

Lamlash Primary School and Early Years Class

13th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

This week we would like to take the opportunity to talk about Armistice Day. Did you know that recent research by Save the Children revealed that some 415 million **children worldwide** were living in **conflict-affected** areas in 2018? After World War 2, the establishment of the United Nations raised hopes of a new era of peace. This was over-optimistic. Between 1945 and 1992, there were 149 major wars, killing more than 23 million people. On an average yearly basis, the number of war deaths in this period was more than double the deaths in the 19th century, and seven times greater than in the 18th century.

War and political upheaval have been tearing whole countries apart - from Bosnia and Herzegovina to Cambodia to Rwanda and this vortex of violence is sucking in ever-larger numbers of children. Entire generations have grown up in the midst of brutal armed conflicts. At the end of 1995, conflicts have been running in Angola for over 30 years, in Afghanistan for 17 years, in Sri Lanka for 11 years and in Somalia for 7 years.

Recent developments in warfare have significantly heightened the dangers for children. During the last decade, it is estimated (and these figures, while specific, are necessarily orders of magnitude) that child victims have included:

- 2 million killed;
- 4-5 million disabled;
- 12 million left homeless;
- more than 1 million orphaned or separated from their parents;
- some 10 million psychologically traumatized. (Unicef.org)

We, as a school, are proud to support several organisations in their endeavours here and overseas to make life a little better for all whether the issue is war or illness, their ability to overturn a child's life and hopes for the future is enormous. Even today with Children in Need (supporting UK families) we would like to say thank you to all our families who sent their child in with money, or dressed them in yellow, or through words and actions have supported this fundraising initiative.

Much closer to home, on our small island, we continue to work to enhance and support the lives of our children and the wider community. We are delighted that our school are taking part in a pen pal scheme for the elderly, supporting a community Christmas project and beginning discussions with the Parent Council about our upcoming Christmas parties. Our p6/7 class have been up at the Land Initiative with Mrs Godwin for the last two weeks supporting the work there too. Many little things make a huge difference and in the run up to Christmas we will continue, with your support, to do our part as a school.

Mrs Foster, Mrs Dick & Mrs Bunting

Thanks to all who donated to the Scottish Poppy Appeal. The school raised the sum of £35.75.

NEWS FROM P4/5

We observed two minutes silence on Wednesday, for Remembrance Day.



Also, we have been following the Children in Need Five to Thrive programme. This year, Children in Need "are making children's mental wellbeing our number one priority". Each day has focussed on a different aspect of our wellbeing: connect; take notice; get active; be curious; give.



SCHOOL WEBSITE

We have a new school website!

Please go to <https://lamlashprimary.com/> to visit our brand new school website. Our aim has been to provide something that:

- is simple
- is easy to manage
- complements other channels (like social media, seesaw and the newsletter) rather than competing with them
- meets the needs of parents (current and future)

Our decisions about what content to add first were based on a survey we ran to help understand parents' needs.

We asked parents to rate their level of need from 0 (I have no need for this) to 4 (I have a strong need for this).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen Hale for the huge amount of time and effort he has put into setting up our website. We could not have done it without him. He has also kindly promised to keep helping us, ensuring that the website is updated and running smoothly.

EARLY YEARS CLASS NEWS

Over the past few weeks in the EYC we have been looking at Fire as our focus. This has included fire safety, finding out what fire needs by conducting an experiment; we walked to the fire station to find out where the fire engine lives.

We have learned the numbers that we have to dial in an emergency, and we all enjoyed the experience of a real fire in our woodland camp where we toasted bread for our snack. Our next campfire cooking experience was supposed to be hot dogs but due to the windy weather we had an indoor campfire. We used our cooking and maths skills to make our own finger rolls to go with the hot dogs.

This week we have enjoyed exploring algorithms and coding whilst learning a dance. Size sorting sticks in the woods and mark making and writing with them on the muddy path.

We have finished our week off in the best possible way - in our pyjamas, watching "Little Foot" and eating popcorn, our way of taking part in Children in Need.



CHILDREN IN NEED

As you know, today is Children in Need appeal day and we held a dress down day. Children were encouraged to come into school dressed in yellow and with crazy hair.

The House Captains have awarded house 5 house points to the children they felt were the 'most yellow' and 3 house points to the runners up.

5 points to Connie and Sophie (both in P3).

3 points to Jack (P1), Sophie (P1), Amelia (P3) and Iga (P5).

The house captains also awarded points for the craziest hair.

5 points to Stella (P5) and Alyssa (P6).

3 points to Blair (P5), Mac (P4), Eve (P3), Eva (P3), Lennon (P2) and Erin (P2).

