

Lochdonhead Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 2020

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DEAR PARENTS

Over the Christmas holidays we had some very kind festive elves working hard in the school to repaint the upstairs classroom! On behalf of everyone at the school I would like to thank Claire Wriighthouse, Frank Davie, Martin Dyson, Danielle Grimley and Josh & Joe Magurn for creating a beautiful learning environment for the children. We are overwhelmed by how beautiful it looks. Thank you from all of us!

We have had a very busy winter term as you can see from some of the events shown. Most of the reports were written by our pupils.

We were absolutely delighted to achieve our Rights Respecting Silver Award last term. The pupils have enjoyed learning about their rights and sharing their learning with the wider community. The rights of the child underpin everything that we do at the school. I would like to thank the pupils, staff and parents for working together in achieving this award.

Do not hesitate to contact the school if you want to chat over any areas of concern. Also be assured that no matter which school I am in, I can be contacted at any time.

For point of reference, the telephone number for Lochdonhead Primary School is 01680 812473, Ulva Primary School is - 01688 500

246 and my mobile number is 079029 44626/07786685227.



Susie Carmichael, Head Teacher

ABSENCE AND ILLNESS

If your child is absent from school it is important that the office is contacted on the morning of absence before 9:15am if possible. This procedure is in place for the safety and security of pupils. You will receive a telephone call or text message if no call is received. Please inform the school office as soon as possible if your mobile telephone number changes. Thank you.

ONLINE PAYMENTS FOR LUNCH

This is just a gentle reminder to highlight the online system for paying for lunches. We will have to be very rigid about issuing reminders as we do not have any facility to provide credit. Please pay for your child's lunch on a Monday morning for the week ahead.

PE KIT

Can pupils please ensure that they have a PE kit in school. They need a t-shirt, shorts, socks and trainers/gym shoes, all named. If

your child has long hair, can they please have a band to tie it back. We would appreciate it if pupils could keep jewellery to a minimum on a PE day.



P.E. KIT
N.B Please name all your child's clothing

LAST TERM

This is just a selection of events that have happened in the last term. For more information, and many more photos, please visit our blog on <https://lochdonprimaryschool.wordpress.com/>

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL SILVER AWARD



At the end of November, we had a visit from the Rights Respecting School team. Following a tour of the school where evidence of the initiative is well displayed, and via discussions with the pupils, assessor,

Mrs Lena Carter said: "I am absolutely delighted that Lochdonhead Primary School has now achieved Silver: Rights Aware. This is a reflection of the hard work that has been undertaken by staff, pupils and the community to ensure that the school is a safe and inspiring place to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive.

This is a fantastic achievement; only three other schools in Argyll and Bute have achieved this level."

We are now looking towards going for gold!

CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 15th November we all 'dressed down' to raise money for Children in Need.

We are pleased to say we raised a whopping £29.70!!

Well done to all the children for taking part and contributing to this cause.

COMMUNITY CAFE

Report written by Callum and Lucy

On Friday the 22nd of November we had a Christmas Community Cafe. In preparation for the café, we made lots of crafts to sell. We had tags, gift boxes, Christmas cards and hanging decorations.

On the day we had stalls for people to take part in to guess the name of the teddy, find gin and whisky in Lochdon Bay and buy tickets for hampers and raffle.

There was lots of tea and cake for everyone, the community really enjoyed themselves.

We would like to say thank you to everyone for their kind donations and generosity. We managed to raise £245.75 for our school funds.



HALLOWE'EN PARTY

We had a very spooky afternoon on Thursday 31st October. We had the opportunity to dress up and play some games!



AUTHOR VISIT

On 24th October, P5-7 pupils had the fantastic opportunity of meeting Lindsay Littleson, the author of Guardians of the Wild Unicorns.

Lindsay chatted to all the children about her career as an author and how she learnt to 'just get on with it' and to stop waiting for opportunities to arise.

Her talk was very enthusiastic and prompted plenty of questions. The children from Lochdonhead then had the chance to meet Lindsay personally and ask for their book to be signed.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Friday 13th December was Christmas Jumper Day. We wore our funniest and glitziest jumpers to school.



CHRISTMAS SHOW

Written by Lucy and Callum
On Monday the 9th of December 2019 Lochdonhead Primary School performed The Nativity.

When it was time to perform the hall was filled with people, all of the seats were filled.

It was really hard to do as there was only seven of us, some of us had to do costume changes in the middle. The people and characters in the play were...

- Lucy - Narrator / Shepherd
- Callum - Narrator / Soldier / Innkeeper
- Leo - King Herod / Joseph
- Mya - Angel / King
- Lucy - King
- Hannah - Angel / King
- Isla - Mary

At the beginning everyone was very scared but when we had finished we all really enjoyed it. Everyone was very good because when we made a mistake we carried on anyway and everyone helped remind people of their lines.

