



GARROWHILL PRIMARY MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER



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Dear Parents/Carers

TRAVEL PLAN & PARKING

Police Scotland have assured school staff that there will be an increased police presence around the school at drop off and collection times over the next few days. This is in response to an incident between adults at drop off time on Monday morning of this week which many of you will have seen reported in the press.

School staff handle several complaints every week in relation to parking to drop off at school and when necessary contact the police for support as we cannot police the behaviour of parents/carers on the public highways around the school.

We do however want all of our children to arrive at school safely and not become stressed or anxious because they have witnessed verbally or physically abusive incidents between adults. No child should be exposed to violent or aggressive behaviour and as a community it is our responsibility to work together to ensure they are not.

Parking outside schools is the responsibility of parents and carers and we work very hard to ensure that anyone who is dropping off their children at school does so with the safety of children and staff of the school in mind. School staff are present around the drop off zone and school gates from 8.45am to welcome children into school. This system works well and with everyone's cooperation and should help minimise the need to park at all.

For parents who prefer to park their vehicle, there is ample parking around the school if everyone allowed themselves the time to take a short walk from the car to the school gates. **Please allow yourself the few extra minutes it may take to park safely without obstructing home owners' driveways.**

During the week of 20th March children at all stages of the school will be working with the Community Safety team to raise awareness of safe routes to school and promote positive attitudes to car travel, safe parking and safe walking routes to school. Please help us with this work considering walking to school when possible, parking responsibly when it is necessary to park and help us to make sure everyone can travel to school and work safely.

WORD BOOK DAY

The whole school enjoyed world book day last week and everyone took part in the "where's Wally" hunt for Waldo keeping us all busy. We are very grateful to Mrs Martin and the Captains of Bute House for organising this and delighted to announce that Abby Richardson collected the most and receives a book token. The winning class was Primary 6a (Mrs Chatham's) and they will receive the small treat of an extra playtime.

Diary Dates

8th March:
New entrant Parents' meeting at 6.30pm

8th March: P3 visiting Stirling Castle

8th March - P7 Athletics Final at the Emirates Arena

9th March:
P2 visiting Summerlee Museum

16th March:
P4s visiting Bannockburn
P6a visiting GMRC for Rainforest project.

22nd March:
P3/2 visiting Stirling Castle

22nd March
P7 event at Bannerman High

24th March:
Comic Relief wear something red day

28th March: Easter Services
P1-3 11am and P4-7 1.30pm

29th March: P6 and P7 pupils leave for Lochgoilhead

31st March:
School closes at 2.30pm for Easter break

Tuesday 18th April:
School re-opens

ATHELTICS & RUNNING UPDATE



Congratulations to our P7 athletics team who were invited to represent Glasgow at the West of Scotland finals last month. Our team gave a terrific effort and were placed 9th overall against some very tough competition, we are extremely proud of them.

On 24th February our cross country team, made up of children from P5 and P6, took part in the Glasgow cross country running championship. The children were challenged to run a mile cross country course in their fastest time. The competition involves hundreds of children from around the city and Garrowhill were very proud of our pupils. P5 boys team were 5th overall and P5 girls team were 9th overall. Well done!!

PRIMARY 6 AND 7 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO LOCHGOILHEAD

Many of our pupils in P6 and P7 will be attending our annual residential trip at the end of the month. This year we have a change of venue and will be visiting the outdoor centre in Lochgoilhead. Children and accompanying staff will set off at 9.30am on the morning of 29th March and return on Friday 31st at 3.30pm.

We wish them a very enjoyable and action packed few days.

EASTER SERVICES

This year our Easter services take place on Tuesday 28th March.

Primary 5 pupils in Mrs Dalrymple's and Mrs Bryce's class will present our services this year. The morning service for P1-3 classes takes place at 11am. The service for P4-7 classes will be at 1.30pm.

Parents/carers are welcome to attend.

EASTER HOLIDAY AND SPRING BREAK

The school will close on Friday 31st March at 2.30 p.m. for the two week spring break and re-opens on Tuesday 18th April.

Easter Monday is the last day of the holiday on Monday 17th April.

HOME LEARNING SURVEY

Thank you to everyone who completed our recent survey on the impact of home learning. The outcome and any change or next steps will be issued in a separate letter before the Easter break

P1 AUGUST INTAKE MEETING

Enrolment for those children starting school in August 2017 is now complete. Parents/carers of children living in our catchment area are invited to attend an early information evening on 8th March at 6.30pm. Children should not attend this meeting.

For families who have submitted a placing request to the school, decisions will not be made on those applications until April 2017. As soon as those places have been confirmed an invitation will be sent to parents/carers to attend a similar information evening in early May.

INFORMATION UPDATE

It is vital that you help keep our records up to date by informing us **immediately** of any change in address and/or emergency contact details. We need to have accurate contact details should we require to call you in the event of an emergency.

LOST PROPERTY

Every day staff collect clothing and lunch boxes and store them in the lost property box which sits in our assembly hall. All children have the chance to check this box. Please ensure you put your child's name on school clothing and other personal property such as shoes and lunch boxes.

COMIC RELIEF 2017

Comic Relief takes place this year on Friday 24th March. Children are being asked to wear something red on the day. This can be worn with school uniform or can replace school uniform, this is entirely up to you. Mrs Vickers and Iona House are organising the sale of Red Nose Day biscuits at a cost of 50p with all proceeds going to the charity.

HEAD LICE



From time to time, outbreaks of head lice infestation occur in school. Head lice are easily passed from one person to another. I would urge parents to check their children's hair on a weekly basis using the wet combing/bug busting method. Your local pharmacist will be happy to provide you with guidance regarding current treatments available.



PUPIL EQUITY FUND

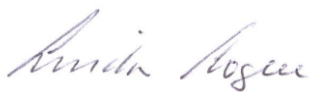
As you know, the government has outlined plans give additional funding to schools as part of its commitment to closing the poverty attainment gap and improve outcomes for children.

Our school parliament and parent focus group along with staff have considered how we should use these funds and used our on-going self-evaluation evidence to identify the areas we need to target.

We are in the process of drafting our plan which will outline our intention to invest in staff development and additional resources to improve literacy, technology and digital learning. Part of our funding will also be used to secure some additional staffing.

Exact details of our action plans for next session will be issued to all parents in the summer term.

Yours sincerely,



Linda Logue
Head Teacher