



# LASSWADE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Living it, Learning it, Loving it ..... Lasswade  
20<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Website: [lasswade@mgfl.net](mailto:lasswade@mgfl.net)

Twitter: @lasswadepts

Welcome back after the October break. I hope you and your family all had a lovely time. I thought it would be a good idea to write a short 'welcome back' newsletter as so much has been happening here at Lasswade.

During our October In-service Day staff at school undertook their Fire Warden Training. This was a very informative session which was led by Stephen Murray from the Council. We then reflected on our Visible Learning journey so far, identifying where we are as a school, our next steps and how we are going to get there. Staff also participated in professional reading and shared the main points with their colleagues. This term we are going to be developing our knowledge and understanding of Learning Powers. Each week at Citizenship Gathering the children will be introduced to a different Learning Superhero and this will be the learning power we are focusing on and developing. Further information can be found in the Visible Learning booklet which we sent home last term. The booklet can also be found on our website and regular up-dates will be given on our Twitter feed.

Everyone at Lasswade Primary School was delighted by our recent mention in TESS (Teaching Education Supplement: Scotland). There was an article about the benefits of using Twitter and we are in the Top 10 schools across Scotland for the number of followers we have, over 1000. We are the only school in Midlothian to feature in the Top 10 and are very proud of our achievements. Thanks to everyone who follows us and thanks to all staff who contribute on a regular basis - we couldn't do it without you. If you don't already follow us then give it a go or if you have extended family members who don't follow us then please encourage them to do so.

Just before the October break our Nursery team had an announced visit from the Care Inspectorate. Isobel Reilly spoke to staff, some parents and our children about their Nursery experience. Our initial feedback has been very positive and I would like to thank everyone on our Nursery team for all of their hard work and effort. I look forward to sharing our final report with you once it has been published.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Mrs Katie Watters who has joined our team. Mrs Watters will be working with P7Y and I'm sure you will all make her feel very welcome. Ms Morrow will now return to her substantive post of Support for Learning.

I am also delighted to announce that our Depute Head Teacher posts have been advertised. The Council has been busy job sizing these positions, due to our increasing school roll, and we will now have 2 DHTs moving forward. The closing date for both positions is Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October. I will keep you up-dated regarding interviews and about the successful candidates.

Best wishes

Louise Donaldson, Acting Head Teacher



## WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

This week is Walk to School Week during which we encourage children to walk, cycle or scooter to school rather than coming by car. If you must come by car, we would encourage you to drop your child off a little bit further away than usual so that they walk part of the distance therefore, keeping the area around our school safer. We would also appreciate it if you could encourage your child to mount/dismount from their bike or scooter at the school gate. This way we can keep all of our pupils and grown-ups safe in the playground.



## PARENT CONSULTATION AND BOOK FAIR

You will already have received a letter with your 10 minute appointment time for our Parent Consultations on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> or Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November. If the time you have been given is not suitable then please telephone the school office to arrange an alternative appointment. We would ask you to try hard to keep to the 10 minute slot as teachers have lots of parents to see, many of whom have more than one appointment and it becomes tricky if anyone runs over time. If you feel you need longer to discuss your child's progress, the teacher will be happy to meet with you at a separate, mutually convenient time. We look forward to seeing everyone then.

As usual our Book Fair will be in school during the week of our Parent Consultations. Each class will get a time for browsing and a time for buying at the Book Fair, as well as parents being able to browse and buy when they come in to see their child's teacher. All of the commission that we make stays in schools and helps us to purchase new books for our library and reading sets.



## PARENT COUNCIL

Our Parent Council held its' AGM on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you to all of our parents who came along to support this event. Ann Morrison, chair of the Parent Council, shared with parents the work which they had undertaken over the last year and the different ways in which they had supported the school. I shared with our parents our school's progress and achievements over the last session and our priorities for this session. Our School Improvement Plan and Standards and Qualities Report will be available shortly from our school website. Our P1 and P2 pupils also entertained us with their fantastic singing. Thanks to them all for coming along on the night. Our newly elected Parent Council is as follows: Ann Morrison (Chair), Ian Gosman (Vice-Chair), Steve Clark (Treasurer) and Sharon Connelly (Secretary). The Parent Council meets between 6-8 times a year at 6:45pm until 8:15pm approx. Why don't you come along to our next meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November in the staff room?

Thank you also to our parents who came along to our first Coffee Morning of the session. We are hoping to make this a regular occurrence.

