



Wemyss Bay Primary School and Nursery Class Head Teacher's Newsletter September 2016

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>

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 on Friday – 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.

P5 Outing

P5 visited the Beacon Arts Centre last Friday to take part in a library outreach event as part of Inverclyde's Booked! Festival. The children took part in an informative and engaging session with illustrator and writer Chris Mould followed by fun, hands-on activities with library and festival facilitators.

Meet the Teacher

On Friday 2nd September between 2.00pm and 3.00pm parents/carers of children in P2, P4, P5 & P7 are welcome to visit their child's classroom to meet their teacher for this session. The children will be busy working so that the teacher is available to speak to parents. Unfortunately Miss Giambattista and Miss McCreddie are out of school on that date so P3 & P6 parents are invited to come in on Wednesday 7th September between 2.00pm and 3.00pm instead. Any parent/ carer who is unable to make the time allocated to their child's class but who would like the opportunity to meet their child's new teacher should contact the school office to make an alternative arrangement.

Parent Council AGM

This will be held on Tuesday 13th September at 6.00pm in the school. Parents interested in finding out about the parent council or considering joining will be made most welcome.

P7 Visit to Inverclyde Academy

On Thursday 15th September our P7 pupils and their class teacher will visit Inverclyde Academy for a first experience of a typical secondary school day. Please see separate letter for details.

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. 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 today, Wednesday 31st August when their parents/carers were invited into class for part of the morning.

P1 Trial School Lunch

P1 parents/carers were also invited to sample a school lunch and experience the lunchtime routine with their child today from before the rest of the school came in for lunch!

Class Assemblies/Fairtrade Coffee Mornings

This session each class will take responsibility for an assembly based on one of our updated school values these are: Respect, Equality, Achievement, Commitment and Honesty (REACH). Parents/Carers of the class taking the assembly are welcome to join us. The dates for each class are included on the annual calendar of events – issued last Friday via the letter wallets - and are published on the school website. **P7** are starting this programme off with an assembly about ‘achievement’ on Wednesday 7th September at 9.30-10.00am.

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.

Parents Curriculum Evening – Numeracy and Maths

A chance for parents/carers of pupils in P1-P7 to come to school with their child/children on the evening of Tuesday 27th September from 6.00-7.30pm. There will be a short presentation about our numeracy and maths curriculum followed by workshops for parents and children giving examples of how numeracy and maths skills are taught in Wemyss Bay Primary School.

Samples of Work

On Friday 7th 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 10th October as they will be needed in class.

Awards

Following consultation with staff and pupils our awards assemblies are now held once a month. 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 termly either for school funds (£1) or 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.

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.

Holiday

Please remember that this Monday, 5th September, is a holiday and the school will be closed. The school reopens on Tuesday 6th September when we will welcome our P1 pupils for their first full day at school.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Elaine Montgomery
Head Teacher