

Struthers Primary



Bulletin 11 24/11/17

Letters out		

Article 3 The best interests of a child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

Article 4 Governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights.

Article 5 Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to direct and guide their children as they grow up, so that they can enjoy their rights properly.

School Improvement Priorities

Priority	How we will achieve this?
1. To raise attainment in Literacy with a particular focus on pupils who are not achieving expected outcomes.	We will continue to look at our reading strategies and how we can support pupil's comprehension skills. This will be in conjunction with our focus on encouraging reading for pleasure and independent reading. We had a very successful year with Reading for Gold and the development of our new library and this will continue to be developed.
2. To raise attainment in Numeracy with a focus on pupils who are not achieving expected outcomes.	We are going to study all the new approaches to teaching Numeracy and Maths we have recently introduced and look at how the approaches can be brought together in more meaningful lessons. We aim to help children understand more readily how to apply the skills they learn and be able to identify when to use the correct strategies.
3. To measure and track Pupil Health and Wellbeing.	We will be looking at all the Health and wellbeing outcomes for pupils and the benchmarks for their assessment and create a programme for Struthers that will ensure all children meet all outcomes and we will have measures to show this.
4. Develop Parental Engagement to support all our families.	Our 2 newly appointed Acting Principal Teachers are going to be responsible for this area which will look at developing our new Family and Community room and provide opportunities for Parents to come in and learn with us.

If you have any skills or interests in any of these particular areas and you feel you could help us please get in touch.

This Week

Our businesses are well established now and the school is a hive of activity with boxes, glitter and chocolate all in abundance. I am excited to see them all open for business on Friday 1st December at 5.30 pm until 7pm. This is your one chance to purchase high quality Christmas gifts at our pop up Advent Market. Children will attend with an adult and be your responsibility at the fayre. Some pupils have stall duties or singing slots and we will ensure that an adult is with them for those times only. The night we hope will be very busy and staff will have a lot to do so please can you support this. We are moving the Fayre to this time to try and cut down on congestion and have more space for you to browse. Come along and help them make as much profit as they can!

Last week we raised £470 to be split between Children in Need and our Toilet Twinning Charity so thank you to all who supported this and Miss Glass for organising. Our Curriculum rationale is now live on our website and we have put a link on Twitter as well. The website is currently not working and we have asked South Ayrshire IT to look at this for us. We hope it will be back up and running as soon as possible.

We had a staff meeting on Wednesday night led firstly by Mrs Smith and Miss Wylie preparing us for our Languages fortnight on our return after Christmas. The children always experience a high level of immersion in learning another language and learning about other cultures on our return after Christmas. We focus on French and Scots and will be adding some Spanish this year from Miss Glass. The children will also have their Scot's Poem to learn too and we will be having our finalists reciting to the Irvine Burns Club on Thursday 25th January. If you have any skills in languages and could come in and help please get in touch as we would value your expertise. We then had input from Mrs Smith and Miss McKay about Making Thinking Visible which they have undergone training in over the last year out with school hours. This has been a fascinating approach supporting teachers to encourage much deeper thinking routines in class. We hope to share information with you later in the year. The staff at Struthers are incredible for taking on additional learning roles and after school clubs and activities to benefit the children here. They are always looking for

ways we can improve and then taking lead roles in making changes which is the magic element which makes a school great. I do need to try to get them out the door before 6 pm at night though!!!

Next Week

Things are really starting to build to the excitement and madness that is Christmas in school. P5 are busy dancing away to be ready for the Day of Dance on Wednesday at the Town Hall and you can go along to watch them. It is always a great morning. P1 and P2 are sounding beautiful as they prepare for their Nativity which has been in big demand and we ask you keep to the number of tickets you have been issued. If you have taken tickets and will not be able to attend we would appreciate if you could hand them back in. There will be a dress down day on Tuesday 28th December only for children who are handing in donations of bottles/ chocolate etc. for Fundraisers. This we hope is an incentive to bring a donation in to support our parents to raise as much money as possible. I am looking forward to attending the official opening of Marr College on Wednesday night and I believe the building has recently won an award for its design. On Friday we have our Conflict Resolution Sharing the Learning assembly which has been led by our Health and Wellbeing working party. Again the staff leadership in the school is outstanding and this ensures pupils can get so many opportunities to learn and develop. Please speak to your child about the learning that has been ongoing for the past month on this topic and the important messages they have taken from it to ensure our school is a happy and safe environment. We will then finish with our Advent Market in the school on Friday night from 5.30 - 7pm and then collapse in a heap!

