

Struthers Primary School and EYC

Struthers Primary School

May 2024 Newsletter



Dear parents and families

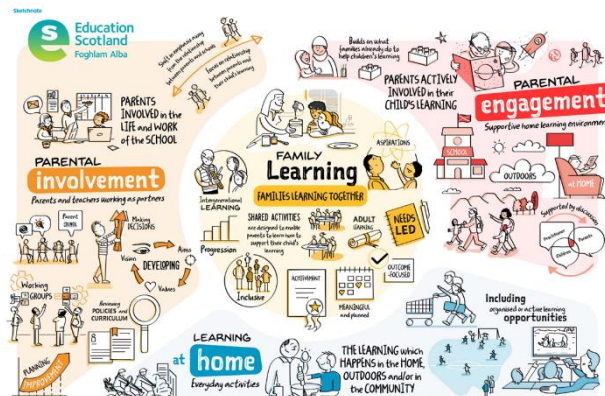
As we enter the last term of this academic year, I am delighted to bring you the latest updates, events, and important information to help you stay connected and involved in your child's experiences in school. We're excited to welcome our new Primary One families to our upcoming transition events. We hope they feel welcomed and quickly become part of our close-knit Struthers family.

Regrettably, due to unforeseen circumstances, we've had to reschedule some of our planned events listed below. New entries are marked in red, and changes in dates are highlighted in yellow. We sincerely apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. It seems that providing dates in advance has backfired a little, as some adjustments were necessary.

Date	Time	Event
02.05.24	All day	In-service day – staff only
06.05.24	All day	School holiday
07.05.24 – 10.05.24		P7 Residential visit to Inverclyde
07.05.24	All morning	Funky Foods visiting P3/2, P3 and P4/3
07.05.24	11:30	Crosshouse Hospital staff visiting P3
07.05.24	am	Bikeability starts
08.05.24	am	P1 dental inspection
13- 17.05.24	All week	Struthers Sponsored Reading Challenge – more information to follow
14.05.24	am	P7 dental inspection
14.05.24	17:15 - 19:30	Family Learning event at Marr
16.05.24	All day	Wear it Green Day – Mental health promotion day
17.05.24	09:30 – 14:00	P6 at Marr College – Developing the Young Workforce
17.05.24		Parental reports issued
21.05.24	10:45 and 14:00	EYC Stay and Play
21.05.24	18:00 – 19:00	New P1 parent welcome meeting
23.05.24	All day	Fullarton Rugby Festival at Marr
24.05.24	All day	School holiday
27.05.24	All day	School holiday
28.05.24	15:30 – 16:30	EYC New starts initial Transition Visit – Stay & Play
30.05.24	15:30 16:00 or 16:00 – 16:30	New EYC starts Book Bug with Nicola Lawrence in EYC
31.05.24	09:00 – 10:00 and 14:00 – 15:00	Coffee and Chat session for our new P1 families
31.05.24	All day	Fundraising group: crazy hair day – donations welcome: bottle/chocolate for Summer Fayre
03.06.24	09:15 – 09:45 and 09:45 – 10:15	Book Bug session for our new P1 families
05.06.24	am	P3, P4/3 and P5 Barassie beach
06.06.24 Changed to 05.06.24	10:30	Early Years Centre Sport Day
07.06.24 Changed to 12.06.24	18:00	School Show – now being held in Troon Town Hall
11.06.24	10:00 – 12:00 noon	New P1 bump-up and lunch taster session
11.06.24	13:30 – 14:45 now changed to 09:30 – 11:30	Bump-up day – whole school
11.06.24	All day	P7 at Marr
12.06.24	All day	P7 at Marr

Date	Time	Event
14.06.24	13:00- 15:00	Sports Day – P1 - 7
17.06.24	Please call Marr to arrange this	Telephone meetings on offer for new S1 parents
17.06.24	15:30 – 16:30	New EYC family Teddy Bears' Picnic
19.06.24	All day	All P2s, P3/2, P3, P4/3, P5/4, P5 and P6s from P7/6 – Culzean trip
20.06.24	12:30 – 14:30	P6 Cluster Soccer Aid at Marr
19.06.24 Changed to 21 st June	13:30- 15:00	Teddy Bears' Picnic for our new P1 families
21.06.24	13:00 – 16:00	Summer Cup
21.06.24	09:20 – 12:30	P6 Marr Book Festival
Changed from 21.06.24 to 19.06.24	10:30	EYC Graduation
26.06.24	13:30	P7 Leavers' Assembly
28.06.24	13:00 finish	Last day of the session
Tuesday: 9th Jul, 23rd Jul, 6th Aug Thursday: 4th Jul, 18th Jul, 1st Aug	Tuesday 10:30am – 11:30am Thursdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm	EYC Stay & Play Summer Transition New Starts

