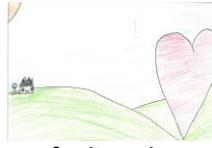




# March Newsletter



As we head in to March, there's always a feeling that spring will soon be on its way; it's been a long, dark winter but some lovely, sunny days lately have put smiles on faces!

We are very appreciative of the support that we receive from parents and the local community. This month alone: Jody and Michelle Marshall came in to school to talk about China and Chinese New year, Anna Clark is accompanying the children skiing each week, Jillian MacDonald is helping the lower school to produce a piece of art work for their context and, of course, Pamela Sandy and Lindy Crawford run the P5-7 Netball Club. We also received a donation from Deanston Post Office this week of £108 raised by customers putting their change in a jar. We are very lucky indeed!

Our iPad information session, Scottish Assembly and Coffee Morning were all very well attended and we have another busy month ahead. Please find below some dates for your diary for March:

Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	Movie Making Club 3-3.45
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Final skiing session P5-7 Netball Club 3-4
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day Celebration
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Movie Making Club 3-3.45
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	P6 & P7 Skiing at Glencoe
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Rotary Quiz P5-7 Netball Club 3-4
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Movie Making Club 3-3.45
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	P5-7 Netball Club 3-4
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sharing Success Assembly
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Movie Making Club 3-3.45
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	2-3 p.m. open afternoon *Please note change of date from 17 <sup>th</sup> P5-7 Netball Club 3-4
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday – School Closed
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Monday – School Closed
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	P7 @ Dalguise

## Skiing

Next week is the final skiing session; the children have enjoyed the experience and have made progress. This has proven to be the ideal opportunity for our children to show courage, determination and perseverance; it has been wonderful to see them encouraging each other and celebrating their own and others' achievements.

## World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, as we have skiing that day, we intend marking the occasion on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. This week's homework is based around this event, children may come dressed as a character from a book (**NO GUNS OR WEAPONS PLEASE**) and should bring in their favourite book to share with the class.





### **Kilometre Club**

In common with most schools in Scotland, we are encouraging our children to participate in as many physical activities as possible. As well as PE, skiing and 'Think Dance' we are using the outside of our school building as a track and encouraging the children to go round as often as they can for 10 minutes. As the weather improves, we hope to be able to do this activity most days. Children are enjoying the challenge of trying to beat their best efforts and they return to class invigorated and ready for their next challenge!



### **Wider Achievement**

We continue to encourage pupils to let us know what they are doing out of school, they can bring in certificates, photos from clubs etc. We also recognise that not all achievements happen at organised clubs and we are pleased to recognise milestones such as, learning to go a bike without stabilisers, tying shoelaces etc. We intend having a 'Sharing Success' assembly for the children on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> of March; we will then update their record of achievement in the foyer. We would appreciate your support by keeping us informed, please email or send in a note about anything you feel that your child has achieved recently.



### **Reward System**

We have introduced a system to reward children who consistently behave well and make a good effort with their work.

- All children start each fortnight with 30 minutes of activity time
- If a child is behaving inappropriately, they will receive a warning from the adult that, if the behaviour persists, they will be given an amber card
- If behaviour continues, child will be given an amber warning card and told what needs to change for the card to return to green
- If the behaviour does not change then a red card is issued and the consequence is 5 minutes loss of break time
- If there are 3 (or more) instances across a 2 week period, this will result in loss of activity time. Children will spend this time, with an adult, reflecting on the behaviour and how to improve and this reflection will go home for parents to see and sign
- If there are 3 (or more) instances in a term where a child has lost activity time, parents will be invited in to meet with the class teacher and/or head-teacher if appropriate
- NB There may be alternative arrangements for some children (agreed in advance)



This has been explained to the children and they understand how the system works.

### **Lower School Students**

We always enjoy visitors in school and currently have two students with us, Steph Cehelnikova and Alewtina Sewachina. Steph is studying for an NPA in Playwork and is in class every Thursday. Ali is studying to be a teacher in Germany, part of her course is to spend time in a school in another country so she will be with us daily for the next few weeks.



### **Sharing Learning**

Week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> of March we intend to take a 'snapshot' of the children's learning to share with you. Work tasks that children do during the week will be recorded in one jotter that will go home for you to see. We would be very grateful if you would take the time to look through the jotter, leave a comment, then return the jotter to school.





### Lower School Football

Tesco Bank football tasters will be on Tuesday mornings 9.00 -10.00am for P1-3, Tues 1<sup>st</sup> March for 4 weeks then 2 weeks after Easter holidays Tues 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April. Children should bring their PE kit.



### Lower School Sporting Activity Club

Our new Active Stirling co-ordinator, Hazel Dean, is keen start an after-school sports activity club for P1-3 in the final term. Hazel would need a **minimum** of one volunteer each week to help out. The club will be on a Monday from 3-4. If you would be interested in helping, please get in touch.



### Homework

Thank you to everyone who returned the recent questionnaire, we will share the feedback with you soon. Jillian MacDonald was the winner of the lucky dip!



In the upper school, we have been disappointed by the reduction in the number of children handing homework in on time and completed to a good standard. The criteria for opting in to homework remains:



1. Homework should be handed in on time (Thursday)
2. Resources should be returned in the condition they were issued
3. Lower school reading books should be brought in to school every day
4. All aspects of homework should be completed
5. Homework should be signed by an adult



If children do not return their written homework completed to a good standard and on time on 3 occasions, they are deemed to have opted out.



At our recent iPad information session, some parents indicated that they would be interested in having some homework set that would involve the children taking the iPad minis home with them. We have a list of people who attended the session and signed the Acceptable Use Agreement, if you would like your child to take their school iPad home but were unable to attend the session, please contact school and arrange to come in and speak to a member of staff who will go over the agreement with you and explain the terms and conditions **NB THIS MUST BE DONE BEFORE iPADS CAN GO HOME**. Only children in the upper school will take the iPads home in the first instance. Homework will be set and the child(ren) will agree a suitable night to take the iPad home to complete the work and must ensure that they return the iPad to school the following day. Failure to return the iPad on time on more than one occasion will result in suspension of the privilege.



### Think Dance

Well done to the children who took part in the 'Think Dance' performance at Macrobert Arts Centre on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, they worked hard and did themselves, and the school proud.



### Coffee Morning/Bric-a-Brac Sale

A huge big thank you to everyone who attended our coffee morning on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January. It was a very enjoyable morning and we raised over £230. We would also like to thank the parents who delivered fliers to houses in the community inviting them to the coffee morning and Scottish Assembly.



Angela Maxwell  
*[Signature]* C. Nicolson

