

Lamlash Primary School and Early Years Class

UPDATE FROM MRS FOSTER

Hi everyone,

We are heading very quickly to the end of term. Christmas activities have been planned, albeit in a different way to last year and we will keep you informed of upcoming events. We continue to strive to ensure that learning and teaching opportunities are as creative and stimulating as always. It is great to see our pupils benefiting from visits to the Land Initiative and I have liaised with the local Outdoor Centre who have offered to support our school with outdoor opportunities. Watch this space for further details!

In addition, Arran High School pupils who are in the North Ayrshire Sport Ambassador programme have been leading physical activities for the last few weeks. This has proved to be a highlight for both our pupils and the NASA coaches. Photographs posted on Twitter certainly illustrate the enthusiasm and fun during these sessions.

We had our first virtual Parents' Evening last week. Staff have been very positive about the communication. It would also be good to hear from you if you have any comments so that we can improve for next time; we are in uncharted territory with this.

I hope you have a lovely and safe weekend,

Mrs Foster

27TH NOVEMBER

NEWS FRO MRS BUNTING

As we are all aware, children's feet grow at an alarming rate! Do you have any spare trainers/gym shoes that your child no longer fits that you would be willing to donate to the school for a 'spares' box? There are always days when PE kit is forgotten and a range of shoes, in a variety of sizes, as spares in school would be of great help.

Christmas is fast approaching – advent calendars start being opened on Tuesday, marking the countdown to the big day. In school, the usual Christmas gatherings of concerts and parties are being 'tweaked' to ensure Covid compliancy. Class parties will take place, one per day, during the week commencing 14th December.

Meanwhile, the classes are working on Christmas concert pieces which will this year be videoed and shared with you. There will be a raffle this year for Christmas Hampers to help raise funds for enhancing our outdoor space. Any donations for the hamper will be gratefully received.

Have a great weekend!

Many thanks,
Mrs Bunting

Children in Need

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Children in Need fundraiser. The primary school and early years class raised the fantastic sum of £159.10 and all had great fun in the process.

CHILDREN IN NEED

As part of our Children In Need celebrations this year we held a Pudsey Bear Art Competition in the Primary School. P1-3 children were asked to colour in a picture of Pudsey, whilst P4-7 were asked to put their drawing skills to the test and draw their own Pudsey!

House Captains and Vice Captains were in charge of judging the competition (this was done without them seeing any names on the entries so was done very fairly) and there were points for their Houses up for grabs. Five points for the winner and 3 points for the runner up/s.

P1/2:

Winner - Filip

Runner up - Sophie

P3:

Winner - Zoe

Runners up - Eva, Noah

P4:

Winner - Jack H

Runner up - Gregor



There were only a few entries in P6/7 that didn't come from the judges themselves (they felt it wasn't fair to award themselves the titles of winner and runner up!) so all entries were given 2 house points as a thank you for entering.

P6/7: Lewis, Connor, Max, Callum



EARLY YEARS CLASS NEWS



In the EYC we have been looking up to the sky to find out about the stars the different constellations and learning the names of the planets.

We have continued to enjoy outdoor learning experiences in all weathers. We played poo sticks, jumped the wild waves, looked at the church, enjoyed another campfire, toasted marshmallows, and found some sticks to be creative with - the possibilities are endless.

The children turned the home corner into a shop, an exquisite shop, selling diamond rings, handbags, sparkly shoes and designer scarfs which double up as wedding dresses.

Our circle time experiences have been talking about wishes and what we would wish for others and sharing what we like and are frightened about.

We have also started our Christmas production - watch this space!



P1/2 NEWS

Primary 1/2 celebrated Book Week Scotland with a morning full of activities last Friday.

Each member of Primary 1 received a Bookbug bag full of books, resources and activities to take home with them, and each Primary 2 had books and resources from the Read, Write, Count Initiative. But before we allowed them to go home we got stuck into them in class!

We read all the books and completed some fantastic activities to celebrate each one. A highlight was creating our own spacesuits to go with 'Rocket Mole' and a special shout out must go to Jack (P1) for his fantastic spacesuit picture, which was the neatest piece of colouring that he has ever completed - way to go Jack!

Mrs Marriott's personal favourite book from our collection was 'Brenda is a sheep', and in honour of this book we created patterns (linking very nicely with our pattern and tiling work we've been doing with Ms Shaw) on jumpers for Brenda to wear and each one of us became a sheep, just like Brenda does!

Playtime was wet but Mr Inglis borrowed our book 'My First Book of Birds' and shared his passion for his feathered friends with any interested children. And it must have been some great reading as when we voted for our favourite book in the afternoon it was a clear winner! Thanks Mr Inglis (although Mrs Marriott says 'Brenda is a sheep' should still have won!)



P3 NEWS

Primary 3 were fortunate to have Lauren, Active Schools Co-ordinators in for a PE session last week. Part of the session was led by Lottie, one of the new Arran High School sport leaders who also happens to be Connie's big sister. A thoroughly enjoyable session for everybody.



HOUSE NEWS & POINTS

Children in need yellow/Phant day

Term 2 house results



House competition

Design an animal (real or mythical) to represent your house. The winning design will be used as the logo for your house. Deadline is 2nd December.

1 point each for your house simply for returning your entry!

P4/5 NEWS

P4/5 took part in 'Drop Everything and Read' as part of Book Week Scotland 2020.

We also took part in a Scottish Book Trust Authors Live event. The scheduled Authors Live event has been postponed until February, so the children voted for one from the on Demand library. They overwhelmingly voted for Liz Pichon, author and illustrator of Tom Gates. This led to the children creating some fantastic artwork in the style of Tom Gates.



