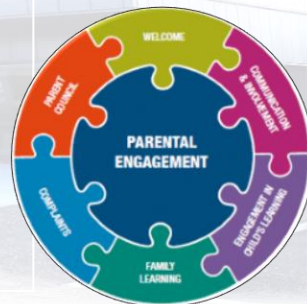


# Struthers Primary School and EYC

## October 2023 Newsletter



Dear parents and families

I hope you have all enjoyed a relaxing holiday with your loved ones and feel ready to join in with the festive magic that comes along in Struthers during term 2. We have a few extra events and two date changes for your diaries: The Infant Nativity will now take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December, and not on the 14<sup>th</sup> as previously indicated; and our EYC Christmas Concert will take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December.

Date	Time	Event
24.10.23	13:30	Sun Court Nursing Home Visit
24.10.23	Morning	SAMH – Scotland's Mental Health Awareness – P7
26.10.23	All day	P6 Farm to Fork trip
30.10.23	Morning	SAMH - Understanding and Managing Stress and Anxiety – P7
31.10.23	All day	Hallowe'en Parade
03.11.23	All day	Dress Down Day – Coloured hamper donations welcome
07.11.23	Morning	SAMH –Managing My Wellbeing – P7
10.11.23	09:20	P7 Remembrance Assembly – parents welcome
22.11.23	All day	Class / Individual Photographs
23.11.23	All day	Class / Individual Photographs
01.12.23	09:20	P5/4 and P5 Space Assembly – parents welcome
01.12.23	11:00 – 12 noon	Choir at Belhaven Nursing Home
04.12.23	14:00 – 15:00	Parent Council Meeting in School
05.12.23	14:00 and 18:00	Infant Nativity
07.12.23	18:00 – 20:00	Christmas Movie Night – see below for further detail
08.12.23	12:45 – 13:15	Singing for Hansel – Tesco, Irvine
11.12.23	Afternoon	P5 Christmas Party
12.12.23	Afternoon	P6 Christmas Party
14.12.23	TBC	EYC Christmas Concert
14.12.23	19:00 – 20:30	Snowball Party for P7
15.12.23	TBC	P7 Walk-round Marr
18.12.23	Afternoon	P2 Christmas Party
19.12.23	Afternoon	P3 Christmas Party
20.12.23	TBC	EYC and P1 Christmas Party
21.12.23	Afternoon	P4 Christmas Party
22.12.23	15:00	Close for Christmas – 2.30pm

### ADVENT

During the month of December, we would love to be able to present our pupils with a pre-loved book as they open their class advent calendars each day.

As children grow, their reading abilities and tastes naturally change. Books they have once loved might remain on their shelves but could bring huge pleasure to other children. By donating one book each, we will be able to sprinkle a little magic to our 337 school children and our 74 nursery children.

We are looking for volunteers to gather our donations, sort books into appropriate age groups and wrap each book individually to make the book opening all the more special. If you are able to help in any way, please contact the school office on [Struthers.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Struthers.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Reading is like  
*dreaming*  
with your eyes open



## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Within Struthers Primary and Early Years Centre, we are committed to embracing all of our partners to enhance the learning experiences for our children and young people. Below you will find a snapshot of our priorities for this session. Our full School Improvement Plan can be

### NUMERACY PRIORITIES

To provide consistent high-quality learning experiences across Numeracy and Maths, using data to inform improvement planning and interventions to support improvements in attainment.

To increase confidence in applying a range of play-based learning and CPA strategies to improve depth of understanding and mental agility for all

To enhance opportunities for children to apply skills and understanding creatively and logically to solve problems, within a variety of contexts

### LITERACY PRIORITIES

To provide consistent high-quality learning experiences that develop confident and skilled readers

To use data to inform improvement planning and interventions to support improvements in attainment.

To increase staff confidence in utilising a range of play-based learning approaches: reading, writing and listening and talking

To embed Talk for Writing skills across all classes, measuring impact on attainment to allow for responsive action

### HEALTH AND WELLBEING PRIORITIES

Increase attendance of all pupils from 94% to above 95%. PEF children to increase from 91.28% to 94%

To improve children's emotional wellbeing

To increase the variety of opportunities to participate in sports, clubs and extra-curricular activities

found on our website, or by

clicking: [sip2023-24\\_struthers.pdf](#)

### EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY

- To provide an inspiring learning environment with high quality experiences to improve the standard of achievement and attainment within the school.
- To ensure that every child feels valued and supported and has equal opportunities within the school.
- To assist pupil's personal and social development

### PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- To promote an effective partnership linking school, home and community.

### SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND IMPROVEMENT

- To provide a quality educational service, taking full account of National and Local Priorities and implementing them effectively.
- To ensure our children are equipped with the skills they need to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

# RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY INCLUSION HONESTY KINDNESS

## INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

As you may have noticed from recent correspondence, we are exploring a range of options to improve our communication with you. So far, we have managed to create three short videos: Our Curriculum Rationale; Composite Classes; and Our Relationships Policy. These can be found on our website: [Struthers Primary School - Home Policies and Reports](#). We welcome your feedback on these and would ask for anyone with a talent in this field, to contact us to support future developments.

## FUNRAISING COMMITTEE

The Hallowe'en parade on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October will be supported by the fundraising committee judges and prizes for the best dressed will be provided by the fundraising committee.

Christmas Movie Night – on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December we will be hosting a Christmas movie night in the gym hall to watch a festive movie from 6:30pm. The choice of film will be advised nearer the time. There will be a small cost of £2 per adult and £1 per child to attend and there will be drinks and snacks available to purchase to enjoy with the movie. There will be a slip in school bags in early November for attendance.

The Christmas party dates will be shared by the school but the fundraising team are delighted to be providing the drinks and snacks again this year as well as a selection box for each child.



## LEARNING AND TEACHING: SILVER SUCCESS – READING SCHOOLS AWARD



We are thrilled to share that we have been awarded our Silver Reading School Accreditation. We are the first in our Cluster to have achieved this!

*"It was awesome to read about how you have built on the rich foundations of your first Reading Schools accreditation and created an amazing reading culture for your learners, their families, staff and the wider community!"*

*Having looked through all of your excellent evidence (and it really was a joy!), I am delighted to let you know that you have achieved your Reading School: Silver accreditation! Congratulations!*

Many thanks to Mrs Grant for leading this initiative within school.

If you would like to volunteer your time to support this venture, please contact the school office on [Struthers.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Struthers.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk). In order for our little wrapping fairies to work their magic, we would kindly ask that all book donations be made before the 17<sup>th</sup> of November.

## WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS

Wider Achievements are a massive part of Curriculum for Excellence and, at Struthers Primary, we are keen to celebrate the achievements and successes of our pupils and families. Achievements can be anything from learning to ride a bike or learning to tie shoe laces, to earning a spot in a swim team or winning a medal.

We have an exceptionally talented group of children who love to encourage and celebrate others' talents. If you would like your child's successes recognised within school, please email a photograph along with a short description about your child's achievement to: [WiderAchievements.Struthers@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:WiderAchievements.Struthers@south-ayrshire.gov.uk). All submissions will be collated by our Sports House Captains and shared on the last Friday of every month during our whole school assembly.



I am so proud to be part of our Struthers family: together, with our staff, children, parents and wider community, we achieve great things.

As always, should you have any queries about anything within our newsletter, or in connection with your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Best wishes

Mrs Laura Clark

