

Newsletter

- For staff, parents, carers and the local community -

**April
2016**

FINAL TERM!

Once again we are entering our final term of the year. It always seems to come around really quickly and is always full of events, with lots going on, particularly for the Primary 7 children. The final parental consultations were held just prior to the Spring Break and staff are now working on your child's report card. These will be distributed in June as they usually are.

We were delighted with our visit from Scottish Opera and felt P5, 6 and 7 pupils had benefitted hugely from the experience. As a follow up to their schools workshops Scottish Opera offered places to a performance in Glasgow. Having applied I am pleased to say that our children were allocated seats and will be able to attend 'The Mikado Children's Unwrap'. A parental information letter will follow soon for those involved. This again is an amazing opportunity for the children and one which I know staff are looking forward to.

As always we will have a 3 day visit for the P7 children to Biggar High School to help them make a smooth transition. We will also invite our new P1 children in to school to help them with their transition from nursery. More information about both transition events will be sent to those involved.

Prior to the Spring Break Primary 7 had a visit from Richard Struthers, BHC Ltd, to explain to the children how to set up and run a business. It was very good to have an expert to help the children and I know they found this a very valuable experience. This will allow the class to set up and run their business enterprise in the final term. I am hoping that Richard will be able to join me as the children bid for money to start up their business in a 'Dragon's Den' style event! This type of enterprise always allows the children to put their financial education into practice and consolidates their learning.



Primary 6 are starting work on their Bikeability. This is always a super learning experience for them and once again Mrs Shearer will lead this. The work that the children do, both in theory and on their bikes, leads to them becoming more aware of how to ride safely and to be a responsible road user.

As we always do there will be an end of term assembly (including Primary 7's leavers assembly) on the final day of the term. Normally we would have the Nursery graduation on the previous day but due to the European Union Referendum taking place on Thursday, 23rd June the school will be shut for pupils on that day. The Nursery graduation will therefore take place on Wednesday, 22nd June 2016.

Achieved Rights Respecting School Award

June 2010



Achieved Fairtrade School Award

June 2010



Achieved Gold Health Promoting School Award

June 2007

and

Achieved Health Promoting

Nursery Gold Award



NEED TO CONTACT SOMEONE OR MAKE A COMPLAINT?

School Contact

Head Teacher: Pamela L. Easton Principal Teacher: Sharon Alexander Office: June Clydesdale

Phone: 01555 840263

Email: office@carnwath-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk



Gail Ramsay

Parent Council Chairperson

Phone: 01555 840263 and your contact details will be passed on

Education Resources

Phone: 01698 454545



WEBSITE

Please visit the nursery and school website where you will find lots more information including photos

<http://carnwath-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk>

PARENTAL OPINION / EVENTS

Thank you very much to all parents/carers who completed a questionnaire during the Parental Consultation evenings. Your views will be discussed by staff and by the Parent Council in order that we can reply to them. I will let you know the outcome of the questionnaire and the discussions in due course. Should you have a comment and/or suggestion about our practice at any time there is a comments box in the foyer or you are always welcome to email or write to us. I value your opinions and try to use them to take our work forward. It is important to me that we work together to do the best we can for our children.

Also a big 'thank you' to those of you who stopped to have a look at our Literacy display and to ask questions or make comments. Several parents signed up to be involved in a 'Dyslexia Information' event and/or a 'Scotland Reads' workshop (information on how to encourage your child by using a paired reading approach with them). Before we arrange these events I would encourage anyone else who would like to join us to give me a phone. The events will be run by Kim Ross, Learning Support Teacher and Pamela Easton and we will be delighted if you would like to join us. We hope both events will be useful to you both in terms of raising your awareness but also in giving you some useful strategies that will help your child develop their literacy skills. Please also feel free to phone for more information. I hope to send a letter shortly with dates and times for the two parental workshops and we look forward to working with you at these.

PARENTZONE SCOTLAND

I would like to draw your attention to this unique website for parents from early years to beyond school. Parentzone Scotland provides information on a range of topics including:

Learning in Scotland	Curriculum for Excellence
Learning through play	Additional Support Needs
Health and Wellbeing	Schools in your local area
Supporting your child's learning and how to get involved	
Performance data about secondary school leavers	

If you would like to access this site please log on to: www.parentzonescotland.com

NURSERY

Nursery Admissions:

I would ask if you have a child who will be 3 years old over the coming year that you come to register them **before 30th April**. Applications made after this date are considered to be late applications and will only be dealt with by the admissions panel after the applications made prior to 30th April. Please pass this information to anyone you know who may have a child due to be enrolled in nursery. As always our Nursery admissions meeting will be taking place in May. Letters about the allocation of places will be sent to parents after this date.

Please be aware that only a parent can enrol a child and a full birth certificate and two recent proofs of residence are required. We would be grateful if you could phone and make an appointment to complete the application paperwork in order that someone is available to help you.

