



Community Services: Education

Head Teacher: Mrs Alison Palmer

Arrochar Primary School

Tarbet G83 7DG

Tel: 01301 702261 Fax: 01301 702782

Email: enquiries-arrochar@argyll-bute.gov.uk

17 April 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back to our final term; always a very busy term, especially for our Primary 7 pupils.

I would like to welcome our three new pupils to the school and we have a further two new pupils joining us at the end of April. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Strathclyde University Maths Challenge

Some great news to start with – some of our P7 pupils took part in the Strathclyde University Mathematical Problem Solving Challenge. This involved the pupils working throughout the year, solving tricky problems. In this competition, normally only the top 10% of a class enter. I'm delighted that 80% of our P7 pupils entered and achieved the following results: Findlay, Lachlan, Catherine, Ethan, Ella and Ollie achieved a Silver Award; Callan and Hannah achieved a Bronze Award. The Silver Award winners will be invited to attend the prizegiving ceremony at the university. More information to follow.

Helensburgh and Lomond Rotary Club Quiz

As winners of the Helensburgh and Lomond Rotary Club general knowledge quiz this year, Ella, Findlay, Lachlan and Taylor will represent the area at the district quiz final at Pollockshaws Burgh Hall on Tuesday, 21st May. We would like to wish them the best of luck and encourage them to keep studying! The Rotary Club will be visiting the school on Thursday, 18th April to present the winning cup and shield to the Primary 7 pupils.

Pre-5 Unit

Arrochar Pre-5 Unit will, from Monday, 29th April, be operating from 8.50am to 2.50pm each day. Could I please ask that if you are visiting the school you ensure that the school gate is firmly closed behind you, as it is all our responsibility to keep our children safe in school and in the school grounds.

A weekly rota has been set up with Primary 5, 6 and 7 pupils wishing to help out in the Pre-5 Unit. This will take place from 10.45-11.15 every Thursday and involve three pupils per week on a rolling programme.

Easter Weekend Reminder

The school will be closed on Friday, 19th and Monday, 22nd April for Easter. We will re-open on Tuesday, 23rd April at 9am.

Toyota Dream Car Competition

Erin in P4 will attend the prizegiving at Helensburgh Toyota garage on Thursday, 25th April, to collect her prize in the Dream Car competition.



Active Schools Inter-School Cross Country

The Primary 6 and Primary 7 cross country relay races will take place on Thursday, 25th April at Duchess Woods in Helensburgh. At present, we are finalising our teams – consent forms and more information to follow.

Generation Communities Group

The next meeting of the Generation Communities Group will take place on Thursday, 25th April at the tea room in Tarbet. If your child is involved in this group, they will be escorted to the tea room by members of staff. The general consent form signed at the start of the year will cover this activity.

Parent Council Meeting

The next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 25th April at 6.30pm in the school. The Parent Council clerk will be in contact soon for agenda items.

Playgroup – Reminder

The Playgroup now meet in the school hall every Friday, from 11am to 12.15pm. If you know of any under 3's and their families, please let them know.

Dumbarton Football Club Free Tickets

We have 30 free tickets to the Dumbarton v Stranraer game on Saturday, 27th April. This game starts at 3pm, in Dumbarton. If you would like to make use of this offer, please contact the school. The tickets will be issued on a first come basis.

Dress Down Days

Our next dress down day will be on Tuesday, 30th April. This will be 'World of Work' day. Please send your child to school dressed in clothing to represent an occupation of their choice and please send £1 with them. The Pupil Council have decided that all money raised from this event will go to towards MacMillan Cancer Support, please support this very worthwhile charity.

School Cleaner

The school currently has two part time cleaning jobs available. Each job is for 12½ hours per week. This job can be found on My Job Scotland – search for cleaner in G83 7DG postcode. The closing date for these jobs is Friday, 19th April.

I-Cycle Training

Primary 7 pupils will be participating in i-cycle training. This will take place initially in the school, then at Ballyhennan Crescent, every Wednesday afternoon, starting on Wednesday, 1st May and finishing with their assessment on Wednesday, 26th June.

Could you please ensure that your child's bike is in good working order and at the school each week for this training.

