

# Lamlash Primary School and Early Years Class

## UPDATE FROM MRS FOSTER

Hi everyone,

As you will be aware, our wee school has had an unpleasant 'visitor' just recently; both staff and some of our children have been affected. However, I am pleased to say that we are still fully operational and that excellent, active learning and teaching is taking place. I am particularly indebted to the wonderful staff team for being so flexible and supportive. Obviously I do not know what the immediate future brings; we continue to monitor closely. Thanks to everyone for keeping the school informed so promptly.

Meanwhile, our quest for school improvement goes on apace. We have been working closely with our colleagues in the High School for literacy and numeracy. It is collaboration of this quality that allows for real continuity and progression in core skills. We are also looking at resources to make literacy and numeracy activities even more active and stimulating. In addition, there are several competitions on the go – the corridor is full of sailing vessels which can carry a penny and there are art competitions for Burns' Day and the island's heritage trail. Thank you to all who took part, especially you parents – it must be busy and wet in your house with all the STEM building that has been going on!

It's great to hear today that the swimming lessons will recommence – details to follow. Bike Club is also up and running too.

Finally, it was lovely to attend the Parent Council meeting last night. They have, in a few short months, raised an amazing amount for money for our school. I am so grateful for their upbeat, energetic and positive outlook. I know they would love you parents to get involved. The email is further on in the newsletter – why not contact them and see what is going on! It does not have to be a huge commitment and I know they will appreciate your support.

Have a lovely and safe weekend. Mrs Foster

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Young Persons' Free Travel Scheme

From Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January, all 5-21 year olds resident in Scotland are eligible for the Young Persons' Free Bus Travel. To access this a National Entitlement Card with the free bus travel product on it must be applied for; without this, you will be unable to travel for free on bus services in Scotland.

You can apply for a card by using the following link:

<https://getyournec.scot/nec/>

[getyournec.scot](https://getyournec.scot)

Is the quick and easy way for Scottish residents to apply for a National Entitlement Card.

For children aged 5-15, a parent or guardian is required to apply on their behalf. You will be required to provide one of the following during the application process:

- Your child's birth - listing both applicant's (your child) and your name
- Adoption certificate - listing both applicant's (your child) and your name

The process is relatively straight forward but we would recommend that you have everything to hand before you start as there is a timeout function. Cards are sent out normally within a couple of weeks of applying.

Mrs Bunting

## EYC Registration

Early Years Admissions for 2022/23 will be open online from the 1<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February.

## Classroom Ventilation

To keep the classes well ventilated we have the windows open all day. As the classrooms can become quite chilly in the afternoon, please feel free to give your child extra layers to wear in class.

## PE Reminder

Just a quick reminder that children need PE kits in school each week. They require a t-shirt, shorts and/or trousers and gym shoes. It might also be a good idea to include a spare pair of socks, especially for those wearing tights to school as gym shoes can be uncomfortable without socks on your feet.

Classes have set PE days but it is a good idea to keep your PE kit in school for the term as PE days are subject to change at short notice.

P1/2 PE days: Tuesday and Thursday

P3/4 PE days: Monday and Wednesday

P4/5 PE days: Tuesday and Thursday

P6/7 PE days: Monday and Thursday

If any families require any assistance with PE kit (clothes or shoes) then please get in touch with your child's class teacher or the school office.

## Parent Council Update

A fabulous total of £2,400 has been raised from recent donations, grants and fundraising events including Santa's Sparkle, the Read-a-thon and the Christmas online raffle.

Thanks to everyone for all their help and contributions. Minutes from this week's meeting will be emailed out next week. Next meeting is Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, any parents welcome to join in and share any fundraising ideas.

## Hot Choc Friday



Hot Choc Friday continues to be celebrated in Lamlash Primary School every other week and has become a real highlight of the school calendar.

It's a great chance for the children to reflect upon their successes and to stop and chat to people from other classes and to Mrs Foster and Mrs Wilks (sometimes Mrs Bunting) too.

It's been lovely seeing so many children achieve their first 'Golden Ticket' nomination to Hot Choc Friday. It's been interesting to hear about what they've been talking about when they're been there.

It has been wonderful to see children who were unsure about going come back to class smiling and proud of themselves.

Our most recent Hot Choc Friday (14th Jan 2022) was a bumper week with Golden Tickets given to Lennon, Gabri, Rayne, Hamish, Alex and Joshua.

## News from the Early Years Class

We hope you all had a fantastic and relaxing Christmas break! We are certainly ready and raring to go for another great term with plenty of outdoor learning and winter walks.

It has been a busy but exciting start to the semester with lots of lovely new faces joining the Lamlash Early Years class. We would like to extend a big warm welcome and hello to all the new children and their families - we look forward to getting to know you all during drop off and pick up times.

