



Onthank Primary School Newsletter - January 2016

Christmas Events

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We are pleased with all our Christmas events - we had an excellent turnout at the Christmas Fayre. All stalls were cleared of their crafts and pupils and visitors raised the fantastic amount of £2577.80. Thanks to all who donated towards this event. P5/7 Panto this year was 'Snow White & The 8 Dwarves'. The show was performed to the school and then to guests, parents and friends over two nights. Everyone left with very positive comments, appreciating the amount of hard work and effort put in by staff and pupils. Thanks to all who were involved. P3 Carol Concert was very well attended by parents and friends. This was also performed to the school and made everyone feel very Christmassy. Parents and guests enjoyed the singing and again gave very positive comments about the lovely singing and the hard work of the staff involved. Thanks to all who helped with this concert. The fantastic amount of £90 was collected from programme donations. This was sent to the Neonatal Unit at Crosshouse Hospital. P1 Nativity this year was called 'Wake Up Mary' - if you were lucky enough to be in the audience, this was 2 wonderful performances in the morning and was certainly very different to the traditional nativity. All pupils performed very well and again thanks to the staff and pupils for their hard work on these performances. £103 was collected for the Neonatal Unit at Crosshouse—this was added to the P3 amount. The children in P1-3g performed their Nativity to a festive audience. This year the Nativity was "Elvis" style—AN RIGH. Thanks to staff and children who made this possible. Again we were complimented on our talented children. Thanks to Heather Robertson and all staff/parents who helped during our busy Festive period. The choir went to Tesco, Glasgow Road and Asda to entertain the shoppers. They sang beautifully and collected £139.25 for Cash For Kids. The choir also went to Morrisons to "Sing For Hansel". The choir raised £199.05 for Hansel. We had a very special visit from Santa before Christmas. He arrived in a trailer/sleigh and the whole school was outside waiting to see him. Every pupil in P1, P2 and P3 went into the hall to meet Santa. He brought selection boxes for all P1-P3 pupils. Thank you very much to Emma Wylie from Asda for her very kind donations. We would like to thank Noreen McBeth from T.O.M. Motors for organising the event and also for providing 40 gifts to children and the selection boxes. This visit can be viewed on YouTube: Santa Visits Onthank. We also received 20 special gifts from 'Hillhouse' who delivered presents to school. These were gratefully received by some pupils. Thank you Eileen and staff. We were very lucky to have another visit from Santa before Christmas. He came to our P1-P3 Christmas party. All boys and girls received a small gift from Santa. Thank you Santa! Thank you to the Kilmarnock Standard for publishing our Christmas events. Thank you to the PTA for paying for our fabulous Christmas Tree—the best ever! Thanks to Cameron Wilson from Plantfinder for providing equipment to make the tree decorating easier.



Enrolment

We are delighted to report we have enrolled 95 pupils for Onthank Primary next session for P1 main school and 6 for Gaelic Classes. We have arranged dates for our new P1 pupils to visit: Wednesday 4, Wednesday 11 and Wednesday 18 May from 9.30 am—10.30 am. We look forward to meeting our new pupils.



Medication

If your child requires medication during the school day, please call into the office to complete the necessary permission slip and hand in the medication. We ask that you do not give your child medication to take unsupervised by themselves.



RRS Article 13

Your right to have information.



Headlice

We have recently had a few cases of Head Lice in school. Head Lice are caught from close head to head contact with an infected person. Young children are particularly vulnerable because head to head contact is more common in this age group. Momentary, close contact is enough. Prevention - look out for symptoms of head lice. Perform weekly checks to look for nits and head lice in your family's hair. Keep long hair tied back. Avoid sharing combs and brushes with other people. Avoid wearing other people's hair accessories (hairbands, scrunchies), caps or hats. It would be appreciated by the school if you could let us know of any outbreak - all information will be treated in confidence.

Facebook

If you are taking photographs at a school event, we ask that you only take your own child/children. We would appreciate that you do not post photographs of other children or members of staff on Facebook.

Burns / Scottish Assembly

As we celebrated the life of Robert Burns on the 25 January, we are asking pupils to learn a Scottish / Burns poem. We will be having the finalists of the poetry competition perform in front of the school at our Burns' Assembly on Monday 8 February. I'm sure you will be making it tough for the teachers to choose the finalists by practising with your child at home. Perhaps we should be having a competition for parents!



