



DUNBLANE PRIMARY SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2

NEWSLETTER October 2009

Tel: 01786 822351 / Fax: 01786 821008 / www.dunblanepimary.uk.org

Dates for your Diary:

Monday 5th October:

P6 Educational Outing to Edinburgh Zoo

Wednesday 7th October:

Alternative Harvest Service (see later item in Newsletter)

Thursday 8th October:

Jeans for Genes Day (see later item in Newsletter)

Friday 9th October:

In-Service Day

Monday 12th October — Friday 16th October:

Holiday Week

Wednesday 21st October — Tuesday 27th October:

Bookfair Week (incorporating Book Context Week **26th—30th October**)

Thursday 22nd October:

Parent Council AGM at 7.00 pm in the Library (see attached flyer)

Wednesday 28th October:

Parent Council Meeting at 7.00 pm

Friday 30th October:

Halloween Disco organised by Parents Group

Forthcoming Events in November:

Monday 9th/Tuesday 10th November:

In-Service Days

Wednesday 11th November:

Parents' Evening between 3.30 pm and 6.00 pm

Thursday 12th November:

Parents' Evening between 6.00 pm and 8.30 pm



Dear Parents

As we approach the October Week's holiday another Newsletter is due. Here are the dates and activities for the month with a note of forthcoming November dates.

Norovirus:

Most of you will be aware that this virus affected our Primary 7 Educational visit to Winmarleigh this year. Whilst it is hoped that the worst of this particular outbreak is over parents should be aware of symptoms to look for.

Norovirus spreads very easily from person to person, particularly if someone becomes unwell and vomits in a confined space with a large number of other persons in close proximity. Thus, it is possible for infection to spread readily on buses and confined spaces where there are large numbers of people.

In order to try and prevent the further spread of the virus the following measures should be taken:-

- ⇒ Pupils or family members suffering from symptoms, or who have had symptoms should not return to school or work until they have been clear of active symptoms for at least 48 hours
- ⇒ Patients should be asked to stay in their rooms as much as possible and family members should avoid all but necessary contact with the patient
- ⇒ Patients and any persons in contact with the patient should ensure hands are washed thoroughly after using the toilet and before eating and drinking
- ⇒ Any person involved in cleaning up after the patient should wear rubber gloves and ensure a strong disinfectant is used for toilet cleaning etc.
- ⇒ Any soiled towels, bed linen etc. used by the patient should be washed separately in a hot wash.

Harvest Service:

For those of you who did not receive the flyer last week, we are supporting "Start Up" and the "Lorretto Project" with harvest goods this year. Thank you so much to those who have already contributed. We hope to illustrate our Value of Fairness & Equality through this practical support.

Headteacher's Certificates:

Congratulations to the children who were awarded HT Certificates in September. They are:-

P1/EI: Isabella Murphy / Ben Devonshire
P1/MG: Ritchie Brown / Joe Curtis
P1/PD: Eve Ritchie / Ryan Adams
P2/AB: Matthew Curtis / Fraser Welsh
P2/TS: Mya Conroy / Samuel Morrison
P3/LK: Rhiannon Carr / Brodie Smith
P3/RA: Eilidh Smith / Rio Bullman
P4/3: Shona Clelland / Malcolm Jack
P4/EM: Lowri Jones / Samuel Hunter
P4/PW: Maija Nicol / Ronan Kelly
P5/OD: Bethany McBurnie / Bjorn Sandin
P5/LD: Rachel Howie / Sammy McKinney
P6/5: Jodie Murray / Lok Hang Wong
P6/AN: Ruby Pollok / Kieran Connolly
P6/AM: Jennifer Easter / Kieran O'Holloran
P7/PG: Christian Lee / Jake Thomson
P7/DK: Katie Shepherd / Niall Draper
P7/MT: Laura Parkinson / Matthew Mace

Standards & Quality Report and School Improvement Plan:

Following up what was said at "Meet the Teacher" the Standards & Quality Report for 2008—2009 is now on the web site, together with the S & Q Report for Nursery. Work is now almost complete for the new School Improvement Plan for this session. This will be shared with members of the Parent Council at the next meeting and will be put on the web site in November. Any parent who is not able to access the web site or who wishes a paper copy should contact the school office on (01786) 822351.

Jeans for Genes Day:

As the children always enjoy a non-uniform day, the last day of term for them (**Thursday 8th October**) will be an opportunity to wear jeans (or any kind of non-uniform but not "dress up" on this occasion). For this privilege we ask them to bring £1.00 which we will donate to Jeans for Genes.

Halloween Disco:

Fun & Games for all the family. The Fundraising Group will be holding their annual Halloween Disco in the school on Friday 30th October starting at 7.00 pm. Tickets are £2.00 per head and spaces are limited. Fancy Dress is very much encouraged (though not obligatory). The event has proved to be extremely popular over the years so get your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Parental Communication Questionnaire:

This is a reminder that completed questionnaires should be returned to school this week. (**by Thursday 8th October**) so that the analysis of responses can start as soon as possible.

