



Elphinstone Primary—Community Newsletter January 2015

- Happy New Year
- Message from Head teacher
- Important dates
- Communication
- Emergency Contacts
- Unwanted jigsaws/Board Games
- Scottish Afternoon
- Parent Council News
- Community News

Important Dates

19 Jan Homework Club continues on Mondays if sufficient numbers

22 Jan- Hockey club every Thursday until further notice

22 Jan 9.00-9.30 P3-5 Bake Sale

28 Jan Class Photos

29 Jan 2-3 p.m. Scottish Afternoon Parents/carers are welcome to come along

16-20 Feb HOLIDAYS

Happy New Year

Dear Families,

In this bitter winter weather I bid you a warm 'Happy New Year'.

The next 6 months are busy ones from an academic perspective as well as extra curricular activities. Raising attainment is what we set out to do daily. We endeavour to create an ethos of achievement in all we do at Elphinstone Primary School. By 'we' I mean parents and staff alike. Together we must be ambitious for our children/pupils, encouraging them not only to try their best but to keep on doing so. Henry Ford said, 'Even a mistake may turn out to be the one thing necessary to a worthwhile achievement.' 2015 is a great way to start this journey together!

We welcome Leanne Campbell to our staff as our new Playground Supervisor. My thanks go to the rest of the staff for covering this vacancy since November.

*Best Wishes
Heather*

Communication

Please check Message Bags daily.

There are often important letters with time constraints.

Thank you!

Heather

Congratulations!

Well done to Ryan Hill who was the winner of the prize for reading the December 2014 newsletter and returning the slip.

Will it be your child this time?



Emergency Contact Numbers

Please keep the school informed of any changes to all emergency numbers.

This is particularly important with our text messaging system.



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Unwanted Jigsaws/Board Games

Are you looking for a new home for any jigsaws or Board Games (in excellent and complete condition) your children no longer play with at home?

Then the school would like to use them so long as ALL the pieces are there!!!

Please hand any items into the school office.
Thank you



Come along and enjoy our

Scottish

Afternoon

Thursday 29 January 2015

2-3 p.m.

in the school hall



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FROM THE PARENT COUNCIL...

January Update

Wishing you all the best for a prosperous 2015!! I hope the festive period was full of fun and like me you are now trying to settle back down into a routine... It was great to see so many parents / carers come to the Parent Council meeting this week and I take pleasure in sharing with you some of the discussion from the group...

Discussion Topics

Transport / Road Safety – the council have agreed to repaint the yellow lines in the area and the police have been looking at road safety outside the school. It is not possible to have a pelican crossing due to the traffic lights further down the street. A traffic survey is also to be carried out which may lead to further action.

Events – Unfortunately we have not left enough time to organise the Burns Supper. As an alternative our attention will focus to an end of term family disco ahead of the Easter Break. We also will plan for a family end of term BBQ/picnic for June. More details to follow. If you would like to help arrange either of these please drop me a line...

Catering – With the change to free school meals for P1-3 coming in there were questions asked at East Lothian level around catering. The new menu has seen choice limited and so I would like you to ask your children their thoughts on the menu so that I can feedback. Any views to be sent into school in the message bags. It is also suggested that we organise a tasting session of dishes on the menu which may help some of the more fussy eaters to widen their choices.

Social Media – Just a reminder if you are a social media user please check out the Elphinstone Village page: <https://www.facebook.com/ElphinstoneVillage> or on twitter: <https://twitter.com/ElphinstoneInfo>

Dates

Here are the rest of the meeting dates for the Parent Council through to the summer:

Tuesday 3rd March 5.30-6.30

Thursday 23rd April 5.30-6.30

Wednesday 17th June 5.30-6.30

Please come along if you can and childcare will be provided...



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News
from
other
groups
in
Our
Com-
munity

Community News

Happy New Year to all!

Youth club restarts for 2015 on Thursday 15th January. This term some young people are focussing on activities related to the Children's University passports. A trip is also being considered.

Highland dance is coming to Elphinstone! Fiona Matheson is running a class on a Monday evening from 6-7pm and from February a second class is planned from 5-6pm. Should you want more information contact Fiona Matheson Highland Dance on Facebook or 07428 795768

Tenants and Residents Association • This is now moving along well and the next meeting is 24th February at 7pm in the Community Centre where the group are planning an official launch open evening meeting on 31st March. This group is keen to attract more tenants so if you want your say come along.

PEEP baby will recommence after the February break due to work commitments.

An open morning is being held in Macmerry Village Hall on Saturday 24th January 10-1 to look at toddler groups and support community learning and development can offer. Please come along and join in with crafts and singing!

Are you looking at returning to work or learning? A new, free, six week course starts with crèche at Sanderson's Wynd soon. An open morning is planned on 22nd January 9-12 drop in and find out what's involved.

Playgroup News

Hi All

We hope everyone had a fantastic Christmas and are refreshed and ready for the New year. We said farewell and good luck to a few of our children at Christmas time and hope they are settling in to nursery life. We have lots of new children starting with us over the next couple of months. This may mean some extra parent duty as we will not have a full quota of parents, so please help where you can.

We will be holding our AGM in January, details to follow.

Snack will be Burns related the last week in January.

Thanks, Kirsten