The older children have been fantastic at ensuring that the new children feel welcome in our early years class. They have enjoyed the responsibility of helping the new children to settle in and explore the many exciting learning opportunities through play that is available in the nursery – they have been setting a fantastic example to our new peers, well done all!

We now have a big colourful event calendar up on our wall so that we can celebrate the many different cultural festivities from around the world. On the 14<sup>th</sup> January we celebrated the International Kite Festival (Uttarayan) and participated in intriguing activities that enabled us to learn more about the culture of India. We listened to classic Indian music and watched videos of Indian traditional dancing which was so much fun to learn! We also made yummy dairy free vegetable pakora that we got to enjoy during snack time, yum yum! (Please note, during all our tasting experiences, we take into account every individual child's allergies and dietary requirements).

On our calendar this week we were excited to celebrate Robert Burns Day! We enjoyed trying haggis, neeps and tatties for lunch and supper on Tuesday – some of us had never tried it before so it was a very interesting culinary experience.

We have a 'sniff station' in our snack area with little pots of herbs and spices that we love to guess which smell belongs to which herb, from garlic to cinnamon, mustard and thyme. We enjoyed the smell of garlic so much that we made our very own garlic flat breads which were extremely delicious! Making foods from scratch encourages the children to help – they enjoy cutting, measuring and weighing the ingredients which gives them a real sense of achievement when the food is ready to eat.

We have also started to grow our own herbs – last week we grew our very own cress heads in little pots. We were fascinated by how quickly the cress grew over five days after carefully looking after them each day – we even had to remind the teachers that they needed watering on some days!

With the drier weather (woop - long may it continue!) we have been outside in the garden most days. The mud kitchen has been a huge hit with the new children, what fun it was to get our wellies and puddle suits on and splash in the mud puddles!

Over the next few weeks we look forward to getting to know the new girls and boys and learning more about their individual interests so that we can expand and promote their learning and development. We hope you enjoy seeing some of the learning outcomes and activities that take place within the Early Years environment via Seesaw. If anybody has any issues accessing this platform, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,  
Your Early Years team ☺



## P1/2 News

### Once upon a time the children in Primary 1/2 were exploring Fairy Tales...

This term we're looking at magical fairies, beautiful castles, handsome princes, pretty princesses, wicked witches, huge giants and the big bad wolf!



So far, we have described some of the characters from these well-known stories using adjectives (a new word for some of us!) and used this information to sort and use Venn diagrams in our maths work. This has involved lots of collaborative work, speaking and listening skills and a good understanding of these adjectives that we have been introduced to.



We've spent a week exploring the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We continued our focus on adjectives in relation to this story, used loose parts (both inside and outside) to create character pictures and had a STEM rainbow challenge making a chair for Baby Bear. This challenge was a great hit and focused on technology skills, building, design and teamwork.

We've begun reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and will now be spending some time exploring this story. We started this work with a delivery of magic beans! They were small, golden and shiny (those adjectives continue!) and we've planted them just like Jack did (although with a bit more care and attention) and are waiting to see what will happen next... stay tuned!





Continuing our focus on teamwork and cooperation, we worked together to create some ginormous giants which are now guarding the entrance to our room – pupils will need to pass quietly and carefully so not to anger them as they are truly huge and pretty scary!

We've learnt about tally marks, pictograms and bar charts. We've used information about the 'Jack and the Beanstalk' characters to populate our graphs and charts and will be continuing to explore these through our rainbow challenges and, as a class, later in the year.

Lots of our favourite Fairy Tales involve a castle and we've begun looking at Lochranza and Brodick castles as part of our social studies work. We've used those adjectives from literacy to describe them and talked about what is the same and different between them. One of our rainbow challenges this week has been all about designing our own castle using some of the key features we've explored on Brodick and Lochranza castle.

