

# Torphichen Primary Newsletter March 2014



Dear Parent/Carer

It is an exciting time in school just now with the children preparing their showcase topics. P1/2/3 is looking at the 'Lightkeepers Lunch', P3/4/5 'Cairnpapple' and P5/6/7 'Around the World in Eighty Days'. The children are looking forward to sharing their learning with you.

This will be the last newsletter Mrs Johnston compiles, for a while anyway! Mrs Johnston will leave us on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014 to enjoy life as a Mum. We will miss her but I am pleased to let you know that Ms Ferguson has agreed to be acting PT for the time Mrs Johnston is taking off. They are both working closely together to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities. I am sure you will join with us and wish her all the luck in the world with her husband and new 'wee bundle'.

We are also hoping that Miss Julie Bradley will be joining us on the 31<sup>st</sup> March, subject to West Lothian Council checks being completed. We look forward to her joining our team.

It does seem as if it is all change just now but then change can be good! We have changed lunches within the school and it is taking the children a little while to settle into the new routine. I have had discussion with some children as to how we can now build on and improve the new arrangements. A questionnaire will be coming to parents next regarding this and I do hope you will take the time to complete it.

I hope to see everyone at the class showcase days and parents nights.

**Mary McKenzie**

## Gurdwara Visit

P1 & 2 will be visiting the Glasgow Gurdwara as part of their Sikhism topic in R.M.E. The pupils have been learning about the Sikh holy book as well as the customs they adopt when entering the Gurdwara.

We look forward to hearing all about it.



## Cairnpapple



As part of their class topic, P3-5 will be visiting Cairnpapple Hill with members of Historic Scotland. They are gathering information on the historic site and will experience what life was like in Neolithic times through different activities. Using this information, P3-5 will then become tour guides at Cairnpapple for 1 day prior to the end of term.

## Show Racism the Red Card Scotland

## Pupil Success

Pupils from P3-7 were tasked with the challenge of creating a piece of work that would represent 'Scotland's Heritage' for the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign.

We recently heard that Ryan Ireland in P3 has been chosen as a finalist for the P1-4 category and, along with his class, he will attend the awards ceremony at Hampden Park on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March. The children will have a guided tour of Hampden prior to the ceremony taking place. Good luck Ryan!

## Linlithgow Sports Festivals

Recently, pupils in Primary 3 and 5 took part in sporting festivals with the Linlithgow Cluster primary schools. The P3 pupils were using their benchball skills whilst the P5 pupils were applying their athletic skills.

All pupils were healthy competitors

And represented our

school

to a high standard.

Well done P3 and P5!



## CEM Testing

As part of our assessment of pupil learning, pupils from P1-P7 will be tested on their literacy and numeracy skills over the coming weeks and into next term.

These diagnostic assessments are carried out using a software package that West Lothian Council have rolled out across all their primary schools. The link below will provide additional information:

<http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/downloaddoc/1799471/1903911/2456128/cemleaf>

## School Blog



Please remember to visit our school blog for weekly news and announcements. It is encouraging for us when comments are left as that way we know the blog is being used.

In the event of severe winter weather, home learning tasks would be published here for pupils to complete at home.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/Torphichen>

Sainsbury's



## Sainsbury's Vouchers

Please continue to hand in the Active Kids school vouchers from Sainsbury's.

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.



# Diary Dates



Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

P1/2 visit to Glasgow Gurdwara and Scottish Children's Book Awards

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March

P6 team to Euro Quiz at Howden Park Centre

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March

P3-5 to 'Show Racism the Red Card' awards ceremony, Glasgow

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Last after school clubs

Thursday March 27<sup>th</sup>

Open afternoon for parents - showcase topics P/5/6/7 1.30pm – 2.30pm  
P1/2/3 2pm – 3pm

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Fruity Friday

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April

Parents Consultations 5.30pm – 9pm – appointment sheets to follow

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Parents' Consultations 3.30pm 6.30pm – appointment sheets to follow

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Easter Service in Torphichen Kirk

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Cairnpapple visit for children and parents – showcase topic for P3/4/5  
Finish for Easter Holidays

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](mailto: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