



LASSWADE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Living it, Learning it, Loving it Lasswade
2nd November 2015

Website: lasswade@mgfl.net

Twitter: @lasswadeps

The next few months are always one of the busiest terms of the school year, with many exciting activities ahead. I have included a list of all the events which are happening in the lead up to Christmas and I hope you will find this helpful.

We look forward to welcoming our families to Parent Consultations this week. If you are unable to attend then please contact the School Office to make an alternative appointment. Our popular Book Fair will once again be open during Parent Consultations so please stop by to have a look. Some of our P6 pupils will also be in the Large Hall collecting evidence about our Visible Learning Journey.

Mrs Stevenson and I have very much enjoyed visiting classes last week to observe Numeracy lessons across the school. The children were all very engaged and motivated. They spoke confidently about what they are learning and how are they learning.

And finally congratulations to Mrs Paul who has been successful in gaining a permanent class teacher's post at Lawfield Primary School. Mrs Paul has worked at our school for 15 years and we wish her every success in her new adventure. Mrs Paul will remain with us until a successful candidate has been appointed.

Best wishes

Louise Donaldson, Acting Head Teacher

P6 CAMP

P6 are getting very excited about their forthcoming residential trip to Robinwood in Cumbria from Monday 9th - Wednesday 11th November. During their stay at Robinwood the children and staff will participate in a variety of outdoor activities and they will develop their skills in working together, problem solving, effective communication and perseverance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Stevenson, Miss Binnie, Miss Callender, Mrs Briggs, Miss Lenaghan and Mrs Stewart for accompanying the children and also for giving up their own time to attend. I would also like to thank Mrs Copland and Mrs McIntyre for working extra hours during this week. I'm certain that everyone will have a wonderful time and we look forward to hearing all about your visit during your Assembly on 27.11.15 at 9.30am, to which all P6 parents and friends are welcome. Remember to follow us on Twitter @lasswadeps to keep up-to-date with our campers adventures!

AUTUMN DISCOS



Many thanks to the Parent Council for organising and running our Autumn Discos. It was great to see so many of our pupils attending this fun event. Everyone had a super time and the costumes were amazing. Winners of our fancy dress competition were:

P1 Heidi McConnell P3 Megan Richards P5 Connie Brown P7 Neve Wringe
P2 Mia Johnston P4 Lucy Rafferty P6 Lucy Bowe

We raised £509.37 so a HUGE thank you to everyone who came along to support this event.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK



Thanks to everyone who walked, cycled or came to school by scooter during Walk to School Week. Our JRSOs were really pleased that so many families left either their car at home or parked it sensibly a little bit further away from the school gate. We would encourage everyone to be responsible and considerate throughout the year, when driving to/from school and when parking in the area. Please remember that our neighbours need access to their drive ways and homes. We also want to ensure that our pupils are safe at all times so please be a responsible driver.

SCHOOL DINNER MONEY



We would like to remind all of our families to ensure that if their child is having a school dinner (P4-P7) then he/she should bring £1.80 to school for their lunch. On the occasions where a child forgets their money then he/she can borrow money from the school office. We would really appreciate it if the money was returned to school the next day.

HEALTHY SNACKS



We would like to remind everyone that we are a Health Promoting School and would like to encourage our children to try to bring a healthy snack to school. We have noticed over the last few weeks that some children are bringing lollipops and hard boiled sweets to school. We would ask for your support in not sending these types of sweets to school.

We would also encourage our children to bring a water bottle to school. Lasswade Primary water bottles are still available to purchase. Please contact Mrs Stevenson if you wish to purchase one.

P1 REGISTRATION



Registration for children due to start school in August 2016 will be in the week beginning 16th November.

If you have a child who is due to start school, you will shortly hear from Midlothian Council about your child's catchment school and about further details for registration.

If your child is within our catchment area a separate letter will be issued shortly.

WORK EXPERIENCE



Throughout the session we have students and work experience pupils coming into school. Several of these students are ex Lasswade pupils and it is lovely to see them return.

Last term we had Mark Jones, Rachel Barry and Rebecca Miller.

This term we look forward to welcoming Rachel Farish PGDE to P2, Alex Moffat, Rachel McNulty and Russell Simpson.

Patricia Davis will also be gaining work experience with us throughout the year.

WINTER ARRANGEMENTS



As we are now into November and winter is just around the corner, I would just like to remind you of our procedures. If there is bad weather at the weekend and there is a question about the school being opened the procedure is to listen to Forth 1 and Radio Scotland for information. Midlothian website www.midlothian.gov.uk, our website and our Twitter feed will also have up-to-date information.

