

Lochdonhead Primary School Newsletter

Summer Term 2018

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DEAR PARENTS

Welcome back!

I hope you had a lovely relaxing time over the Easter break and, like me, are raring to get started into the new term.

We have had a very busy spring term as you can see from some of the events shown and this term looks to be just as busy.

Please remember that Claire, as Principal Teacher, is at school to support the pupils and yourselves, which she does to a very high standard. 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 Ulva Primary School is - 01688 500 246 and my mobile number is 079029 44626.



NEW STARTS

We would like to welcome 3 new pupils to the school. Emily Leggate will be joining P7, Sara Leggate P6 and Callum Leggate P4. We are so pleased to welcome the family to the

school and we are sure they will contribute so much to the school community.



We would also like to welcome Tony Nunn to the school as our student teacher. Tony has had super work experiences in the other island schools and we look forward to supporting him in his training. He will be working with us for 6 weeks until 25th May.



LAST TERM

ROAD SAFETY CALENDAR COMPETITION

Congratulations to Ella and Lucy who were both Highly Commended for

their designs in the Argyll and Bute Road Safety Calendar competition.



NANCY GLEN APPEAL

We were very keen to join in the fundraising efforts for the Nancy Glen fishing boat disaster in January. The pupils baked with the support of their families at home and brought them to sell for donations outside the school. We shared leaflets along the Nature Trail and advertised on Facebook. We had sold all of our cakes by lunchtime and raised a grand total of £200. We received further donations to bring our total to £216 even though there were no cakes left! Well done and thanks to everyone involved we really appreciated the support. Also well done to Ella who raised money before the event by baking and selling cakes in Java at Craignure.

INTERNET SAFETY DAY

Internet Safety Day was on 6th February. Our local community policeman, PC. Grierson, came in to talk to us about the dangers and the things that we could do to stay safe online.

Following the workshop, the pupils made very informative posters to highlight the dangers for other school children.



RECYCLING WORKSHOP

On the 1st March, Sian from MICT came to lead a recycling workshop and show the pupils how to recycle correctly. The pupils learned that to ensure the sustainability of our planet we need to reuse and recycle our resources. We decided that we will be able to recycle more effectively in school if we order smaller recycle bins. These have now arrived and much more of our waste at the school is being recycled.



WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 1st March saw us celebrating World Book Day. The pupils planned and led their own ideas for learning. They bought their favourite books into school and wore clothes that they could relax in to enjoy their reading experience. We began the 100 million minutes reading challenge and finished 4th on the leader board which was super. Members of the school staff and community joined us to share their favourite books, we also read silently and created Lego models to create some of the settings in our books.



WILD ABOUT SCOTLAND

On Monday 19th March, the Wild About Scotland team came to lead workshops on Pond Dipping and Endangered Animals. The pupils had a fun filled afternoon connecting with the environment. Finding a frog in the pond led to lots of learning about different amphibians. They also used their critical curiosity skills to identify and analyse the characteristics of endangered animals and their habitats.



WORLD OF WORK - MICT

Our interdisciplinary topic last term was on the world of work at Mull and Iona Community Trust. It combined Literacy, Health and Wellbeing, Technology and Social Studies. To understand more about the job roles in MICT the pupils went along to An Roth to interview members of staff. They have now produced a wonderful and informative newsletter for children by children. These are available at An Roth.



EDUCATION SCOTLAND VISIT

On 14th and 15th March we had a visit from Gail Hally who was undertaking a thematic review of Personal and Social Education / Health and Wellbeing on behalf of Education Scotland. Gail met with the pupils, staff and parents to get a really good picture of the PSE curriculum and learning at Lochdonhead Primary. The visit went really well. She gave really positive feedback on the way the pupils interacted with each other and she saw a variety of positive PSE evident at the school. Thank you to all who contributed to the feedback, it was greatly appreciated.

HEALTH DAY

On Friday 23rd March, pupils from P1 - P6 from Lochdonhead, Ulva and Salen met up in Salen School for the cluster Health Day.

This year the focus was on - 'Blue Planet, Our Planet, Our Future, Our Health and Well-being'. The children took part in a number of exciting workshops including Drama, Art, Dance and Orienteering. It was a brilliant day and enjoyed by all.



Our Primary 7s went up to Tobermory High School for their Health Day. They enjoyed a number of workshops - Art, Mindfulness, PE, Maths, Science and Healthy Planet. This was the second transition opportunity that the P7s had made to Tobermory High School. The first one was attending a Gaelic workshop on 15th March.