Eco News & Woodlands Trust

P6SP and Miss Spence have been working very hard to organise the collection of Christmas Cards for recycling. The weight this year is 29.7kg—2596 cards. Thanks to all who sent in cards. We are continuing with our recycling programme: P1s wellies, P2s DVDs, P3s CDs, P4F ink cartridges, P4MCC shoes, P5s litter picking, P6S stamps, P6K glasses, P7I paper, P7H Rag Bags, P7C plastics, Gaelic Classes—batteries, office—envelopes and dining hall—food waste. We are continuing with our Fairtrade work. This term we are planning Fairtrade Fortnight in February. We still have some Eco foldaway shopping bags for sale—£2 each from the school office.



Staff News

We welcome Miss Lochhead to our main office. She has settled in very quickly and is working hard to learn all our names. We also welcome temporary classroom assistant called Miss Bell. She is mostly working in P1 and P2.



Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school please contact the office by 9.15 am on 525477. If we haven't heard from you by 9.15 am you will receive a text message in the first instance and if you are unavailable we will contact the emergency contact. All Data Forms have been updated with new contact details, if this changes at any time throughout the session, please let us know.



Nut Allergies


We are committed to a whole school approach to the Health and Safety of all pupils. We have two pupils in school who have severe nut allergies. We ask that pupils do not bring nuts/or nut related products to school. Please note Nutella is a nut related product.

Items Brought to School

We are in the era where small, very complex and sometimes expensive "toys" are being enjoyed by pupils. These are very entertaining for them but as we have no means of ensuring that these do not get broken, mislaid, taken or swapped in some cases, we do ask that these items remain at home. **If mobile phones are brought to school, pupils are asked to have them switched off during school hours and not to be taken into the playground at playtime or lunchtime.** They should not be used to take photographs. Phones are also the pupils' own responsibility and should be kept in their schoolbags and not left in jacket pockets.



Onthank App on Phone

- Open website www.onthankprimary.btck.co.uk and click on  button.
- From this page click on Add to Home Screen.
- The app should now appear on your screen.

Winter Wear

With the ever changing weather could we ask that your child wears a coat outside. We are continually seeing children outside in only their t-shirts.



House Captains / Vice Captains

Fleming

House Captains: Calum Wilson / Hannah Robinson

Vice Captains: Lawrence Fung / Natalie McLeod

Livingston

House Captains: Daniel Mitchell / Eva McQuade

Vice Captains : Keigan Hill / Nicole Morrison

Burns

House Captains: Luke Baird / Megan Davies

Vice Captains: Conor Shields / Niamh Craig

Scott

House Captains: Euan Paterson / Becca Daly

Vice Captains: Alexander Leslie / Zoe Williamson



Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is Tuesday 9 February. The theme this year is "play your part for a better internet". Pupils will be encouraged to be kind and respectful to others online. A Parents Pack can be found in the 'Education Packs' section on the www.saferinternet.org.uk website.



RRS

Our school is holding its very own Race for Life event for Cancer Research UK. This is provisionally planned to take place on Friday 17 June. P6 will be organising this for their Enterprise topic in term 4. More information will follow soon on sponsorships and arrangements. We look forward to seeing as many people participating as possible.



The article of the month we will be focusing on through February is Article 7: The Right to a name and a nationality. The Rights Respecting School Ambassadors delivered a fantastic assembly to raise awareness of this article. They created different drama scenes and gave key information on what it means to have a name and a nationality.

Micro Tyco

The P7 Micro Tyco Wildhearts Foundation Challenge raised £560. We had a number of activities going on throughout the month of November, culminating in Ethan Hewitt winning a SEGWAY and Mirren Mackenzie and Aimee McPhail both winning hampers. Well done to everyone!

MICRO £ -TYCO

December Star Pupils

Primary 1: Lyla Mathieson, Emily Brodie, Freya Hainey, Megan Hamilton, Hamish Nicol, Billy Halliday, Rudy O'Brien, Jai Cree, Lucie Gower.

Primary 2: Tom Baird, Mila Vandal, Jennifer Angus, Reece Glover, Eve Stirling, Sophie Hopkins, Maya Laghzal, Rachel Rutherford, Melody Longmuir.

Primary 3: Erin Williams, Emily MacDonald, Kaedin O'Neil, Pheobe Black, Katie McIntyre, Millie Allan, Liam MacIsaac.

Primary 4: Luke Edgar, Rebecca Forrest, Ashton McLauchlan, Aime-Leigh McIlvanney, Eubh Baillie, Josh Barrowman, Ruby James, Isla Tonner.

