

Torphichen Primary Newsletter November 2013



Dear Parent/Carer

We had a very interesting in- service day on Monday, examining many aspects concerning the development of our school curriculum and how we can improve and build on our good practice. We initially looked at literature to consider how well we are presently delivering Curriculum for Excellence and how we can take specific aspects forward to give our children greater breadth and depth to their learning and extend the autonomy they have in their learning. I will give feedback to all stakeholders after our outcomes are analysed.

We have been very fortunate that a number of parents have been involved with the school to deliver learning connected either to their employment or to a specialism they have. If you are new to our school community or are still 'hiding your light under a bushel' we would be very pleased to hear from you and how we may utilise your expertise.

I look forward to meeting everyone again at our rights respecting evening in November, where Mrs Johnston and the 'Rights Respecting Committee' will lead the evening.

Mary McKenzie

Help Wanted!

Are you a budding Eco Warrior? Would you like to be involved in our Eco work? The Eco Committee are looking for parental representatives to join their group. This would involve attending 4 meetings per term on alternative Wednesdays from 1.15pm – 2.15pm.

If you would like to be involved please email Mrs Stanners.



Children in Need 2013

This year our Rights Respecting Committee will be organising and leading our annual Children in Need activities on Friday 15th November.

The format of the day is still to be decided therefore further details will follow.



Rights Respecting Workshop

Following feedback from parents, the RRSA Pupil Focus Group will be leading a parental workshop on Monday 25th November from 2.15pm until 3pm. The aim of this is to give parents more information about what the Rights Respecting School initiative involves in school and our local community. The pupils are designing activities that they will lead you through to help make you more aware of your role as part of our Rights Respecting School.

Light refreshments will be served and we look forward to seeing you there.



Morrison's School Vouchers

The Morrison's' School Vouchers have now finished, however if you or family relatives have any lying around the house **please hand these into the school office**. Our Eco Committee will be counting these and deciding what to order for the school garden.



Road Safety

Prior to the October holidays, it was made aware to the school that some pupils were not exercising their knowledge of road safety when playing outside after school. Please remind your child about how to play safely when near a road and not to stand on the road when cars are approaching.

We would also like to remind all pupils that after school finishes there is no playground supervision and therefore pupils should not play within the playground.

Uniform

Can we remind pupils that school uniform allows for small studded earrings, not dangly earrings due to safety reasons. We do understand that as children near the end of primary school they like to become individuals and try out new things. However, we prefer that children do not wear any make up to school but keep it for weekends or for special school events.

Winter Ready 2013

Please visit our school blog to find full details of West Lothian's Winter Ready initiative.



Safe School Arrival



Mrs Robertson supervises the playground in the mornings from 8.40am. As all our pupils are now settled into the school routine, we kindly ask that you say 'Goodbye' to your children at the school gate rather than round coming into the playground.

In our school, we have to be very careful with nuts. 3 of our pupils have a severe nut allergy and we ask that you don't send nuts in packed lunches or for snack.

Thank you.

NUTS



Diary Dates



Friday 8 th November	PTA Bags to School collection P7 Youth Champions' Meeting at Armadale
Thursday 14 th November	JRSO assembly – all welcome from 2.30pm Sky Sports Event – Primary 4 & 5
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need Day
Wednesday 20 th November	Singing Workshop – Primary 3
Friday 22 nd November	P7 Youth Champions' Meeting at Armadale
Monday 25 th November	Rights Respecting School Parental Workshop – 2.15pm – All Welcome
Saturday 30 th December	Torphichen Christmas Market – Community Centre

If you have any comments or suggestions to make about anything you have read in this newsletter or about Torphichen Primary in general I am always keen to hear them. Please do not hesitate to contact us. Our school email address is torphichen.ps@wled.org.uk

Complaints Procedure

Schools in West Lothian have been advised of changes which have been made to the West Lothian Complaints Procedure. To make a complaint to Customer Care in West Lothian in writing it should be addressed to: Customer Care (Education Services), West Lothian Council, Civic Centre, Howden Road South, Livingston EH54 6FF. Tel:0800 328 5143