Primary Athletics Events

Some pupils from P5, 6 and 7 will participate in either the 60m sprint, 600m race, long jump, shot putt and boys' and girls' 4 x 100m relay at the local school championships at Lomond School on Monday, 6th May, from 9.30-12.00. More information and consent forms for the pupils selected to follow soon.



Pupil Council Meeting

The next Pupil Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, 7th May. If your child has some suggestions which they would like to raise, please get them to speak to their class representative or drop their ideas into the suggestion box.

Active Schools Cross Country

All Primary 6 and 7 pupils will participate in an inter-school cross country race in Duchess Woods, Helensburgh on Friday, 10th May. The races will start at 10am. Please encourage your child to go out training at home as they will be completing the race which will be approx. 1 mile.

P1/2 Soft Start

Reminder – you are invited to join your child in class to work with them and share their learning on the following dates this term: Friday, 10th & 31st May and 14th June. Please come along if you can. These sessions run from 9.00-9.30am.

Street Drumming

Mark MacSporran will be visiting the school on Wednesday, 15th & 29th May and 5th June to teach P5/6 street drumming.

Hermitage Academy Transition Event

P7 pupils, as part of the transition programme, will be involved in a sporting event at Hermitage Academy on Friday, 17th May. This is part of their 'Hooked on Hermitage' transition work. More information and consents to follow.

Wizard of Oz

Just to confirm, our whole school performance of the 'Wizard of Oz' will take place on Wednesday, 22nd May. There will be two performances, one at 1pm and another at 7pm, in the Three Villages Hall in Arrochar. More information to follow shortly. We intend to have a whole day dress rehearsal in the Three Villages Hall on Monday, 20th May.

European Elections

I am sure the last thing you will be expecting is this, however we have been informed that the school will be closed on Thursday, 23rd May as it will be used as a polling station for the European elections.

In-Service Day/ Spring Bank Holiday

The school will be closed on Friday, 24th May for staff in-service training, when staff will be working on the school Improvement Plan for next session. The school will also be closed on Monday, 27th May for the Spring bank holiday. We re-open on Tuesday, 28th May at 9am.

SRE (Sex and Relationship Education)

As part of the Health and Wellbeing curriculum, the SRE programme will be delivered this term to P6 and P7 pupils. A separate letter containing more information will be issued.

Foodbank

This term, we will again be collecting items of food to donate to the Foodbank. If you can spare any of the following items, please send them in to school. The Foodbank are looking for long-life milk (blue full fat), boxes of 'cuppa soups', breakfast cereal (small or medium boxes), cereal bars, jars of pasta sauce, tins of fruit, tins of tomatoes, tea bags, tins of spaghetti, macaroni cheese and soup etc. All items will be gratefully received.



Ragbag – Textile Recycling

If you have any of the following items you are finished with, please put them in our Ragbag bins which are located on the school playground: clothing, paired shoes, handbags and belts. Ragbags collect the items and give the school money as a reward for recycling. Please encourage neighbours to use this service too, as the school gains valuable funds.

School Diaries

Could I please ask that you sign your child's diary on a weekly basis, adding a comment if you can. Please also add a comment on the parents' page on P134, after the teacher's comment on P133.

Seasons For Growth

We intend to run a Seasons For Growth group on the same dates as the after school clubs (below). This group will be run by Mrs Hendry and Mrs McAloon. If, after reading the separate letter and information guide (which will be issued tomorrow) you would like your child to join this group, please get in touch.

After School Clubs

The staff have kindly agreed to run after school clubs this term. These clubs will run from 3.00-4.00pm on the dates mentioned below. They will be filled on a first come basis so please email or phone the school, advising which club your child/ children would like to attend, based on the clubs offered for their age range. The clubs will run for 8 weeks on the following dates: Monday, 29th April; Monday, 6th, 13th & 20th May; Monday, 3rd & 10th June; **Tuesday**, 18th June and Monday, 24th June. The clubs are:

Hockey with Mrs Dodson for P5-7

Yoga with Ms Black for P1-4

Indoor Games with Miss McMurtrie for P3-7

School End of Term Trip

Over the last few years, we have visited Blair Drummond Safari Park and Heads of Ayr Farm Park as an end of term trip destination. If you have other ideas or recommendations of where we could go, could you please email the school with your ideas. I will then take this to the Pupil Council for their consideration.

Yours sincerely

Alison Palmer
Head Teacher

