

# Newsletter

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

Issue 2

September  
2015

## PARENT COUNCIL

At our Parent Council AGM, at the beginning of September, Gail Ramsay was re-elected as Chairperson. Roy Walker continues as Treasurer, Clare Waters continues as Secretary and Judith Stewart continues as Vice Chair. My thanks to them for their continued support and also to the members of the Parent Council who attend regularly and give their support in many ways.

Thank you to all who helped to organise the Film Night which seems to have been a huge success. The children loved the film and seemed to have a great time even if some of the younger ones were a bit sleepy when they left.

Our next meeting will be at 7pm on Tuesday, 20th October. Please come along and give us your support. New members and ideas are always very welcome.

## CONTACT DETAILS



As we move into the winter months I would ask that you let us know if any of your contact details have changed. This helps us in the event of an emergency involving your child but is also useful in the unlikely event that we have to close the school due to adverse weather.

Your child will soon have a winter pack in their bag which is work for them to do in the event that the school should have to close. Please do not ask your child to do this unless we are unexpectedly shut.

## TRAVEL PLAN

As part of our ongoing work I am very grateful to the parents, pupils and staff who attended our Travel Plan meeting and helped to develop the Travel Plan. Our discussions took into account all the pupil, parental and staff views from last sessions questionnaires.

Thanks to everyone who completed a questionnaire. There were some super ideas and the Plan is now in the process of being written. South Lanarkshire's Travel Plan Coordinator is coming out soon to discuss it with me. After that meeting I hope to finalise the Plan and share it with pupils and parents.



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](mailto:office@carnwath-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)



### Parent Council Chairperson

Gail Ramsay

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>

Learning through religious and moral education enables the children to recognise religion as an important expression of human experience; learn about beliefs and traditions of Christianity and other world religions; recognise and understand religious diversity; investigate and understand the responses which religious and non-religious views can offer about the nature and meaning of life.

Through our classroom lessons we aim to help our pupils develop a knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world religions and to encourage pupils to learn about important moral values, particularly in their relationships with others.

Within religious education pupils learn about the various ways in which religious belief is expressed through festivals, ceremonies, sacred places, holy books and key figures in religion. Pupils are given the opportunity to think about personal aspects of religion and to consider questions related to religion as an important expression of human experience.

Religious observance is carried out at some assemblies and special events. Religious observance is a time for reflection which helps the children to develop their inner self awareness and their relationships with others and their environment, for example, they may be given a time to share ideas on friendship and what it means for them.

I would like to remind parents that Scottish Government Ministers consider that religious observance complements religious education and makes an important contribution to pupils' development. It should also have a role in promoting the ethos of a school by bringing pupils together and creating a sense of community.

There is a statutory provision for parents to withdraw children from participation in religious observance. This right of parents' wishes will be respected. Where a child is withdrawn from religious observance, we will make suitable arrangements for your child to participate in a worthwhile alternative activity

As part of our annual planning we had a meeting with some of our Pupil Council, a staff member and Alex Kelly in order to discuss what we would like for our assemblies over the course of the year.

The group comprised:

Pamela Easton, Head Teacher

Lesley McInnes, Support Staff

Alex Kelly, 2CY Trust

Ruaridh Logan, Pupil Council representative

Eilidh Logan, Pupil Council representative

Eve Ramsay, Pupil Council representative



After a discussion we agreed that we would have assemblies on the same day of the week but would try to achieve a balance of mornings and afternoons so that all nursery children are able to come. The children felt they would like them at the end of the week so that they could work towards House Points and Citizen of the Week.

We discussed what the children would like during assemblies. They agreed that they like the active assemblies that Mr Kelly takes and where they are able to have some time to reflect. They also liked poetry and singing. Visitors are also welcome at assembly. The children indicated that they would like themes such as anti-bullying, teamwork, friendship, honesty etc.

Since our discussions I have put together an assembly timetable in order to reflect the ideas that were discussed at our meeting. I will include this in our 'Dates for Your Diary' section of newsletters.

