



Lochardil Primary School

Lochardil Primary School

Lochardil Road, Inverness, IV2 4LB

Tel. 01463 230250

Acting Head Teacher:

Mrs M MacDonald

miriam.macdonald@highland.gov.uk



www.lochardilprimary.org.uk

Newsletter 8 - March 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are Springing into Summer at Lochardil. Although digging myself out again today was a bit of a shocker! Enjoy the snowdrops, crocuses and daffodils when they come.

Mrs Miriam MacDonald
Acting Head Teacher

Accessing the newsletter online

Thank you to the very many of you who are able to support our move towards being a paper-less school by agreeing to access the newsletter on our website. This will help us maintain our high standards for our Eco status.

Say Hello, Wave Goodbye!



Welcome back to Mrs Arlene Beattie, who has returned from maternity leave and we are delighted to have her back in P5/6. Mrs Beattie will teach Monday-Wednesday and Mrs J Fraser will teach Thursday and Friday. What a dream team!



Congratulations to Mr James Cook who has, very deservedly, been appointed to Depute Head Teacher at Crown Primary. We are delighted for James but I know all the pupils, staff and parents will be very sorry to see him go. Haste ye back Mr Cook!



P5/6 have been lucky enough to have Miss Emma Watt in their class for the past few weeks. Miss Watt has made a very positive impact in the time she has been here and we look forward to hearing updates on her journey to being a newly qualified teacher.

Parking - Our Responsibilities to Pupil and Residents

Our sincere thanks to those of you who encourage your children to comply with our "Park and Stride" policy by parking further away and walking.

Employment Extravaganza

What an exciting opportunity the upper school are having through this sector-leading initiative. With grateful thanks to the teachers and Mr James Cook for their initiative on this. Education Scotland is watching Lochardil Primary with great interest! Business leaders are crying out for personnel with enhanced inter-personal skills, initiative and creative solution thinking. Our pupils will be learning skills that will make them as asset to any workplace in the future (although we're not suggesting a career in chimney sweeping just yet!)

Caley Thistle

The younger classes really enjoyed their training session recently. Our thanks to Caley Thistle for the FREE (Mrs MacDonald's favourite word) opportunity!

Tae-Kwon-Do

Jack Henderson competed recently in Nairn and received a bronze medal- for his scissor kick jump in the 7-9 years yellow-belt middle group.

Dancing Competition

Congratulations to Cameron Morrison in P1B who won a dancing competition recently and was rewarded with a trophy almost as tall as himself!

Shinty

P4 and P4/5 are being coached by OJ sports every Monday morning for a 5 week block. As a result we may have a team to enter the upcoming Shinty Festival.

Music Festival

Lots of our pupils have chatted about their participation in the Music Festival. You must be very proud of their confidence and dedication. It is a wonderful experience.

Gymnastics

Good luck to our team who compete in the Scottish School Finals at the end of March. We are really proud of you and send our thanks to your wonderful coaches.

Football Success

An update from coaches Peter Thompson and Laura Eaglesham.

“Recently the school team won the indoor tournament at the Leisure Centre and played some fantastic football .

However, their success at a recent soccer 7’s competition was perhaps even more impressive – despite all struggling with the really cold conditions they got to the final only to lose very narrowly on penalties to Crown. All afternoon the attitude and hard work was fantastic and even losing in such a cruel way they took it really well and their behaviour was great.”

Tennis news

Jack Burke has been offered the opportunity to travel to Spain to play with Scottish coaches and players at five different clubs.

Elliot Burke was runner-up in the Mini Orange Winter Country Tour Competition in Aberdeen recently.

Don’t forget tickets for your old HT when you’re on Centre Court boys!

Leadership Programme

As part of our Leadership Programme, a P7 pupil will be organising an Autism Awareness Day on Thurs 1st April. Details to follow. It is very powerful watching pupils listen to and learning from other pupils.

Parent Helpers

Since the last newsletter, even more parents have come forward to offer their support of the school. We appreciate every bit of support you give us.

Class Trips

P4 and P4/5 enjoyed a visit to Pringles Woollen Mill this week as part of their class project studies. The staff at the Mill were very impressed by the conduct and interest shown by the pupils. Well done!

P5/6 P6 and P7 went to Holm School for a performance based on a World War 2 experience. Feedback has been that the performance was excellent and has furthered learning that was started earlier in the session.

P3 went to Inverness Museum to extend their learning and take part in some of the exciting hands-on learning experiences available.

Egg-citing Easter Opportunity **(You’d be a “mug” to miss out!)**

The Parent Council are running an unmissable opportunity to win BIG this Easter!

Buy a “Lochardil” mug for £4 and have the chance to win an Eggs-tremely big egg! The idea for this Eggs-traordinary opportunity was hatched at the recent Parent Council Meeting. Contact Sharon McArthur on simcar71@icloud.com

The draw for the Egg will take place at the Parent Council AGM. on Wednesday 25th March at 7pm. Please come along and show your support for our Parent Council. It would be great to see some new faces come along.

February INSET

During this day staff were trained by Highland Council’s Numeracy Development Officer on the introduction of the research-based New Zealand maths model which has proven to have made a dramatic improvement to long-lasting and deep maths learning in pupils. There is a great deal of emphasis on playing with number games, encouraging greater mental agility. Teachers have been very receptive to this and pupils are loving the variety. Staff are commenting on the positive impact it is making already. We will occasionally share updates from the Highland Numeracy staff on our school blog.

Easter Holidays

Last day of school for the term is Thursday 2nd April. Term 4 starts Monday 20th April.

Any concerns/ queries

Please be reminded that your first port of call if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child’s education is to contact the class teacher. I can be contacted by email and will reply to arrange a mutually convenient time for a telephone chat or appointment.

Miriam MacDonald
Acting Head Teacher