Primary 5: Charlie Fulton, Finlay Smith, Owen Campbell, Saifaddine Mouaouka, Lauren Wood, Thomas Dunlop.

Primary 6: Mark Dickie, Demi Marshall, Teigan McGawn, Sasha I'Anson, Dylan Simpson, Emma Fraser, Ben Jamieson, Paige Williamson.

Primary 7: Emma Stewart, Caitlyn Queay, Fraser Mitchell, Holly Grant, Reece Bryden, Amy MacDonald, Ryan Rutherford.

January Star Pupils

Primary 1: Cerys Cunningham, Sarah Murphy, Caitlin Clugston, Luke Callaghan, Callum Nicol, all P1s, Ami Murray, Robbie Sim, James Callaghan, Bailey Dobson.

Primary 2: Aimee Smith, Alfie Campbell, Hannah Phillips, Aaron Johnstone, Laurie Wood, all P2s, Liam Rogerson, Gabriella Fulton, Faye Armstrong, Scarlett Brown, Sammie Miller, Gemma Davidson.

Primary 3: Shelby McClung, Rhiannon Smith, Erin Williams, Calum McNaughton, Christopher Brown, Blair Gibson, Cori Saxelby, Jennifer Sharpe, Adam Ferrell, Lia Townsley, Cameron McCreadie.

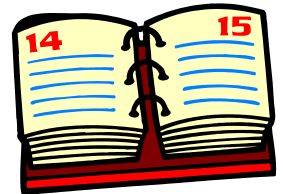
Primary 4: Elliot Popplewell, Angeline Bain, Kayla McCloskey, Sean McGhee, Liam Cassidy, Jason Nicol, William Brown, Matthew Wallace, Lewis Mitchell.

Primary 5: Alfie Banks, Josh Thomson, Kaitlin Bennett, Heather Anderson, Callum Crawley, Murrin Cairns, Alex Kirkpatrick, Olivia O'Neil, Leo Taylor.

Primary 6: Aidan Currie, Sarah Marshall, Melanie Rafferty, Ashton Hastings, Henry Millar, Tammy Mackenzie,

Primary 7: Leo Gan, Max Martin, Emily Morton, Dillan Morgan, Alexander Leslie, House Captain Nominees,

Dates for your Diary



February 2016

Monday 8 February	Burns Assembly
Tuesday 9 February	Rotary Quiz—P7 Team
Friday 12 February	School closes at 3.00 pm
Thursday 18 February	Inservice Day for staff
Friday 19 February	Inservice Day for staff
Monday 22 February	School reopens for pupils



March / April 2016

Wednesday 9 March	World Book Day
Friday 18 March	Sports Relief Day
Thursday 24 March	School closes at 3.00 pm for Easter weekend
Friday 25 March	School closed—Good Friday
Monday 28 March	School closed—Easter Monday
Tuesday 29 March	School reopens for pupils
Friday 1 April	School closes at 2.30 pm for Easter holidays
Monday 18 April	School reopens for pupils



K. McCartney / G. Findlay

Onthank Primary School PTA News



Planned Fundraising Events

A Celebration of Burns/Scotland quiz sheet has been issued. The cost per entry is £1.00 and prizes will be awarded to a winner in each group.

Alternative race night - an 'interactive' race night is planned for 26 March 2016. Further details will be issued once available (Audience participation is expected.)

Bingo night - this is planned for May.

Where the money is spent.....

The PTA recently purchased 35 sets of lightweight headphones for use in the ICT suite in the school. The Group has been asked to fund the purchase of 4 microphones for P1 as part of the talking and listening resource. Additionally we have agreed to purchase protective covers for use across the whole school to extend the lifetime of the reading books. A further final request was approved for a couple of sets of alphabet rainbows for some of the older children needing a little more support with reading. The microphones and alphabet rainbows were approved at an approximate cost of £300. The cost of the book sleeves is still awaited.

Next meeting of the PTA

The next meeting is currently planned for 29 February at 6.30pm in the North West Area Centre. Any new members are welcome to come along.

Grant/funding applications

The PTA would like to extend its thanks to Josephine Orr who has very kindly agreed to help the group to complete funding applications for playground furniture and play equipment.

Raffle Prizes

Are you able to donate raffle prizes for future fundraising events, or do you have a local business contact who might supply a gift or wish to sponsor an event? If so, please contact a PTA member or let the school office know. Small and larger value items are welcome.