We agreed that Primary 6 would continue to take part in Bubblegum 'n Fluff which works through the Christmas message as the children take part in activities. We also discussed trying a reflective spaces approach to giving the children time to reflect on their hopes and dreams and what they would like for their futures and changes that they may face. This would fit in nicely with our Health Week and the idea of mental and emotional health - it would sit very well with the massage and relaxation that we try to encourage with the children throughout the year.

## ROAD SAFETY



Our Junior Road Safety Officers, Elise Knights and Max Grant, attended South Lanarkshire's JRSO training event. They picked up lots of ideas to encourage our children to cross the road safely and to keep safe as they travel to and from school and home.

They were able to sit in the cab of a lorry in order to help them realise how hard it is for lorry drivers to see children close to their lorry. They have been busy updating the JRSO information board and organising a competition for the children. The JRSOs will be leading our assembly at the end of October in order to share important road safety messages with all of our children.

Our Primary 5 children will soon be taking part in their Bikeability programme in order to make them more aware of road safety while cycling. This leads into the Primary 6 Bikeability programme which is offered during the final term in P6. As part of our Travel Planning we are looking at a scooter safety programme too.



## SPORTS

Once again we are delighted that Biggar Rugby Club are offering some rugby sessions for the P4 - P7 children. They are also organising a rugby festival for the P5 - P7 children. Our thanks to them for all their coaching which the children enjoy and it really helps to develop their skills.



Our Primary 3 children will be attending the ACE event to take part in football, athletics and tennis. This is a new event for us so we hope they enjoy it.

## NEW WEBSITE

After a long wait we are now able to access our new website in order to start setting it up. We hope to have it up and running before long, although it will take time to develop it fully. The aim of the website is to provide you with information regarding the school - both in general terms but also more specifically about your child's class. The website will very much be a work in progress over the next few months and we would welcome any feedback regarding it. I will send out a letter to let you know when the new



## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

As you are aware outdoor education is an integral part of Curriculum for Excellence. While staff will always let you know if your child is involved in outdoor education which is taking place outwith the school grounds, e.g. in the forest, there are also times when your child will be outdoors as a normal part of the school day. I would be grateful, therefore, if you could ensure that your child comes to school with a jacket and other clothes and footwear suitable for the weather. Children are also out at playtime and lunchtime and should also be dressed appropriately for the weather in order that they can have fun and enjoy their time without being cold or getting wet.



Many thanks for your help with this.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### OCTOBER

#### Walk to School Month

1st	Parents' Evening
2nd	P3 to ACE event
	Pupil Council meeting
7th	Parents' Evening
8th	P5-7 rugby festival
	P3/4 Farm to Fork visit
9th	2.15pm Harvest assembly P7
	Close for holiday 3pm
19th	School re-opens
20th	School photographs
	Forum meetings
	7pm Parent Council meeting
22nd	JRSO assembly
26th	P7 Lockerbie Manor residential visit
29th	Assembly by Mrs Easton



### NOVEMBER

2nd	School closed for Staff Development Day
5th	9.20am P4/5 assembly, parents are invited to attend
6th	Pupil Council meeting
10th	7pm Parent Council meeting
11th	Remembrance Day assembly
13th	P6/7 netball team and P4/5 benchball team
14th	Parent Council Christmas Fair 12noon till 3pm
16th	Health Week
	Flu vaccinations
19th	Lidl Health Factor Bus to visit school
20th	Health Forum assembly
24th	Forum meetings
25th	P6 swimming to start
26th	P5/6 Scottish Parliament visit in school
27th	Reflective Spaces assembly by Mr Kelly

### DECEMBER

2nd	'Jack and the Beanstalk' by Hopscotch Theatre Company
3rd	End of term song practice by Mrs Alexander
8th	P1-3 Christmas Show afternoon performance
9th	P1-3 Christmas Show evening performance
17th	P6/7 Christmas party
18th	P4/5 Christmas party
21st	P1/2/3 Christmas party
22nd	Nursery Christmas party
23rd	10am Christmas assembly by Mr Kelly, parents are welcome to attend
	2.30pm close for holidays



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