PUPIL EQUITY FUNDING



Thank you so much for responding to our recent Pupil Equity Fund Consultation. As you will see from the results below, our parental views were matched by the majority of our staff views. As a result of this consultation, I can confirm that our funding will be distributed as: **0.5 Principal Teacher, 36 hours of School Assistant - £29,206. Remaining £1034 for resources.**

Parental Responses

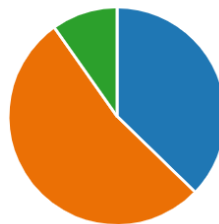
Results Summary

[View results](#)

1. Please select your preferred option:

[More Details](#)

- 0.5 Principal Teacher, 15 hours S... 19
- 0.5 Principal Teacher, 36 hours o... 27
- 0.5 Principal Teacher, 22 hours ... 5



Staff Responses

Results Summary

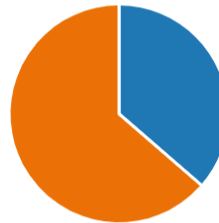
[View results](#)

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1. Please select your preferred option:

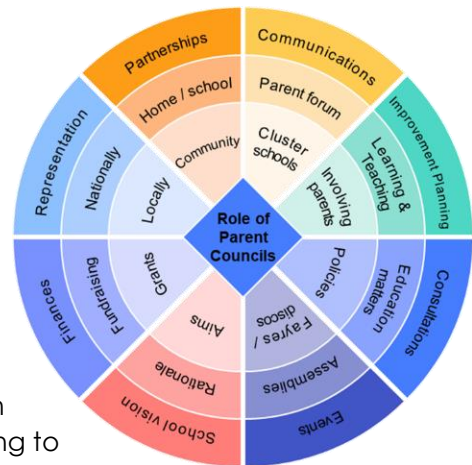
[More Details](#)

- 0.5 Principal Teacher, 15 hours S... 4
- 0.5 Principal Teacher, 36 hours o... 7
- 0.5 Principal Teacher, 22 hours ... 0



PARENT COUNCIL

We are currently seeking dedicated volunteers to fulfil the crucial role of Parent Council Chairperson. This position requires someone with a strong commitment to our school community, excellent leadership abilities, and a passion for advocating on behalf of our children. As Chairperson, you will play a vital role in coordinating activities, representing parent interests, and fostering collaboration between parents, our community and our school. If you are interested in taking on this important responsibility and making a positive impact on our school, we encourage you to come along to our next meeting on the **5th of June at 18:00** in the school. We are always looking to embrace more members to our Parent Council meetings, so even if you do not wish to be Chairperson, we would love to have you along.



FUNKY FOODS

We have been delighted to work alongside Funky Foods, promoting healthy eating & physical activity messages within our infant department. The children have explored key messages through art, drama, music, play and hands-on food experience.



If you would like to find out more about the work we have been doing with Funky Foods, please visit: [Health Information - PhunkyFoods](#) Here you will find some fun activities and lovely recipes for you to try out at home too.



LITERACY

We are delighted to share with you that we have now achieved the Gold Standard within the Scottish Reading Schools accreditation programme. We are immensely proud of this achievement and remain committed to continuing this trajectory, building a culture of reading and making literacy attainment a key priority within our School Improvement Plan next session.



In South Ayrshire we are committed to embedding the UNCRC across our Education Services. South Ayrshire Reads aligns with Articles 28 & Article 29:

ARTICLE 28 (right to education)

Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

ARTICLE 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

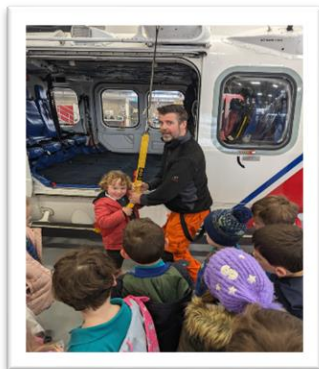
Together, with our South Ayrshire Reads team, we are gathering and analysing our data to drive change and improve our children's reading skills, reading confidence and reading attainment. To date, we have invested just over £5,000 to refresh our reading schemes and enhance our phonological progression. This significant investment will be matched by our SAR team, providing us with new and exciting books to improve engagement and attainment.

