

Auchenblae School Newsletter

30th March 2017



We have had another busy and eventful term and I can't quite believe it is Easter time already! This term's highlights include:

Burns Poetry: It was another successful year celebrating Scots and Burns poetry and language. It has been suggested we update this competition by including Scots songs and short stories. Also, we should think about showcasing the final performances to the community. Certainly food for thought.

World Book Day: P4/5 organised a fantastic World Book Day including an assembly. The children really enjoyed dressing as their favourite character and Jill Reid from Mearns Library offered a prize for the best costume. She also helped the P4/5 to run an interesting workshop on picture books. Please support our local library.

Comic Relief: P3/4 organised a fun day for the whole school. Their assembly highlighted the important work Comic Relief supports around the world and in the UK and why we should support this great charity. We raised £243.63

Travelling Gallery: The children really enjoyed the chance to experience abstract art and it was great to hear how open minded and creative the children were in their discussions. I would definitely have the gallery back next year.

Quizzes: This term, we took part in the Euroquiz, the Rotary Quiz and Aberdeen University Maths challenge. The pupils represented the school superbly - showing great teamwork, determination and having lots of fun.

Trips out: P1 enjoyed a trip to Montrose Basin to explore the rich diversity of wildlife to be found there. It is a great place to visit at the weekend and over the holidays.

Partnerships: P7 continue to work with Dave Ramsay on the James Taylor project. P1 have had a visit from the Countryside Ranger. Nursery had a visit from a local artist and have made good use of the mobile library.

Nursery News

Can I please remind parents that pick up is at 12o'clock. I am sure you can appreciate we need time to set up for the pm nursery.

Parents have been parking in the school car park – can we remind you, unless you have permission from Mr Forrester, please park on the road outside of school.

This term we have looked at Spring on the farm. We have been for walks, to look for and take photos of signs of Spring.

We met our P6 buddies and have been to the Den to get to know each other.

We had a visit from Sheila Moir, a local artist, who came into to work with the children.

Dates for the Diary Term 4

18 th April	First day of term 4
20 th April	Parent Council Meeting
20 th April	Badminton Festival
25 th April	P4 swimming starts
26 th April	Cross country race at Mineralwell Park
1 st May	School Closed
24 th May	Cross country race at Luthermuir
5 th – 9 th June	Health week
19 th – 21 st June	P7 Visit to Mearns Academy
30 th June	Last day of term



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School Improvement Plan Update

Theme 1: Embed Curriculum pathways across Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing:

Following guidance documents from Education Scotland, we have been reshaping our own curriculum and we hope to share these with parents in the coming term.

Theme 2: Aims and Values

Thank you to all who engaged with our school aims. Pupil Council are in the process of writing these into a final draft and thinking about how to present them.

Theme 3: Partnerships

We continue to develop a range of partnerships including the Howe O' the Mearns Pipe band, the Ranger service and the library service. We hope to further develop links within the local community.

We have hosted two consultations with parents focussing on school communication and will be introducing a few changes in term 4. The results of these consultation will be added to the School website soon.

Parent Council

Parent Council are on the lookout for a new chairperson next year. If you are interested in this role and want to find out more, please don't hesitate to chat to Mr Forrester or Paula Harris. It is a great opportunity to get involved in school life and make a real difference to the whole school community.

Spring has sprung! The ECO group have been doing some fantastic work on the planters at the front of the school. A huge thank you to Ara, Zoe and Mark for organising the planters and plants - they look great!

Sally Stott has stepped down as swimming organiser. After a two year commitment we would like to say a HUGE thank you for your hard work and dedication. Taking over from Sally we have Jenny Hall along with a fab team of parents Louise M, Lorna E, Kirsty C and Alyson T. Kimberly S is the invoice /payment helper.

Football will return outside after the Easter Break: Thursday P1-P3. 16:30 to 17:30 P4-P7. 17:30 to 18:30

Netball is always on the lookout for new players. New bibs and balls have just allocated to our fantastic team.

A massive thank you to all who have bought tickets for Family Bingo Night, bought raffle squares and donated some fantastic prizes. This event supports the school and friends of Anchor.

The next PC meeting is to be held on Thursday 20th April 3:30pm

FREE EYE EXAMINATIONS

All children in Scotland are entitled to an annual free eye examination by a qualified Optometrist (Optician). These examinations are really important for checking the health of your children's eyes and for making sure that children get any help they may need to make the most of their vision.

Sometimes children do not notice that one eye cannot see as well as the other and an eye examination can check to see if your child has any squints or 'lazy eyes' or if they need glasses. Vision can change over time so it is important to have checks regularly to see if there has been any change.

The Optician will give a prescription for glasses for your child if they need it. There is no obligation to buy glasses from the same Optician. Your child is entitled to an NHS optical voucher to help cover the cost of glasses. If the glasses you choose costs more than the voucher, you will have to pay the difference. The Optician will explain this in more detail. We would encourage all parents to take their children to any high street Optician for regular eye examinations whether or not they think they may need glasses.



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