Our next Parent Council event is our popular Autumn Disco on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Tickets are still available. Please send any money in an envelope clearly labelled to the school office.

## THANK YOU...

Thank you to all of our P2 families who attended our P2 Harvest Assembly just before the end of term. They were treated to a fantastic Assembly where the children shared with us all of the jobs a farmer needs to undertake not only at this time of year but all year long. The children entertained us with their wonderful singing and we are very proud of each and every one of them. A big thank you to Miss Lenaghan and Miss Hadden for all of their hard work and effort too.

Thank you also to all of our families who donated tins of food to our Harvest Assembly. We were overwhelmed by everyone's generosity. All of our donations were given to The Trussell Trust Foodbank at Gorebridge who help families in need across Midlothian.

## NUT AWARE SCHOOL



Please be aware that several children in our school have nut allergies. We would ask you be vigilant about the products which you are sending to school for your child's snack and lunch. Further information can be found on our website and Twitter feed.

## HEADLICE

There have been a few cases of head lice reported to us by parents. We do not send letters home when this happens, but we would ask parents to be vigilant and check their child's hair regularly. There is further advice on our school website and also on [www.chc.org/bugbusting](http://www.chc.org/bugbusting).

## ASSEMBLIES



Our P5 Assembly will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 9:30am in the Large Hall. All family and friends are welcome to attend this event. It will be lovely to see you there.

To find out when your child's class is presenting their assembly, please visit our website.

## CALENDARS



This year the Parent Council have once again organised the sale of calendars. A huge thank you - once again! - to Mr Watt who took the photographs just before the October break. The class calendars will be available to view at our Parent Consultations and orders will be taken then. The cost is £2 per calendar or 3 for £5.

## FLU VACCINATIONS



On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October health professionals from NHS Lothian will be in school to give pupils from P1-P7 their flu vaccination.

## OUTDOOR CLOTHING



As the weather is becoming cooler, could I please ask that all of our pupils come to school with a warm jacket for playing outside at break and lunch times. Many thanks!

## CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS



We are always keen to share and celebrate our children's achievements outside of school. We do this on a daily basis through our Twitter feed and also at our Citizenship Gatherings. If your child has celebrated an achievement, no matter how big or small, then please e-mail the school at [Lasswade\\_ps@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Lasswade_ps@midlothian.gov.uk) or complete the slip below and hand it in to your child's teacher. We look forward to hearing about all of their successes.

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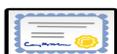
### CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Child's Name:

Class:

Details of achievement:

## CONGRATULATIONS TO...



- Our P4 and P5 Cross Country runners who represented our school at the recent Cross Country event in the grounds of Beeslack High School in Penicuik. We came 1<sup>st</sup> overall with a time of 38 mins and 37 secs. In 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Roslin Primary School and in third place was Cuiken Primary School. Well done to everyone who participated and persevered. We are very proud of your achievements.
- Joyce, our Dinner Hall Supervisor who has undertaken her training to become part of the Midlothian Crossing Patrol team. What a Successful Learner.
- P5Y who helped Dalkeith Rotary Club to plant lots and lots of bulbs in the Community Hospital's garden. You are all Responsible Citizens.
- Poppy who gained a silver Blue Peter badge for the letter she wrote to them explaining to them how she created a Morph character. What an Effective Contributor.
- Successful Learner, Nathan in P5 who gained his yellow belt in Judo.
- Confident Individual Calum in P2Y who achieved his pre-school level 2 award for swimming.
- Ellis in P4Y who has worked so hard with her theatre competitions for dance this year. She has gained a 1<sup>st</sup> place in tap, ballet, modern, national and character. Elis won the trophy overall for her section. Well done!
- Responsible Citizen Levi in P4X. He spent several hours enthusiastically helping to set up an art project at Waverly Station in Edinburgh.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



19<sup>th</sup> October School returns

23<sup>rd</sup> October P5 Assembly at 9.30am in the Large Hall

27<sup>th</sup> October Nursery Dalkeith Country Walk - a separate letter has been issued about arrangements

28<sup>th</sup> October Flu Vaccinations

28<sup>th</sup> October Autumn Discos P1-3 6pm-7pm

P4-7 7.30pm-8.30pm

29<sup>th</sup> October Outdoor PE begins: more information to follow

3<sup>rd</sup> November Nursery Cake Sale in the Small Hall from 10.15-11.15am and 2.15-3.15pm

3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November Parent Consultations

9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> November P6 at Robinwood Camp