What should our children should expect?

- To have access to books, stories, games and play activities that help develop a love of reading and an understanding of letters, sounds, syllables, rhythm, and rhyme.
- To have access to a wide range of reading material both in class and through our school library.
- That all their teachers and support staff have received training on the science of reading.
- To use high-quality teaching and learning resources which support their reading and learning needs including the effective use of digital tools.
- To have access to specific resources and supports that are suited to their level and learning needs including the effective use of digital tools.
- To have opportunities to demonstrate their learning and progress both formally and informally.

Whilst we completely understand the appeal of physical books, not all issued books are being returned to school. As a result, we are encountering a resource shortage, posing challenges in ensuring that every child has a hard copy their book to support learning at home. To combat this, we are piloting a combination of printed books with interactive eBooks through the Bug Club platform within P2. This platform allows teachers to allocate books to individual pupils and track their progress using the built-in assessment tool. With over 500 finely levelled interactive eBooks we can provide home reading and follow-up activities to help children build vocabulary, increase awareness and comprehension, improve brain connectivity, increase vocabulary and comprehension, and empower empathy. As with all new initiatives, we will monitor the impact of this pilot and keep you informed along the way.

PRESTWICK AIRPORT



Primary 1 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Prestwick Airport to see Bristow Search and Rescue. Our children loved listening to the different roles of the Search and Rescue Team. The highlight of the trip was being hoisted into the big rescue helicopter and learning about all the equipment onboard. A big thank you Robert Seall and his team who made our trip one to remember.

VIKINGAR



Our P4 children were mesmerised as they entered the replica 8th century Norwegian Longhouse during their trip to Vikingar in Largs. Listening to stories of where it all began, the children experienced a day in the life of a Viking over 1000 years ago: how they lived, what they ate and drank, where they slept and what reasons caused them to leave their homelands.

Trying on the replica helmets and armour and being able to hold the swords, shields and axe's (with adult support, thankfully) was a highlight of the day.



DUMFRIES HOUSE



Primary 6 pupils had a blast diving into science at the STEM Garden Workshop in Dumfries House. They rolled up their sleeves and got hands-on with experiments, testing water clarity, experimenting with seed growth, and uncovering the world of minibeasts.

SCHOOL SHOW



Our school show: Annie, will take place on Wednesday, 12th June at Troon Concert Hall. Doors will open at 5.45pm and the show will commence at 6.00pm till approximately 8.00pm. Tickets are £5.00/person and will include a Lucky Programme which allows everyone the chance to win a hamper. Ticket purchases should be made via Parentpay. Children aged 2 and under do not require a ticket; however, we ask that they sit on a parent's lap.

WHOLE SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH APPROACH



Hello from our Well-'bee'ing Champions!



We are the Struthers Mental Health group and we have been working hard during our meetings to raise awareness of mental health through posters, planning assemblies and managing the school worry box. *"We decided on our 'bee' logo as bees represent spreading happiness and working hard to spread joy and positivity!"* Marley.

Our staff and pupil well-being group has been established and we look forward to creating a well-being policy that encompasses the vision of everyone in our school on what taking care of our mental health should look like.

As part of this, we are looking to seek the views and ideas from parents. If this is something you would like to be involved in please contact Mrs McFadyen.

Please join us for Wear It Green Day on Thursday 16 May and let's turn the world green for good mental health.

HOMEWORK

Thank you to everyone who responded to our homework consultation.

Struthers Homework Consultation for Parents March 2024

182 Responses

00:55 Average time to complete

Closed Status

1. How often should we issue homework?

More Details

Never	28
Weekly	117
Monthly	36
Termly	1



2. Would you like us to provide some optional homework each term, linked to our topic work?

More Details

Yes	98
No	81



3. How often should we feedback on homework submitted?

More Details

Insights

Weekly	79
Every 4th week	94



4. Please select the tasks that you feel should be included within our core homework programme.

More Details

Reading	108
Spelling	109
Numeracy	107
Health and Wellbeing	49
Topic	54



Taking account of your views, our homework programme will be adapted as follows:

- Homework will be issued weekly
- We will provide health and wellbeing; and topic related homework through our termly curricular flyers
- We will mark and provide feedback timeously
- Our weekly homework will primarily focus on Reading, Spelling and Numeracy

AND FINALLY,

As always, should you have any queries about anything within our newsletter, or in connection with your child's learning, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes

Mrs Laura Clark