If there was bad weather whilst we were at school, we would contact you via text message or by phone. It is really important that all phone numbers and emergency phone numbers are up-to-date, please let us know of any changes. All children would remain in school until an adult from our contact list collected them.

If the weather is bad and the school is open we would appreciate the children coming to school as near to bell time as possible. We endeavour to let children into school early in bad weather, but this relies on staff being available in wings to cover as children cannot be left unattended.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES



We like to try and give plenty of advance notice for Christmas events. Please make sure you put these dates into diary. Some dates may have changed from the original annual calendar.

CARDS AND CALENDARS



The children have been busy designing cards in class. If you would like to purchase packs of cards then the cost per pack is £5 for 12. Please return the slip, which has already been issued, along with the artwork and payment in an envelope to school no later than 6th November. The packs of cards will be issued to you by Friday 27th November. Our popular calendars will be on show at our Parent Consultations and are available to order on the night. An order form will also be issued this week.

THEATRE VISITS



Our Nursery children will be entertained by Chaplain Panto who will be visiting our school on **MONDAY 30th NOVEMBER** at 9:30am to perform Jack and the Beanstalk. A separate letter has been issued.

Our P3-P7 children will be visiting the Lyceum Theatre to see The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe on **WEDNESDAY 2nd DECEMBER**. Our P1 and P2 children will be visiting the Brunton Theatre to see Cinderella on **THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER** and **FRIDAY 4th DECEMBER** respectively (please note this is a change from the initial annual calendar). We will provide a fun size snack and the children can bring a drink - no glass bottles or cans please. All children should wear their school uniform.

We appreciate all the offers of help we get from parents to attend these outings. As seats are limited we can only take a small number of parents and appreciate this may be disappointing for some children. There are usually other opportunities throughout the year to help out or come into school - so look out for these.

CHRISTMAS SINGING



Our choir are always busy at this time of year entertaining everyone. We will be singing on **SATURDAY 28th NOVEMBER** at the switching on of the Christmas lights in Bonnyrigg, at our Christmas Fair on **SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER**, at the Community Hospital on **MONDAY 7th DECEMBER** and at our Christmas service on **WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER**. Thanks to Miss Adams, Mrs Copland and Mrs Todd who will be working with the choir this term.

CHRISTMAS FAIR



Our popular Christmas Fair will take place on **SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER** at Lasswade High School Centre from 10-12. There will be lots of your favourite stalls including cake and candy, crafts, tombola, raffle and we are hoping that Santa will even be able to put in an appearance.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Our Christmas lunch this year will be on THURSDAY 10th DECEMBER. Details will be sent out in a separate letter. Our children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper, hat or something sparkly.

CHURCH VISIT



We will visit Bonnyrigg Parish Church for our end of term service on WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER at 10am. We would really appreciate your support in helping us to walk the children to/from church. Please contact the school office if you are available to help us.

All parents and friends are welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES



Our Christmas parties will take place on the following dates and times:

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| 08.12.15 | P6 party in the afternoon |
| 09.12.15 | P5 party in the afternoon |
| 10.12.15 | P4 party in the afternoon |
| 10.12.15 | P7 party from 6:30-8pm |
| 11.12.15 | Afternoon Nursery children during the afternoon session. Parents are invited to join us from 2:45pm. |
| 15.12.15 | P3 party in the afternoon |
| 16.12.15 | Morning Nursery children during the morning session. Parents are invited to join us from 11am. |
| | P2 party in the afternoon |
| 17.12.15 | P1 party in the afternoon |

The children can bring their party clothes to school in a bag and they will be given time to get ready before the party or they can go home at lunchtime. If they are going home then please write a letter to your child's teacher informing him/her of this.

NATIVITY



Our P1 children will entertain family and friends with their Nativity performance on FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER at 9.30am. A separate letter will be issued shortly.

NURSERY CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG



The Nursery children will be entertaining their families and friends on THURSDAY 17th DECEMBER at 10.30am for our morning children and at 2.30pm for our afternoon children. We hope you can join us for this special event.

LAST DAY OF TERM

School will close on FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER at 12 noon. The morning Nursery children should be collected as usual between 11:20 and 11:40am. Please note there will be no afternoon Nursery session on FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER. Our children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper, hat or something sparkly on the last day of term.

NURSERY NEWS

AUTUMN WALK

Thanks to all of our families who joined last week on our Autumn Walk at Dalkeith Country Park. We all had a wonderful time and we were so lucky with the dry weather! Our children have also been participating in our popular welly walks around the school environment. We have been learning about Autumn and have been enjoying taking part in parachute games in the great outdoors.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING

As the weather starts to become colder and wetter, we would really appreciate it if your child could wear appropriate clothing and bring some wellies (please make sure their name is on everything as this really helps us.) We use our outdoor play area in all weathers so it is really important that your child wears old clothes as they may get muddy.

