

Holmston Primary School

February 2020



The Lion King Jr

Rehearsals are underway for our P4-P7 show this year, which is "The Lion King Jr". This will be our most challenging show so far with lots of songs to learn including parts in various African languages. We are all very excited! If you are able to volunteer to help make costumes or props please contact the school office. We will confirm the dates nearer the time but it will either be the wb 16th March or 23rd March depending on the progress during rehearsals. If your child has a speaking part, please help them to learn their lines.



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**

We have had a very busy start to the year and as always there is a lot going on in school. Our Primary 3 have been visiting our Southcraig friends each week and our Primary 2 will start visiting them soon. Our Primary 5 Makaton group also visit Southcraig each week. Primary 5 and Primary 6 are taking part in the Youth Music Initiative, "The Big Sing" with Mrs Nelson. Over the remainder of the year, Mrs Nelson will be working with the pupils each week leading up to a concert later on in the year. They will perform a selection of rock, pop and Disney songs.

UWS students have been in working with P6 and P7 providing a handball taster session and 10 pupils were invited to Ayr Academy for a handball competition.

A big thank-you goes to Mrs McLaren for preparing the pupils for the Euroquiz competition which was held at the Town Hall. Unfortunately, our team didn't win but they were excellent ambassadors for the school.

You may have noticed a large container in the infant playground. This was to store the new windows. These were fitted over the long weekend. The council have committed to replacing all the old windows over a three year period. The new windows certainly make a difference in the classes. Carpets are also being fitted in three of the classrooms. The investment in the school has certainly improved the learning environment.

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. Please do not send in fizzy juice or energy drinks.

JRSO News

There have been some instances of parents and 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.

Burns Celebration

Our Burns Competition supported by the Market Inn Burns Club was extremely tough to judge again this year. After much discussion congratulations went to Heather in P7 for being the overall winner and receiving the Market Inn Burns Quaich. Thank-you to Rev. Gemmell for helping us to judge. Several pupils also performed their poems at the Auld Kirk Burns Service. The congregation commented on how confident and enthusiastic our pupils were – well done! Three members of P7 will also represent the school at the annual Schools' Burns Supper held at the Town Hall.

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
- PE kit – please make sure your child has a PE kit in school. Black/white shorts, plain white tee-shirts (not football shirts) and clear-soled plimsolls/trainers.

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.

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle that they can fill up during the day. These should be filled with water not juice or fizzy drinks. We are no longer able to issue cups to pupils to reduce the use of single-use plastics in school.

Lunchtime and After School Activities

During lunchtimes, support assistants run clubs for Top Trumps and gardening and members of P7 are leading two Manga art clubs. After school, in conjunction with our Active Sports co-ordinator we are providing:

Mon P1/2 Fun Games (Active Sports and P7 Young Leaders)

Wed P3/4 Multi-sports (Active Sports)

Thurs P5 – P7 Netball (Mrs Davies)

Fri P6/7 Tennis Club (Prestwick Tennis Club)

If you would like to get involved in running any extra-curricular clubs either after-school or at lunchtime, please contact the school.

Technologies and Safer Internet Day – February 2020

As part of our ICT curriculum, we teach pupils the importance of digital literacy and being safe online. We are in the process of arranging a parent workshop on internet safety and will send out further details. We have had several issues of pupils not being appropriate on games, texts and snapchat. Please ensure that if you allow pupils to use social media you monitor how they use it to ensure their safety. A range of parent guides for different apps and software can be accessed through the link or from the school website.

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

Pupils do not need a phone in school. If your child brings a phone into school this will be kept in a box in the school office during the day. The schools accepts no liability for phones damaged whilst at school. We have had some instances of pupils bringing in i-pads and tablets. Please ensure this does not happen. Once again, these will be kept in the school office and will need to be collected by a parent.

