

Torphichen Primary Newsletter November 2016

A message from Mrs Wells

I can't believe that two weeks have already passed since the October holiday and signs of winter coming are appearing every day.

We were thrilled to hear about the success of Merryn Binnie at her first Junior Champion swimming gala with Scottish Disability Sports. The youngest competitor, she returned with two medals – a bronze for front crawl and silver for backstroke. What a fantastic achievement!

We also have a parent-run group of budding skiers who entered the Scottish Schools Snowsports Association Autumn Dual Slalom Series. Both groups did extremely well for their first outing and we look forward to seeing how their skills progress. If you have children who are interested in getting involved in skiing, please contact Julia Miller on 01506 633995.

The Eco Group are planning for Switch Off Fortnight and will be speaking to pupils in classes about ways to save energy. They have set us the challenge of going the day without using electricity – this might be something you would like to try at home.

We are currently finalising our dates for our Christmas programme of events which we will send out at the end of next week.

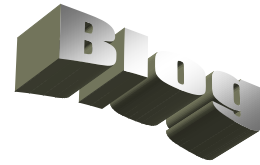
Best wishes

Building Plans

We will be displaying the plans for the extension to the school building in the cloakroom area of the dining hall.

These plans will be on display from the 7th – 11th November between 8am and 9am. They will also be available to view Monday – Thursday 3pm to 5pm.

If you are unable to view the plans at these times, please contact the school office and we will be happy to arrange an alternative time.



Mrs Webber has taken on responsibility for the school blog and will be regularly updating it with information for parents on school news and events.

The classes will continue to update the blog, sharing their learning with you.

Measles Awareness

NHS Lothian have launched an awareness campaign to alert parents of children who have not been immunised, to the symptoms of measles. They are:

- High fever (over 38c)
- Rash – sometimes starting around the eyes
- Sore red eyes (conjunctivitis)
- Cough

Please remember that adults and teenagers can also contract measles.

First Aid Training

On the In-Service day in October, all staff were trained in basic first aid by a trainer from Low Port Outdoor Education centre. This involved being trained in how to respond in a range of medical emergencies and how to administer life-saving first aid in such an emergency. There was also a reminder for all about how to deal with asthma, allergies and epilepsy.



Harvest Donations

We will be collecting donations of food to be shared between local residents and the West Lothian Food Bank. These donations can be handed in to the school this week prior to our Harvest Assembly on Tuesday 15th November at 9.15am which will be led by Rev. Alan Greig.

Staffing Update

Next Thursday will be Mrs Arkley's final day with us at Torphichen. Although already retired, Mrs Arkley stepped in to support the school through a very difficult staffing situation and has been a tremendous help. We wish her well as she returns to enjoy her retirement.

Mrs Davies has been contracted as Admin Assistant on a temporary basis. This means the office will be staff throughout the school day.



Children in Need

Children in Need theme is "Spotacular". To support this, we will be having a dress down day on 15th November where children will be asked to wear something spotty. Donations will be collected on the day and passed on to the Children in Need appeal.

Tempest Photographer

The photographer will be in school on 10th November to take individual and family group photographs.



Dyslexia Awareness Week

This coming week is Dyslexia Awareness Week. There is an open meeting at West Lothian College on Wednesday 9th November from 7pm to 9pm. Everyone is welcome to attend for more information about Dyslexia.

Dyslexia Scotland also have a Helpline and a website full of information. www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

Diary Dates

Tuesday 1st November
Monday 7-12th November
Tuesday 8th November
Thursday 10th November
Tuesday 15th November
Thursday 17 November
Sunday 20 November
Monday 21st November
Tuesday 22 November
Monday 28th November

P6 at Golf Tuition with Stephen Gallagher for 6weeks
Dyslexia Awareness Week – Helpline 0344 800 8484
Primary 1/2 Assembly at 9.15am
Tempest Photographs – Individual + Family
Harvest Assembly in Community Centre
Camp – Lendrick Muir meeting 3.30pm at Westfield Primary
Free Open Day – P4-7 Linlithgow Golf Club 01506 844 356
Book Week Scotland
JRSO Annual Induction visit to St Anthony's, Armadale
P6/7 workshops from West Lothian Drug and Alcohol Service



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