Breakfast Club: From next week cost will be £1.50.

Twitter Challenge

I am setting the classes a Twitter challenge to see if we can get more likes and retweets for the school to promote the amazing work that goes on. Each class will be tweeting about their business to help advertise and promote it and we will be looking for the class that gets the most likes and retweets. Get following and liking!!!

P3-7 Christmas Outing to Gaiety

Tickets have now been purchased for all primary three to seven pupils to attend the performance of Cinderella on Tuesday 12th December. Thanks to everyone who has paid so far - if not can you please send payment in as soon as possible.

Early Years and P1 & P2 Outing to Odeon in Kilmarnock

Thanks to everyone who has returned their slips to order tickets for Paddington 2 – if you have not can you please send payment in as soon as possible. Thanks.

Tempest Photos

Deadline to return these to the school was Friday 24th November. If you have missed this then you can send your orders directly to Tempest.

Parent Groups

Parent Council/Fundraisers

The group met recently and discussed a few issues. A plea was given for parents to sign up for the Round Table Santa Float. This involves one night of going out with Santa and collecting donations. You are also often offered food and drink too!!! The more parents we have helping the more we raise for the school so please get involved.

The **Santa Float dates** that are available are listed below. Volunteers can sign up using signup.com via the Round Table Facebook page.

6th Dec Wilson Ave area

7th Dec Harling Drive area

8th Dec Town Centre

11th December South Beach area

13th Dec Queens Drive area

14th Dec Beach Road area

15th Dec Commonwealth Drive

18th Dec Central Ave area

19th Dec Coxswain and North Deveron Road

20th Dec Barassie Wimpy area

The next meeting will be Tuesday 16th January and at this meeting we will share our new Anti- Bullying Policy for consultation. I have just received the new authority guidelines and have worked with cluster colleagues to write a policy which meets all requirements but also gives consistency across schools.

There has also been a request for parents sitting in cars outside the school to turn the ignition off as they wait.

The group will be glad to receive any donations on Tuesday 28th November for the fayre. They are looking for bottles, chocolate and good quality bric-a-brac.

Fairtrade Tuck shop

This is only available on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday so please ensure your child has a snack on the other days.

Support For Parents.

A member of staff came across this for supporting Numeracy on ipad and we thought it might be helpful to share with you.

<http://www.callscotland.org.uk/common-assets/cm-files/posters/ipad-apps-for-learners-with-dyscalculianumeracy-difficulties.pdf>

To keep in touch with us:

School Website address is: www.struthers.sayr.sch.uk and phone number is **01292 690073**

Please keep checking the dates as some are being amended and new ones are being added.

Dress Down day for Christmas Fayre donations. If children make a donation of chocolate or to the bottle stall they can wear their ordinary clothes.	Tuesday 28th November
Day of Dance for P5s- Parents welcome to go and watch in Town Hall	Wednesday 29th Nov
Struthers Choir singing for Light up a Live @ St Meddans	Wednesday 29th November
Health and Wellbeing Day	Friday 1st Dec
Advent Christmas Market	Friday 1st December 5.30-7 pm-Change of time
Christmas Lunches should now all be ordered	Friday 8th Dec
P3-7 Pantomime Trip	Tues 12th Dec am
P1 and P2 Nativity	Tues 12th Dec 6 pm and Wed 13th Dec 2pm
P5s to Sing for Hansel at the Rivergate, Irvine	Thurs 14th Dec at 11 am
Early Years and P1 & P2 to Odeon to see Paddington	Thurs 14th Dec ETD 9.15am
Nursery party	Mon 18th Dec 1.30-3
P7 first induction day to Marr	Mon 18th Dec at 11 am
P3 and P4 party	Tues 19th Dec 1.30-3
P5-7 party	Wed 20th Dec 1.30-3
P1 and P2 party	Thurs 21st Dec 1.30-3
Church service	Fri 22nd Dec 10 am at St Meddans
School close and reopens	Fri 22nd Dec at 2.30pm and re opens on Mon 8th January

These dates **can be subject to change.**

Mrs Jane Houston
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