



Dunbar Primary School October 2016 Newsletter



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Dear Parents

We have had a really busy and enjoyable term with lots going on including; the launch of 'Dunbar Unplugs and Reads', rehearsals for the P6 Opera, Harvest Assemblies, P7 camp and so much more. I hope none of our pupils are coming home and answering 'nothing' when you ask them what they have been doing!

Au Revoir

We are waving goodbye to Mrs Scott on the last day of this term who has worked at Dunbar Primary School since 2003; she is going off to look after her grandson. She has been a stalwart of our school and she will be missed by staff and pupils. Mrs Veitch and Mrs Williamson are both starting their maternity leave as from this Friday and we wish them both well and look forward to hearing the news of their new-borns sometime in November. Mrs McVitie will be taking over P6A until June 2017 and Mrs Weddell will be job-sharing with Mrs Lees in P4E until June 2017.

Harvest Festival

Thank you to all parents and pupils who brought in food donations for Dunbar Food Bank as part of our Harvest Festival celebrations at John Muir and Lochend Campuses, we raised a fantastic amount of food for the local community.

Childhood Cancer, Brainwave and Macmillan Cancer Day

Friday 30th September saw everyone in school dressed down and up in all sorts of costumes. We want to thank everyone who sent in home baking and brought in donations to raise money for three charities close to our hearts. We raised a wonderful amount of £1712.48.. The staff also held their annual Macmillan coffee morning at both campus staffrooms and raised £206 and Isla Douglas (P4E pupil) raised an impressive £420 by having a bake sale at home.

Halloween Disco - Thursday 27th October at John Muir Campus

Reminder that there is a P1 and P2 spooky disco (5.30 to 6.15) and P3 and P4 spooky disco (6.30 to 7.30). Please pay at the door, cost £1.50. All pupils must be collected from the hall by an adult - please do not arrange for your child to meet you at Hallhill or the carpark at the Bleachingfield, **they must be collected**. If you can help on the night, especially for the P3/P4 session we would really appreciate it.

Dunbar Christmas Lights Fundraiser - Friday 28th October

We are always keen to support community events and charities and we have been approached by the Dunbar Christmas Lights committee to hold a dress down day to raise money for the fantastic lights display that goes up in the town centre every year. Pupils can come wearing anything they want and bring a donation on Friday 28th October. They are also holding a competition for pupils to create a new design to be hung up this year - details to follow.

Tag Rugby

Congratulation to the Primary 7 boys tag rugby team who won the Regional Trophy at Meadowmill, the team was: Ben Salkeld, Ethan Wilson, Hamish Nicolson, Jamie Nicolson, Daniel Martin, George Readman, Gregor Goldie, Daniel Hall and Morgan Laird.

Snack for Break

Please could you ensure your child only brings one piece of snack or 20p for snack trolley. Thank you.

School Photographs

This session we tried a different way of getting school photographs taken - all individuals were taken during school time and sibling photographs were taken at John Muir after school. We would really like your feedback as to how this went - there will be a comments box available on Parents night at each campus so please let us know your thoughts and if you have any suggestions.

'You said - we listened' - Numeracy Update

Thank you to the 75 people who completed and returned the numeracy questionnaires we sent out at 'Meet the Teacher'. We are in the process of organising workshops for parents in January where we hope to meet the requests for games sessions, how we teach + x - /, help with tables, problem solving mental strategies and much more. This will be an evening event 6pm - 7pm (more details to follow). You also requested more information about what pupils are currently learning in class and teachers will be providing an overview in their termly Newsletter of what the stage will be working on in maths/numeracy each term. It will also suggest ways in which you can help and websites or activities that will support the school learning.

Bikeability

Please can I say a big 'thank you' to the parent volunteers and staff who have worked so hard in all weathers over the past 6 weeks to ensure that Primary 6 and Primary 7 received their Bikeability training. I also want to congratulate the pupils themselves for their hard work and efforts and great listening skills. The training has given them grounding on riding on real roads and the safety aspects they need to consider. However, we would ask that you support your son/daughter in getting more experience of cycling on the roads over the next few weeks so that they can develop their skills and confidence.

School Calendars available at Parents' Nights

School calendars will be on sale (£3.50 each or 3 for £10) and the book the pupils have written about John Muir will be available to purchase - a bargain at £5 (if this book is purchased through the school all money raised will be banked in the school fund).

Uniform

We will be holding our termly uniform check once pupils come back from half-term. Please can I ask that parents ensure that pupils are wearing the correct colours and garments. We have a policy that clearly states no jeans, no shorts (girls), no hoodies and that our colours are grey, black and red. Please can we ask that pupils come to school every day with a jacket with a hood or a hat as we are keen to ensure pupils can go outside even in light rain and drizzle for their break times, and they will need it for walking across to see their buddy class.

P7 Camp

The P7 year group were out of school last week visiting Dounans Centre, Aberfoyle for their annual camp experience. I really enjoyed seeing them on Monday night and at their activities on Tuesday; they were a very happy and supportive group of youngsters who were a credit to the school and to you their parents and carers. You can see lots of photos and videos on our twitter page (@DunbarPrimary) and the P7 blog (www.edubuzz.org/p7learningblog). I am delighted to say that we received very positive feedback from the tutors at Dounans! They were extremely impressed with our P7 year group who were polite, enthusiastic and always willing to challenge themselves. We also received a lovely e-mail from Eves Coaches to let us know how tidy the P7s were on the way to and from camp, making sure they left the bus spotless. I would like to pass on my thanks to the teachers, support staff and volunteers who gave up their time to make this transition event happen.

Flu Delivery Programme - Community Vaccination Team

This will be on Wednesday 26th October for pupils at Lochend Campus and John Muir Campus whose parents have returned the form. As the vaccines have been ordered in advance there is no opportunity for pupils to be done on the day.

Comics

If you have any comics (in good condition) that you would be willing to donate to the school for Dunbar Unplugs & Reads please hand into either campus.

School finishes for the October half-term on Friday 14th October at the usual time. **We look forward to seeing pupils again on Tuesday 25th October at 8.45am.**

Helen Gillanders