Once Upon Our Time:

I am please to let you know that the Primary 7 children worked very hard to write some super rhymes for the nursery children. After some editing, in partnership with the Print Room, the children's books have been finalised and are now ready to be printed. As soon as they are delivered we will arrange a celebration event in order to present each child with their book. Parents of both P7 and nursery children will be invited. I would also like to thank BHC Ltd for sponsoring this work. They very generously paid for the storytelling and the printing of the books.



SCHOOL GROUNDS DEVELOPMENT



Prior to the holiday, and having consulted the children, we applied for a grant to Tesco for the development of our school grounds. Unfortunately this was unsuccessful so we have submitted an application to Awards for All. In the bid we have applied for £10000 to develop areas for learning, wildlife habitats, an orchard, a small woodland area and a quiet, sensory garden for the children to use at times where they need peace to recharge their batteries in the busy break times. We hope this will be successful but will not hear until the end of May.



Meanwhile South Lanarkshire Council will be providing new goalposts for the football pitch now that the grass has grown. I am sure the children will be delighted when the pitch is back up and running! We have all missed the large grassy area. As a school we will also begin to develop the grounds where we can, for example, the children will be planting seeds to grow vegetables and we hope to start adding flowers to the various beds around the front of the school. As always the Eco Forum and Mrs Cochrane are very good at supporting the children in their endeavours. Now that the new bottle greenhouse is complete we hope to start growing seedlings in order to develop our planting over the coming years.



Primary 4/5 are going to start working on the John Muir Award this term with a focus on Bumble bee conservation. They will work in the John Mann Park, the forest area that we use and the school grounds. They will find out more about each area, they will explore it and look at the habitat in terms of bumble bee numbers and how good an environment it is for the bees and then they will work to improve the area for the bee population. This is all vital work, particularly since bumble bee numbers are currently falling around the country. As a final piece of work they will then share their learning with others and hopefully encourage them to help in the conservation effort. This promises to be a very interesting and rewarding experience for the children.



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS

Miss Whitefield is currently running a tennis afterschool club for interested P4 children. At the end of this block of coaching 4 of the children will be chosen to represent the school at the Tennis Festival which will take place on Sunday, 8th May. The children will compete with others from schools across Clydesdale in what is normally a fun event. It is a good experience for them and a chance to show off what they have learned.

We would like to thank Helen Comloquoy who has helped with some of the coaching of our children. She is very encouraging of the children and very good at helping them develop their skills.



SCHOOL MEALS

I have been asked to inform you that the price of school meals for Primary 4 to Primary 7 children will be going up to £1.60 on Monday, 25th April 2016. Primary 1 to Primary 3 children will continue to receive free school meals.

PARENT COUNCIL SUMMER FAIR

Normally the Parent Council very kindly run a Summer Fair at the end of August in order to raise money to be used for the benefit of all children, e.g. for trips, Christmas show, extra resources. This year they have decided to try a new approach and the Summer Fair will be held on **Saturday, 21st May 2016**. We hope that it will be a huge success and that you will all manage to come and support them. I am sure the children will have lot of fun, as they always have in the past. More information will follow shortly in a letter but please put the date in your diary.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

18th	School re-opens
19th	P7 trip to Dunfermline Abbey After-school tennis club
20th	P6 bikeability
21st	Alex Kelly assembly, 'teamwork' P5 music initiative continues
25th	Nursery morning children to visit Rascals nursery
26th	P1-3 book and craft final afterschool club - children to bring a parent for the session 6pm parental information session for P5 re Lockerbie Manor P7 residential trip, please bring your child too
28th	P1/2 assembly. Parents welcome!

MAY

2nd	School closed for May holiday
5th	School closed to children, Staff Development Day
8th	P4 tennis festival at Lesmahagow High School, 4 of our children from tennis afterschool club to attend, with parents and staff.
9th	Nursery Consultative Meeting at 9am Pre-school nursery and P1 children - 21st Century style event for families, at 3pm
10th	School Sports Day in the afternoon, weather permitting! 7pm Parent Council Meeting
11th	Alternate sports day if not held on 10th
12th	Assembly by Alex Kelly P5-7 Scottish Opera trip
13th	P6 camping trip from 3pm
14th	P6 to return from camping at approx. 9:30am
17th	Nursery Sports Day in the afternoon for all children
18th	Nursery trip to Almond Valley Early Years Admissions meeting
19th	Nursery having outdoor mobile play
21st	Summer Fair run by Parent Council
23rd	Book Fair in school Work experience pupil from Biggar High School helping in school this week
26th	Assembly by Alex Kelly Nursery open day for parents
27th and 30th	School closed for May holiday
31st	P7 to Biggar High School New P1 visit to school, parental talk by HT

JUNE

1st and 2nd	P7 to Biggar High School
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Please note that the above dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances. Parents/carers are very welcome to attend the class assemblies.



EDUCATION SERVICES
Executive Director: Jim Gilhooly
Carnwath Primary School: Head Teacher - Pamela L. Easton