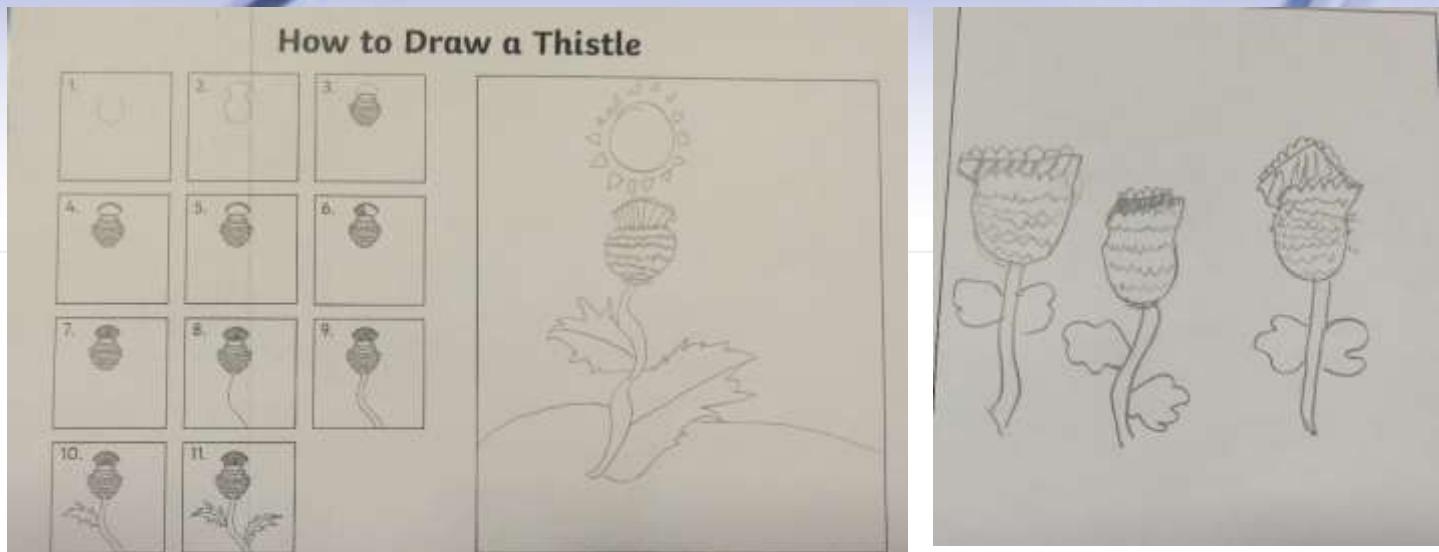


There continues to be an explosion of writing happening in P1/2 and I am sure that you will agree that it's fantastic to see how the children are developing, with many of them becoming more and more independent writers.



## P3/4 NEWS

P3/4 have been exploring the life of Robert Burns. We are amazed that we know and use so many Scots words in class and at home everyday! 'Auld Lang Syne' was a tune most of us recognised, and many of us had stories to tell of Hogmany events. It was amazing to see a photograph of inside Burns Cottage in Alloway where he spent his childhood, we discussed the thatch roof and the stone floor, and thought about how his being taught to read and write changed the world. We participated in a live author event that told us about his days in Dumfries and Galloway collecting taxes and catching smugglers. Gabri said "It was amazing". We also learned, step by step, how to draw a thistle. To finish off the week we are going to design miniature kilts for a Burns' Supper!



## COP26

Whilst learning about sustainability last term, P6/7 explored our school carbon footprint, identifying key issues affecting climate change and proposing strategies to improve our footprint, then made a climate pledge to make better use of our outdoor area. We then created a film expressing our views and ideas, which we entered into the North Ayrshire Climate Pledge Competition. We were absolutely delighted to find out that we place 2<sup>nd</sup> and won a cash prize of £300! We can't wait to use this money to invest in our outdoor area and help our school to become more sustainable! ☺



We are planning to add our video to the school website asap so please visit <https://lamlashprimary.com> to have a look at what we have to say!

## P4/5 News

P4/5 have been doing lots of hands on and creative learning. In Literacy they have been getting reacquainted with punctuation and where it should be used; working on short sentences to use commas, speech marks, question marks and exclamation marks. The class have produced Pop Art style artwork to put WOW words onto when they are used in writing and each morning, we have a word of the day to use in a piece of writing. Pupils have started an imaginative piece of writing to use these skills. My WOW work display is looking at those beautiful sentences pupils write, the first on the display window was Connie's. Using the word perfect in a piece of writing: "I am perfectly imperfect in every way".



Pupils are continuing working on reading for pleasure, looking at why they read and what books they enjoy. In class we are starting to look at alternative authors and finding new books and authors to keep the magic of reading alive. Pupils were shocked to find out about some of the authors. The author of Tom Gates is a girl, and the author of Goosebumps was born in 1943.

In Maths they have been learning about 2D shape and 3D objects finding out they are used in most things man-made and can be seen in nature. They are very good at naming the different sided shapes and identifying the faces, vertex, edges, sides, base, and angles. Pupils have been looking at M.C. Escher's work on tessellation and producing work that combines Maths and Art. We have moved onto fractions, decimal fractions and percentages and are ready for the sales to start so we can work out our 10% discounts.

In topic they are learning about Scotland, how it was formed, settlements, and about the Vikings. Pupils are designing shields and over the next few weeks will be learning much more about the Vikings, but I don't want to give too much away.

We celebrated Burns night with a poem and artwork. We remembered the Holocaust in class this week.

I look forward to posting lots of photographs of the artwork we are doing and the Viking project.