On Friday 13th November, P4/5 were the daily winner for the SumDog North Ayrshire Maths Contest.

P6/7 NEWS

Well done to Lamlash primary school for doing so well in the North Ayrshire Sumdog competition which ended on Thursday 19th November.

P6 and 7 class were the overall winners and were the daily winner on Thursday 19th

P4 and 5 came 6th and were the daily winners on Friday 13th

Top 2 pupils of the competition were 1st place to Louie Ross P7 and 2nd place to Warran Jackson P7.

A real team effort by both classes.

Arran Community Land Initiative

This morning the P6/7 children were planting spring bulbs (Narcissi, Allium & Tulip) and cooking fire bread/toasting marshmallows over the campfire.



EXTREME READING!

As part of our celebrations for Book Week Scotland we asked the bookworms amongst us to share with us the most extreme places that they had been reading this week!

They did not disappoint!

We've had (to name a few) reading in rubbish bins, in trees, on trampolines, in a suitcase, surrounded by wild animals, in a boat and lots of upside-down reading.

Check out the pictures of our weird and wonderful places to read, and thank you to everyone who took part to help us celebrate reading!



Thank you to everyone for their 'Extreme Reading' locations!



Support on offer through Lamlash Primary and Arran High School's Wellbeing Centre

Do you know that through our wellbeing centre we offer the following free (confidential) support for children and families?

- Counselling (age 10 and above).
- Family therapy (all families).
- Nurture type activities that support emotional wellbeing for primary 1 upwards.
- English as an Additional Language support.
- Referral to CAMHS for mental health and diagnostic services.
- Referral to Penumbra for support for self-harm.
- School nurse (Ann Reid) general health and wellbeing support.
- Referral and support from the Educational Psychologist.
- Support from Colin McDermott for school inclusion (if school is proving generally tough regardless of the reason he can provide additional support).
- Art therapy and play therapy (age 10 upwards).
- Specialist counselling to support understanding of a special need or disability (age 10 upwards).
- Referral to speech and language.
- Bereavement counselling.

Family therapy you can contact direct without going through the school and it remains confidential, all we will know if that an anonymous family has used the service. I have included the leaflet at the end of the newsletter.

For other support systems please contact me (Mrs Dick) at the school to discuss what support you think your child might benefit from, if any. When we put the systems in place last year we designed it so that our community partners (school nurse, social services, GPs) can also refer into the services, though the quickest way remains through us directly. If you have any questions on this please be in contact.

Best wishes,
Mrs Dick

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER FOODBANK

The Arran foodbank is independent and requires no referral. It can be accessed in the vestibule of Brodick Church which is open 24/7. It's unmanned and is available to anyone to help themselves.

Emergency support with household fuel can also be provided. This can be arranged by calling our North Arran Parish Assistant, Mrs Jean Hunter on 01770 860380.

Christmas food bags

If you, or someone you know, could do with extra support around Christmas please let us know. We can deliver a bag of food to you during the week leading up to Christmas. If you contact us on behalf of someone else, please ask if they would be happy to receive this. We will make up bags according to the number of people in the household. Any information shared with us will be treated confidentially. Ideally, we would like to know of any requests by 14th December. Call our Parish Assistant, Mrs Jean Hunter on 01770 860380; email actfoodbank@yahoo.com or send a message via Messenger to Arran Churches Foodbank .

FURTHER SUPPORT AVAILABLE

The Kilbride Benevolent Fund welcomes applications from people who live in Lamlash or Whiting Bay and who are in need of financial assistance that cannot be obtained from statutory sources. The Fund is administered by trustees from both villages, but in the first instance please contact the secretary, Fiona Borland, on 700529.

Talking relationships

Over the past few months I have been carrying out research with the University of the West of Scotland on teacher identity, with teachers across the Highlands and Islands (Arran excepted). Quite simply, what is it that makes a teacher feel at the end of the school year that they have done a good job? I freely admit I went into the research expecting the teacher to talk about progress, how well a child had done in literacy and numeracy etc. Now, those were mentioned but what every single teacher I interviewed said was they would know they had been good at their job that year if they had had successful relationships with the children and their families. They wanted their pupils to feel positive about coming to their classroom (as distinct from liking school or not), and to be able to work together in their journey that year.

For us here in Lamlash it is about us having a nurturing ethos where we want every child to feel nurtured and welcomed, regardless of where they stand academically; that there is something that will bring them to school each day and that they are welcome here for who they are. This is reflected in our merit certificates and award initiatives where merits are not given for achieving academically but for striving to be a good learner and so they know it is noticed.

Last week while reviewing our recognition system across the campus I became aware that there was nothing for staff for them to know when they have done a good job. So we have decided to launch Staff Stars. By clicking on the link below (anonymously if you wish) you can provide a bit of positive feedback for a member of staff who you have felt has gone above and beyond to support your child or the school. It has been a tumultuous year for all and just sometimes it is nice to hear when things have gone well. We are all a little guilty of assuming people know we are appreciative.

Staff Stars link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKRkaHYvxFO5EggAZuYgZ9fxURFQ1Qk5EQIIQV01R0hCV1ZQWFpaWIU3NS4u>

Mrs Dick



New Staff Member

We are delighted to welcome Pamela Gaw to the post of Nurture Teacher at Arran High School and Lamlash Primary. Mrs Gaw will head up our Wellbeing Centre and support Mrs Dick in the wellbeing initiatives.