



## Wemyss Bay Primary School and Nursery Class Head Teacher's Newsletter September 2017

**Dear Parent/Carer,**

The purpose of this newsletter is to give you information, update you on recent events in school and to inform you about things which will be happening in the near future. This newsletter is also published on our school website. Address – <http://wemyssbay.inverclyde.sch.uk>

### **\*IMPORTANT\* Nut Free Zone**

Our school is a nut free zone as we have pupils who have severe allergies to nuts and it is vital that we protect their health. No items containing nuts should ever be sent to school either as snacks, in packed lunches or as donations for events. Please check carefully as items like chocolate spread or chocolate bars, for example, can contain nuts too. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Letter Wallets**

Please make sure that these are returned to school on a Thursday once you have removed the weekly mail as they are our main way of sending paper information home.

### **Annual Calendar of Events**

This was included in the letter wallets last month– please keep it in a safe place to refer to throughout the year. Please note that while we will do our best not to make any changes to these dates sometimes things happen that are outwith our control. If that is the case we will give you as much notice of any changes as possible. This calendar will also be published on the school website if you need to download a replacement. Details of all events can also be accessed on the Events page of the website. Updated diary dates will also be included with each monthly newsletter.

### **Class Curriculum Events**

Throughout the session each class will invite their parents/carers to attend a curriculum event where the adults can join the children in a piece of learning led by the class teacher. This session the focus will be on writing. To make this manageable no more than two adults should attend per child. The dates of these events are published on the annual calendar of events and on the school website.

Primary 1 held the first class curriculum event on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August when their parents/carers were invited into class for part of the morning to experience their learning – this event was enjoyed by adults and children alike!

### **Class Assemblies/Fairtrade Coffee Mornings**

This session each class will take responsibility for an assembly based on one of the articles of The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The dates for each class are included on the annual calendar of events and are published on the school website.

Following each class assembly the school Fairtrade Group plan to hold a Fairtrade coffee morning for the parents/carers attending. This will run from 10.00-10.30am. For a small donation you can have Fairtrade tea or coffee and a biscuit. The pupils of the class responsible for the assembly will also attend for juice and biscuits. There will be a stall selling Fairtrade products – both foodstuffs and other merchandise suitable for both adults and children - from which the parents/carers and/or pupils can

make a purchase. All profits will go towards supporting Fairtrade initiatives and to helping our partner school in Malawi.

The next class assembly will be led by P6 on Wednesday 4th October at 9.30am and families are welcome to attend.

### **Extra Curricular Clubs**

We now have a programme of after school/lunchtime clubs run by Active Schools. The activities vary throughout the year, providing pupils in all year groups the opportunity to participate in a club. Additional clubs run by teachers will provide further opportunities throughout the session – information will follow in due course.

### **P7 Visit to Inverclyde Academy**

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September our P7 pupils and their class teacher visited Inverclyde Academy for their first experience of a typical secondary school day. Feedback has been very positive and our pupils were a credit to their families and to the school. Well done Primary 7!

### **Parents Curriculum Evening – Writing**

There will be an opportunity for parents/carers of pupils in P1-P7 to come to school with their child/children on the evening of Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September from 6.00-7.30pm. There will be Curriculum for Excellence Level workshops for parents and children giving examples of how writing skills are taught throughout Wemyss Bay Primary School – see separate letter for details.

### **Samples of Work**

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October the children will bring home samples of their classwork to let parents/carers see how they are doing. It is really important that any jotters/work folders are returned to school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October as they will be needed in class.

### **Awards**

We hold monthly Awards Assemblies. Staff can nominate one or two pupils per class for awards within the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence: Successful Learners, Effective Contributors, Confident Individuals or Responsible Citizens. These pupils will be presented with a certificate to take home. They will also have a second certificate, their photograph and evidence of why they received their award displayed in school for everyone to see.

Head Teacher Awards will be awarded for outstanding achievements and/or notable contributions to the wider life of the school. Pupils receiving a Head Teachers' award will get an enamel badge, certificate and their name added to a roll of honour displayed in school. Parents will also be informed of this achievement by letter.