Forthcoming notice about Christmas Cards:

Last year we participated in a project whereby the children designed their own Christmas Cards for sale to family and friends with school receiving a portion of the money raised. Many parents felt that the news of this came too late in the year with cards already bought. The children will be working on their designs this week so that they can be viewed in plenty of time this year if you wish to purchase your children's designs.

Nut Allergy:

A parent has alerted me to a brand of hand sanitizer gel which children may be bringing to school. This particular brand known as Asseptgel by Rainforest Ecoline contains brazil nut extract which parents may not be aware of.

Head Lice Reminder:

Could I make a plea again for parents to check their children's hair regularly. It has been reported to me that head lice have again been discovered in several classes.

Finally, the staff and I wish all the children and their families a happy October break and look forward to seeing them again on **Monday 19th October.**

Joy E Macfarlane
Headteacher

Our Afternoon at Doubletree Hilton:

It all started when the whole school had to go to assembly and then we were sorted into groups of who was going to Doubletree and who was not.

As soon as I knew we were going to the Doubletree ceremony at the Hydro I was so excited. My mum was helping with a group walking there. It took 20 minutes. There were two other schools — St. Mary's and Newton Primary and our School (Dunblane Primary).

When we got there all the staff at Doubletree started giving us high fives and I got one from a man who was from Los Angeles, California, USA. It was a very sunny day and there were soooooo many photographers taking pictures of us. There was even a man at the top tower of the building filming us.

First we did our dance in front of the Hydro. It was such fun! After that there was a big sawdust track and we all had to stand on it. All the kids from Dunblane, Newton and St. Mary's made the Doubletree sign on the ground with our bodies.

Then it was time to gather up and go home. When we had finished they gave out free drinks and pieces of fruit. It was brilliant and I was over the moon!

Written by:

Jasmine Wild and Jennifer Spooner
P5/OD

P7 Visit to Winmarleigh Hall:

We arrived back in Dunblane at 1.30 am on Thursday morning. It was earlier than planned because the norovirus spread amongst our group.

We left Dunblane at 8.00 am on Monday morning. I hopped on to the bus smiling with excitement. We waved goodbye to our families and set off. The journey was approximately four hours. Along the way we stopped off at Gretna which was on the border.

After the long journey we finally managed to set our eyes upon our new home for the week. My first impressions were it was large, exciting and magnificent. We stumbled off the bus and met our Group Leaders. Their names were Cat and Ash. We dumped our cases in the common room and got a quick tour of the grounds. We also got told our room number. We trugged up the high wooden stairs and pushed open our new bedroom door.

The other girls in my room were Emma, Morven, Amy, Rhianne and Eleanor. The room was quite large with four sets of red bunk beds. We didn't have enough time to unpack because we were due to have lunch. We left the cafeteria and went to our first session. My first session was the Climbing Tower. The tower was extremely high. I paired up with Eleanor and began to climb. We slowly climbed up the tower. I got up to the top and it scared my head off. When we had to stagger down I managed to smack my face off it.

Our first day was exciting but the next day was fabulous. I got told what our group name was "Group Mice". After, our group set off onto the road for quad bikes. Along the way we saw two Emus. Eleanor said they were called Rears but that was her opinion. I plonked onto the metal machine and began to drive. When we had finished we hurried back to get some juice. Next was archery. We followed a path through the forest and then found the Archery.

We were all quite good and it was fun. That wasn't my favourite though. Trapeze was my favourite. I pulled myself up the pole and sat at the top. I knew I couldn't jump for it so I just swung off. The feeling was amazing. I felt like I was flying.

Day 3: I was scared when I woke up. My first activity was the Great Swing. I gobbled down breakfast and then went to find my group. We walked through the field and there it stood. You have to go in pairs again and Sam picked me. We were strapped in and began to be pulled up. At that point Sam felt sick so we just went one quarter of the way. I pulled the thin white rope and off we went. We flew through the air. Luckily Sam wasn't sick!

Later we had the Team Challenge. It was funny. First we had to get a bucket of water over an obstacle. Then we walked across some beams which were quite slippy. Then it was the dirty part. You had to crawl through a dirty puddle and put your face in it.

That night Miss Ciccu gave us an unexpected announcement. We were going to depart from Winmarleigh Hall that evening. We had one hour to get our belongings and pack up. We were quite broken hearted but some were overjoyed. We placed our cases outside our rooms so the staff could get them on the bus. I felt sad but at the same time disappointed because I was enjoying myself. We departed Winmarleigh Hall and arrived in Dunblane at 1.30 am. We all feel better so the bug is defeated.

Written by:

Eilidh Wynd
P7/MT