COMMUNITY CAFES

On Monday 26th April we held a community café in aid of Marie Curie. Sarah Everett, one of the local Marie Curie nurses came and talked to the children about her role as nurse on the island and why it is so important. Cheryl Callow also discussed the story of who Marie Curie was and her significance to the world of medicine.

We had a wonderful turnout and raised a fantastic total of £167.76. Thanks to everyone who came along and contributed to such a worthwhile cause.



MULL DRAMA FESTIVAL

The Mull Drama Festival was on Friday 23rd March in the Aros Hall in Tobermory. P4-7 of Lochdonhead Primary School used their creativity to write their own original dramatic script in which a big sister was left to babysit her little sister. Ella, P7 and Lucy, P4 displayed a wonderful performance evidenced by a spectacular show and very positive feedback from the adjudicator, audience and community. Ella and Lucy won the trophy for the 'Best Primary School Performance' and they also jointly won the 'Best Young Actress' cup.



THE TERM AHEAD

SWIMMING

Joint school swimming sessions will continue this term starting Monday 16th April until 30th April.

RUGBY

Allan Wright, the Rugby Development Officer will be doing 3 joint school rugby coaching sessions with the pupils from Lochdonhead and Ulva this term.

I-CYCLE TRAINING

The pupils will be doing i-cycle training with Mrs Grierson this term. This is an excellent programme that teaches pupils how to cycle safely on the road showing respect for other road users.

HOME LEARNING CLUB

Ms Bidwell will be continuing with her excellent home-learning club this term starting after school on Thursday 26th April.

SAMBA DRUMMING

This term the children will be taking part in Samba Drumming workshops. This project is delivered by a music specialist, focusing on rhythm using Brazilian percussion instruments. The workshops will run from Wednesday 25th April until 6th June. We hope to invite parents in for a final performance on the 6th June.

NSPCC WORKSHOP

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children will be coming to the school on Monday 21st May to deliver the school programme - Speak Out, Stay Safe.

This workshop is delivered by specially trained staff to help children:

- understand abuse in all its forms and recognise the signs of abuse
 - know how to protect themselves from all forms of abuse
 - know how to get help, and the sources of help available to them, including their Childline service.
- The children will be taught at age appropriate levels.

GENERATION SCIENCE

We will be travelling to Dervaig Primary for a 'Power from the People' Generation Science workshop for P4 - P7 on Monday 14th May.

The pupils will discover the secrets of electricity first-hand in this stimulating interactive workshop. They will explore what electricity is, how it can be stored and even create some themselves using specially designed hand generators.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

The school photographer will be visiting the school on Monday 28th May. All family members are welcome to come to the school on the day to get their photographs taken. There is no obligation to purchase these photographs. I will let you know the exact times nearer the day.

P6/7 RESIDENTIAL

Pupils from P6 & 7 will be joining with other pupils from the North Cluster to visit Stramash in Oban for their

residential trip in May. This is such an exciting time for the children to experience abseiling, canoeing, gorge walking, coasteering, orienteering, beach bonfire building as well as having some downtime fun with their other school friends. The residential runs from Tuesday 15th May until Friday 18th May and Mrs Mairi Nicolson, PT at Ulva, will be joining the children on the trip.



REPORTING

We will be issuing a full written report to parents at the end of this term covering all curricular areas.

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.

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/>

FACEBOOK

The Parent Council run a very active Lochdonhead Primary School Facebook page which is really good at sharing relevant school news to a wider audience. There is a link to this from our blog page.

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- 16.4.18 - School starts
- 16.4.18 - Swimming
- 17.4.18 - Rugby
- 23.4.18 - Swimming
- 25.4.18 - Samba workshop
- 26.4.18 - Home-learning club starts
- 30.4.18 - Swimming
- 1.5.18 - Rugby
- 2.5.18 - Samba workshop
- 4.5.18 - School closes
- 8.5.18 - School starts
- 9.5.18 - Samba workshop
- 14.5.18 - P4-P7 Generation Science @ Dervaig
- 15.5.18-18.5.18-P6/7 residential trip
- 21.5.18 - NSPCC workshop
- 22.5.18 - Rugby
- 23.5.18 - Samba workshop
- 28.5.18 - School photographer
- 30.5.18 - Samba workshop
- 6.6.18 - Samba workshop
- 8.6.18 - Sports Day
- 11.6.18 - P7 induction week
- 29.6.18 - School closes
- 13.8.18 - In-service
- 14.8.18 - School starts