CAKE SALE

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to donate cakes and/or their time for our Cake Sale on Tuesday 3rd November. We hope you can all join us for a cuppa, cake and a blether on Tuesday at 10:15am or 2:15pm. Please enter the building via the main school entrance.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Our Parent Consultations start this week and we are looking forward to meeting with you all to discuss your child's progress and to identify their next steps in their learning. If you are unable to attend the appointment you have been given then please just let your child's Key Worker know and we will be happy to make an alternative arrangement.

JUNK WANTED

Please bring in your clean plastic and cardboard boxes for the Nursery as we are always looking for more donations so that our children can continue to create models.

NURSERY NEWS CONTINUED...

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

At the start of the newsletter you will find some really important information about our Christmas Parties and Christmas Sing-a-long. It would be wonderful if you could join us for these special occasions so please put the dates and times in to your diary now.

P3 NEWS

P3 have been very busy since we started back in August. We used the story of Horton Hears a Who and the quote "A person's a person no matter how small" to build our class charters. We enjoyed making our own Hortons and clovers.

Both of the P3s enjoyed working together on our Science materials topic "Shipwrecked!" We received messages from four people who were stranded on an island who needed our help to find the best materials to use to give them shelter, make a raft and a signal so they were seen by passing boats. We learned the best materials to use by building mini shelters, experimenting with floating and sinking and finding out which materials would be most reflective. The four people were saved all thanks to P3!

We have been enjoying the elements of Visible Learning especially the learning pit and creating our own "Beautiful Oops."

P3 are now looking forward to showcasing their learning in our up-coming assembly. The assembly focus will be Diwali which plays a big part in our festivals of light topic. We will be learning about how people from different religions use light in special religious ceremonies.



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 or complete the slip below and hand it in to your child's teacher. We look forward to hearing about all of their successes.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Child's Name:

Class:

Details of achievement:

CONGRATULATIONS TO...



- Eilidh in P5X who has moved from lane 6 into the senior session at her swimming club, the Musselburgh Marlins. What a Successful Learner!
- Aine in P5Y who has moved up 2 lanes, from lane 2 to lane 4 at her swimming club, the Musselburgh Marlins. Well done Aine!
- Emily in P5Y who has completed her bronze diving award. She did a fantastic back fall from the 3m board at The Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh. Emily is now working hard towards her silver award. A great achievement.
- Liam and David in P7 who represented our school at a recent Digital Services review at Lasswade High School. You are both very Effective Contributors.
- All of our P5 pupils who shared their Friendship Assembly with their families and the rest of the school. We are very proud of you all. Each and every one of you is a Confident Individual.
- Leah in P3Y and her mum who won golden tickets for the first train ride on the Borders Railway line. Leah was awarded this special prize as she was a Responsible Citizen for helping to look after her mum.
- Lucy in P5X who won a gold medal for diving in Scottish levels competition. She has also been selected to be part of the team in the Scottish National Championships for Edinburgh Synchronised Swimming Club. Well done Lucy!
- All of P1 who shared their learning about Toys with their parents at their Toy Showcase. You are all Effective Contributors.
- Everyone who donated Rag Bags for our recent collection. We raised £49.60 and our Eco Committee already have plans to use the money to purchase bins for recycling more of our litter in the Lunch Hall.
- Lexi in P1X who has successfully completed level 7 of trampolining. A very Successful Learner.
- Kara in P1X for achieving Level 1 in trampolining. A Confident Individual.
- Lyn Hill and our whole school community who has been involved in our Wildlife Garden. We have received a Certificate of Achievement, Level One from RHS Schools Gardening Awards. Well done everyone!
- Tom in P6Y for his recent judo success. You are a very Successful Learner.
- Rory Gairn in P6X who played for Lasswade Thistle against Falkirk FC at Falkirk Stadium. You are a Confident Individual.
- All of our pupils and staff who were highly praised by NHS Lothian staff who visited our school last week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



3 rd and 5 th November	Parent Consultations
3 rd November	Hockey Festival
4 th November	P6 Learning Council at Rosewell Primary School
5 th November	Closing date for Book Fair competition
6 th November	Jonathan Meres, our reading patron is visiting school
9 th -11 th November	P6 at Robinwood Camp
13 th November	P3 Assembly at 9:30am
16 th November	Parent Council Meeting at 6:45pm
17 th November	Lasswade Primary School, P1 Registration Day, 9:30-10:30am
23 rd - 29 th November	Scottish Book Week
27 th November	P6 Assembly at 9:30am
December dates	Please see Christmas activities in this newsletter