We really enjoyed performing the Christmas play and hope you enjoyed it too.





JOINT SCHOOL DAY

On Thursday the 12th of December 2019 Lochdonhead and Ulva primary schools had a joint school day.

When it was lunch time we had Christmas dinner, Miss Helen cooked it for us, we all had eco-friendly Christmas crackers. The lunch was really good.



When we had eaten our lunch and had our break we went to sing to Mull Musical Minds.

When we got there we sang Christmas songs and songs from our Christmas play. At the end we all were singing Jingle Bells and when we had finished the song Santa came into the room. He had a big sack filled with lots of presents. He gave everyone from Mull Musical Minds a Christmas present and he gave us all chocolate Santas, we sang Jingle Bells and he left. We all had a really fun time.



Thank you very much to the parents for contributing the wonderful photographs.

THE TERM AHEAD

SWIMMING

We will be starting our next 6 week block of swimming on 24th February. Please see diary dates below for swimming dates.

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EVENT

On Friday 17th January Project Trust are hosting a Global Citizenship Event at Oban High School for 90-120 children from across Argyll and Bute.

This event will enable our pupils to learn about other cultures, global issues and human rights. The Ambassadors that deliver the workshops have first-hand experience of working overseas in teaching, youth work and social care roles. They bring a real-life perspective of other cultures and countries to young people here in the UK. This event is a chance for P5-7 students from across Argyll and Bute to work together to learn more about the wider world, becoming positive forces within it. By attending this event we hope to develop the children's wider understanding of their rights and responsibilities in their local community, whilst also giving them an insight into other countries and cultures.

This sits perfectly with our Silver Rights Respecting School status.



CHURCH SERVICE

Thank you so much to Cathy MacLean for delivering a wonderful Christmas Nativity Church Service to the pupils, staff and parents on the last day of term.



SCOTTISH THEMED CAFÉ

Monday 27th January we will be having a Scottish themed community café from 2pm - 3pm. The pupils will be making shortbread and sharing their learning of Scottish dancing with the community. We hope you can make it.

MINDSET MATTERS WORKSHOP

On Monday 17th February, Live-N-Learn will be visiting the school to deliver a Mindset Matters workshop to P1-P7. In the afternoon, we will be joined by pupils from other island schools for some workshops for upper primary.



DRAMA WORKSHOP

On Friday 28th February, Andi Stevens will be visiting the school to run a whole school drama workshop.

PARENT COUNCIL

Elissa Fenwick is the Parent Council Chair and Secretary. The next parent Council meeting for this term will be organised soon.

WORKING WITH PARENTS

As you know we are very keen indeed to involve you in any way we can in the working life of the school. If you would like to come in to share any skill, assist in any project, wish to help in class in any way, please let us know. We would really welcome your help.

REPORTING

We will continue to be using the Seesaw App to allow you to follow your child's progress through their online learning journal. If you need help with accessing this please let me know.

We will send out a full written report in May.

SCHOOL BLOG

We are really pleased with the feedback we are getting from you about our school blog. We would really love if all our parents could "follow" us as you will then automatically receive notifications when new information is added.

We use the blog like an online newsletter and we update it as events, news and activities happen. There are also dedicated information pages where we will post about classroom activities and share the curriculum overviews for each term. We now also have a school Facebook page, there is a link to this on our blog page.

If you have any questions or suggestions about the information that is available on the blog, or information that you would like to see, please get in touch. If you are unable or have difficulties in accessing the internet and wish to receive updates in paper or email format please let us know.

The blog address is <https://lochdonprimaryschool.wordpress.com/>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

6.1.20 - Schools open
17.1.20 - Global Citizenship Event in Oban for P5-P7
27.1.20 - Scottish themed Community Cafe
7.2.20 - Schools close
13.2.20 & 14.2.20 - In-service
17.2.20 - Schools open
17.2.20 - Growth Mindset workshop
20.2.20 - P1-P3 Author Visit in Salen
24.2.20 - Swimming
28.2.20 - Drama workshop with Andi Stevens
2.3.20 - Swimming
9.3.20 - Swimming
13.3.20 - Health Day
16.3.20 - Swimming
23.3.20 - Swimming
30.3.20 - Swimming

3.4.20 - Schools close at 2.30pm
20.4.20 - Schools open
30.4.20 - Schools close
1.5.20 - In-service
4.5.20 - May holiday
5.5.20 - Schools open
11.5.20 - P4 - P7 Generation Science at Dervaig
12.5.20 - 15.5.20 - P6/7 Residential
14.5.20 - P1 - P3 Generation Science at Ulva
22.5.20 - Joint School Family Day Out
2.6.20 - Parental Consultation
5.6.20 - Sports Day
8.6.20 - 12.6.20 - P7 Induction week
26.6.20 - Schools close
13.8.20 & 14.8.20 - In-service
17.8.20 - Schools open