



# PENCAITLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



*Healthy – Active – Happy*

**August/September 2010**

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## **Dear Parents and Carers**

Hope you had a great holiday and are ready for another busy year at Pencaitland Primary School. We have had major works carried out in the building over the holiday and were very busy up to the last minute getting everything ready. Thanks to all staff for their hard work and patience.

I'd like to welcome our new pupils in the new P1 class and Jarron in P7 and to say welcome back to Iona, Duncan and Colin Riley. I'd also like to welcome some new members of staff – Miss Smith in P1, Miss Carmody in P5/6 and Mrs Galloway who will be our new playground supervisor. We hope everyone will settle quickly and enjoy being part of our school community.

Ms Bartlett our support for Learning Teacher is relocating to England. She will be sorely missed at Pencaitland and I'd like to thank her for all the support she has given to pupils, staff and parents over the last nine years. I will be advertising this post on a temporary basis and will keep you informed of any development on this and also the Depute Head Teacher post. The school will be operating without a depute for the first part of the year and that means I will be covering duties that Mrs McBean carried out. I would appreciate your support in this time of reduced management and plan to block off time to deal with parental issues. I will be available most Monday afternoons from 1.30 – 3.30 pm or Friday mornings 11.00 am – 12.15 pm. If you need to speak to me, please phone the school office to make an appointment. Thank you for your cooperation.

For this session we plan to embed the outcomes and experiences of Curriculum for Excellence within our teaching and learning programmes and our priorities are: Science, Expressive Arts, Assessment and moderation, Pupil Voice, Being Cool in School and Links in the Local Community.

Copies of the school improvement plan are available in the office if you would like one. I will be sending you a Standards and Quality Report for Session 2009-2010 in September.

Best wishes

Mary McCall  
Head Teacher

## WELCOME EVENING

We are planning to hold a Welcome Evening for parents on Thursday 16 September where parents can meet the teachers and find out about the coming year. Teachers will do two presentations over the evening to allow parents with more than one child to attend. The times are as follows:

Nursery	6.30 – 7.00 and 7.30 – 8.00 pm	P5/6	7.00 – 7.30 and 7.30 – 8.00 pm
P1	7.00 – 7.30 and 8.00 – 8.30 pm	P6	6.30 – 7.00 and 8.00 – 8.30 pm
P2	7.00 – 7.30 and 7.30 – 8.00 pm	P7	7.00 – 7.30 and 8.00 – 8.30 pm
P2/3	6.30 – 7.00 and 7.00 – 7.30 pm		
P3/4	7.30 – 8.00 and 8.00 – 8.30 pm		
P4/5	6.30 – 7.00 and 7.30 – 8.00 pm		

The Welcome Evening will replace the Open Evening, which happened in May. We feel it allows greater partnership with parents right from the start of the year and will help communication between home and school. I hope you will be able to make it and look forward to seeing you on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

### DOGS IN THE PLAYGROUND

Dogs should not be brought into the school grounds. We have pupils who have allergies and others who are scared of dogs. If you are tying your dog up could you ensure that it is not on the school railings where pupils have to pass them to exit. Thank you for your cooperation.

### TUCK SHOP

Please support the school tuck shop. Fruit and other healthy snacks are available at morning break (details on the blog). As a healthy promoting school we want to encourage healthy eating as part of lifestyle choices.

### CLOTHING

Pupils should have a jacket/cagoule with them at school since the weather is so unpredictable. We aim to have pupils outdoor at breaks unless it is very wet and teachers use the school grounds as a resource as well. Please ensure your child's clothing has his/her name on each item. This makes it easier when dealing with lost property.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thur 26 Aug	Camp Meeting for P7- 6.00 pm
Mon 30 Aug	P1 pupils attend for the whole day 3.05 finish. P1 photo (Courier) Parent Council Meeting 7.30 pm
Thur 2 Sep	Judo demonstration for P1-P4 pupils
Mon 6 Sep – Fri 10 Sep	P7 School Camp at Hexham
Mon 13 Sep	Karate sessions for Primary 1 and Primary 2 classes.
Thur 16 Sep	Basketball training for P5
Fri 17 Sep	PHAT Friday – launch of our new houses.
Mon 20 Sep	Holiday

Please note – at the end of June an extra in-service day was added to the session dates (Tuesday 26 October). An updated holiday list has been posted on the blog or can be collected from the school office.