## P6/7 News

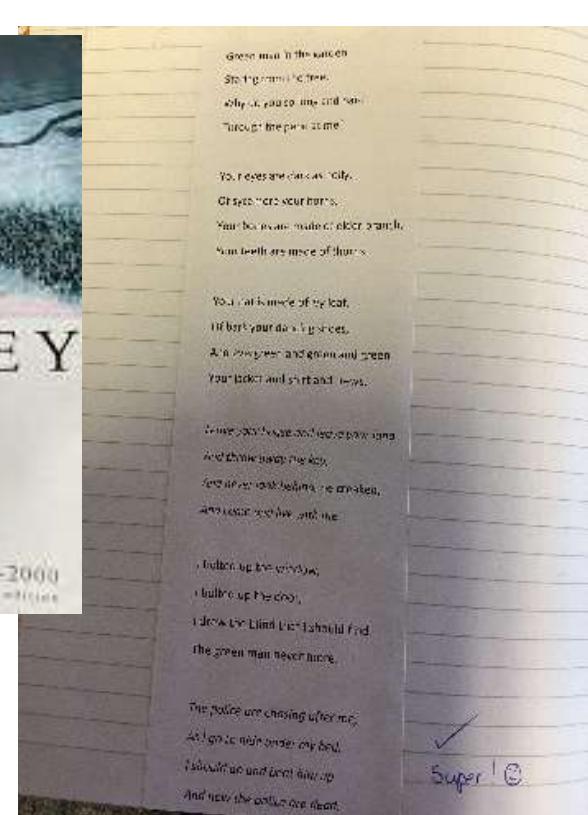
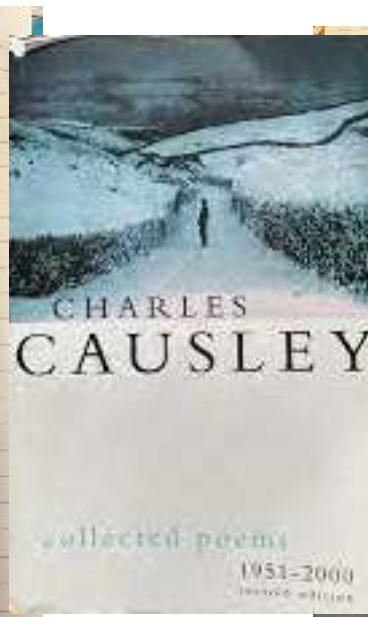
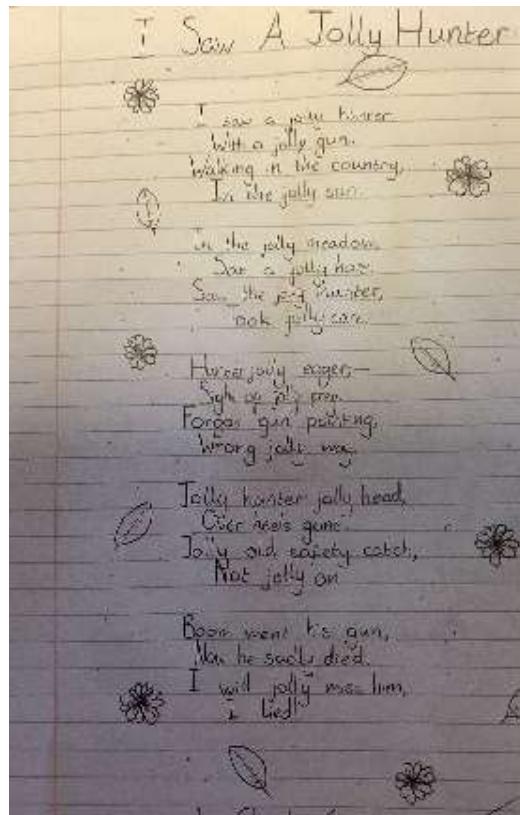


It has been a busy and exciting start to the term for P6/7. We have been doing lots of new things in all aspects of our learning.

We enjoyed a comfy afternoon last week as a reward for doing so well in the COP26 competition.



In literacy, we have been exploring poetry in the style of Charles Causley. We are confidently able to analyse his poems, noting similarities and differences in literary techniques, even having our own wee try at writing a few stanzas! We produced some fantastic work. In the spirit of Robert Burns day, we have also explored and developed our knowledge of the Scots language and created some informative 'aye'Phones that demonstrate our understanding of Scots voc'APP'ulary!





In numeracy we have moved on from our learning about time and we are excited to begin our new unit, exploring properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We're also continuing to develop our knowledge of numeracy by engaging in daily number talks. They help us to understand that we can use a wide variety of strategies to answer complex numeracy questions.



This term, we will be looking at World War II as our topic. We have enjoyed finding out what life was like pre-war in the 1930s and comparing this with modern-day life. We thought about how people lived, travelled and worked and we're looking forward to finding out more!



We have begun a Primary Sports Leadership session with our active schools co-ordinator Martyn Rae. We are looking forward to developing our leadership skills and leading some sports activities for younger children in the school!