We have also held a Pudsey Bear colouring and drawing competition and the winners will be announced next week when House Captains have had the opportunity to scrutinise the entries!

We started the day by joining in with Joe Wicks' workout. Getting everyone up and moving first thing!

(Photos are P3 and P1/2 joining in)



NEWS FROM P6/7

Since the last newsletter, in class we have been working on our letter writing skills, finishing off our ideas of change, uncertainty and probability work and we have started looking at angles, symmetry and transformation. In topic we are looking at family traits, nurture or nature and in art we are doing work based on Pop Art.

Some comments from the children:

Shaila: I really liked the angles work, measuring angles, drawing them and working out the degrees.

Lewis M: I really like angles work and I am going to practise my accuracy of drawing.

Poppy: I enjoyed outdoor learning day when we went to the beach.

Louie : I liked outdoor learning day where we went out with the iPads and took lots of photos of angles. I also found out that MC Escher was not good at Maths when he was at school but his work is phenomenal and uses lots of Maths techniques.

Alyssa: I am looking forward to sending our letter to Nicola Sturgeon to see if we get a reply.

Warran: I really enjoy hockey in fit 15 time.

Max: MC Eschers work hurts my head.

Callum: I really really really like going up to the land initiative at Whiting Bay.

Lewis K and Kacper just say Hi.



P6/7 AT THE ARRAN COMMUNITY LAND INITIATIVE

Last Friday, P6/7 visited the Arran Community Land Initiative (ACLI) in Whiting Bay for the first of a series of Outdoor Learning sessions at this little-known public resource. They learnt about the different types of wildlife that can be found there and worked in teams to make scarecrows and plant trees, even beating the Arran record for the most trees planted in one session!

We look forward to returning next week when we will be building shelters, refilling the bird-feeders which we set out around the land and looking for evidence of animal tracks.

The ACLI is a community garden, set of allotments and piece of land on golf course road. It is open to all and is a perfect place for dog walking (on leads - to ensure the safety of the chickens) and exploring both nature and the fruit and vegetables that are grown locally.



Today we explored the woods and spent some time using loppers for coppicing, to prepare the materials for building shelters next time.





Next week is Book Week Scotland. Here at Lamlash Primary School we will be taking part in some events to encourage a love of reading within pupils. Keep an eye on Seesaw to find out what your child's class got up to during the week.

Teachers have also been thinking about their favourite books and we aim to share these recommendations with the children during the week. Perhaps this will encourage someone to try out a new author or even just revisit a much loved book.

Primary 1 children will receive their Bookbug P1 bags during the week. These bags of books and resources are free to all Primary 1 pupil in Scotland to inspire a lifelong love of reading, writing and counting. The Bookbug Primary 1 Family Bag contains the three shortlisted titles for The Bookbug Picture Book Prize.

Primary 2 and Primary 3 will receive their Read, Write, Count bags. These are a bag of books and activities that aim to support their learning.

Mrs Henderson and Mrs Marriott will be organising some activities for their classes to celebrate the gifting of these bags and delving into the stories that are contained within them.

In addition we will be running a competition via Seesaw. See below for details.

A message for all bookworms!

We are holding a competition in celebration of Book Week Scotland.

Where is the most inventive place that you have/can read a book? Send a photograph of you reading in a weird and wonderful place, via Seesaw, to your class teacher, and be in with the chance of winning!

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY

Thursday 5th November was Outdoor Classroom Day and we in here at Lamlash Primary School got fully involved!



We started the day with a whole school trip to the beach! The aim of the morning was collect some natural treasures (shells) to become part of the sensory path we have planned to created in our new and improving outdoor area.

Each house (red, yellow, blue) had a bag to fill and there would be house points rewards to the house that had the heaviest bag. We also had some time to splash, squelch and explore the beach. Crabs and starfish were found and observed closely.

Back at school individual classes spent some time outside as part of their learning.

P1/2 read their story outside and created some pictures using natural objects to represent the main character in the book.

P3 took their maths outside, using natural resources.

P4/5 were outside practising their French vocab.

P6/7 were angle hunting using the iPads.



Whole school projects

- P6 and 7 have linked up with a community project to send letters and Christmassy things out to members of the wider community who may be isolated and lonely. Information will be filtering down to all classes in the next week.
- We are launching a charity collection of small change for the defibrillator fund on the island. More information to follow.
- To raise money for the outdoor space to be developed even more we are asking for donations to make up 4 hampers to raffle.
 1. Sweet things
 2. Bottles
 3. Christmas goodies
 4. Odds and ends

Please bring any donations to the school office.

More information about ticket sales to follow