products.

### **Uniform**

We encourage all our pupils to wear school uniform. At Holmston Primary School, the school uniform consists of:

- A white polo shirt
- A green sweatshirt or cardigan with/without school badge
- Black or grey trousers or skirt / tunic
- Green checked school dress
- White shirt
- School tie
- Blazer (optional)
- P7 green school hoodies

Please note jewellery is not permitted in school. The exception to this is stud ear-rings which should be taped up for PE. Now the Christmas Party season is over can I remind parents that pupils should not wear false nails or nail varnish to school.

Please ensure that your child comes to school with an outer coat suitable for the inclement weather we have at this time of the year. Where possible we will aim to have pupils outside during break and lunch times including during showers. Hats and gloves are advised for this time of year too.

Please ensure all items of clothing are named.

### **Events this Term**

P5, 6 and 7 will be performing 1719! with the Scottish Opera on January 25th. It is an opera about one of the most dramatic periods in Scottish history: the Jacobite risings.

P7 will be visiting the Sky Academy to produce their own news report and find out about the skills needed to put a TV programme together.

P6 will be visiting Dumfries House to take part in a range of science workshops.

P1 will be hosting a "Stay & Play" session on Thursday 7th Feb from 1.30pm onwards so that parents can join in with some 'Space' themed activities with their children. P1 will also be participating in the 'Singing Games' competition during the Ayrshire Music Festival in March.