### **Come as You Please Days**

These will take place twice in the year for school funds (£1) and occasionally for a charity donation such as an item for the Inverclyde Foodbank. On these days pupils may come to school in casual dress. Please note that clothing must be suitable and appropriate for school activities. Football strips are not allowed. Our first 'Come as You Please' day will be held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Nursery Garden**

We are currently in the process of finalising the details of our nursery garden refurbishment and hope to have new play equipment installed in the near future - once again a big thank you to everyone who has supported this venture.

### **Reading Books**

We are missing some reading books from our reading schemes and it may be that children have misplaced these at home. As you can imagine these books are very expensive to replace and funds are limited. We would really appreciate it if families could have a good look at home and return any that they find to school – no consequences, we would just like them back!

To try to prevent these losses children will not be issued with a new reading book until the previous one has been returned. We do understand that from time to time books do get lost or damaged and if this is the case please let us know so that the book can be replaced. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

### **Parent Council**

The Parent Council held their AGM on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September and office bearers were appointed as follows:

Chairperson	Mrs D Gairns
Vice- Chairperson	Mr M Barry
Treasurer	Mrs L Brennan
Secretary	Mrs N Robertson

All classes including nursery are currently represented on the Parent Council with the exception of Primary 7; any P7 parents who would like to join would be made very welcome – as, of course, would any other parents!

### **PTA**

Our PTA operate as a sub- group of our Parent Council with a primary focus on fundraising. They do a fantastic job in supporting the school in this way and are always in need additional volunteers either to join the group of to support specific events – please see PTA notice board in school for further information.

### **October Holiday**

The school will close on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 3.15pm and reopen for pupils on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00am.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October is an In-Service Day for staff.

I hope you all have an enjoyable break.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Elaine Montgomery  
Head Teacher

<b>August and September Class Awards</b>		
Emily Hearl	Nursery	Responsible Citizen for helping the younger children settle at nursery
Leo Kinsella	Nursery	Responsible Citizen for always being polite and having good manners
Cole Rankin	Nursery	Successful Learner for making good progress in all areas of number work
Erin Begley	Nursery	Successful Learner for making good progress in all areas of number work
Poppy Winsor	Nursery	Confident Individual for following learning instructions and for supporting others in class
Jonathan Allan	P2	Successful Learner for outstanding number skills.
Lucy Nicol	P2	Effective Contributor for being a good friend to her classmates and helping where she can.
Alfie Paton	P2	Responsible Citizen for setting an excellent example to his peers, showing respect to others.
Aiden Bryce	P2	Successful Learner showing enthusiasm and enjoyment in all learning activities.
Hannah Timmons	P3	Successful Learner for participating in class discussions and producing excellent writing.
Kenzie McIntyre	P3	Responsible citizen for setting an excellent example by always showing respect, listening carefully and following instructions first time.
Joey Shields	P3	Successful Learner for excellent progress in maths.
Lydia Linn	P4	Responsible citizen for thinking of others, recognising when a situation is unfair and suggesting a solution.
Noah Robertson	P4	Confident Individual for working hard on his spelling and feeling good about how well he is doing.
Lois Herdman	P5	Responsible citizen for being helpful and supportive to her peers during the first weeks of term.
Nuala Ward	P5	Confident Individual for a great improvement in confidence during our swimming at the Waterfront.
Sonny Harwood	P5	Effective Contributor for super project research and sharing his learning with the class.
Bonnie Little	P6	Responsible Citizen for showing respect and kindness to others whilst helping them further their learning.
Carys Kinsella	P6	Successful Learner for working hard in maths and persevering with decimal numbers.
Jamie Haggarty	P7	Effective Contributor for showing enthusiasm and interest in class discussions and debates.
Jasmine Pears	P7	Successful Learner for a super effort at ensuring she is meeting her language targets.

### Dates for your diary

<b>September</b>			
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Curriculum Evening	6.00-7.30pm	Details in separate letter
<b>October</b>			
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	P6 Class Assembly	9.30-10.00am	Parents/Carers/Family of P6 pupils welcome to attend
	Fairtrade Coffee Morning	10.00-10.30am	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil work samples home	3.15pm	To be returned Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Come As You Please Day	All day	£1 for school funds
	School closes	3.15pm	Enjoy the break!
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	School closed	All week	Staff and pupil holiday week
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	In Service Staff Training Day	All day	Holiday for pupils
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Pupils return to school	9.00am	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	P2 Curriculum Event	9.30-10.30am	P2 Parent/Carers event
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Hallowe'en Activity Day	All day	Details to follow

