



Struthers Primary School



Newsletter

March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

With the Easter holidays looming, I can hardly believe that the final term of this session will soon be upon us! The weather has been very changeable lately, but we have our fingers crossed for some warmer, sunnier weather on the horizon!

STAFFING

Huge congratulations to Mrs McGuigan who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy on Wednesday 15th March. Baby Oren McGuigan arrived weighing a very healthy 10lbs! Both mum and baby are doing well. We can't wait to meet him and get lots of cuddles! Miss Rachel Lee joins us until the Summer to cover Mrs McGuigan's maternity leave.

A very warm welcome to our newest member of the clerical team, Miss Lynne Gilchrist. Some of you may recognise Miss Gilchrist from the reception at Marr College – we are delighted that she made the move to Struthers and she has settled in extremely well in her first couple of weeks with us.

We are delighted to have Miss Emily Reece and Mr Fraser McArthur working with us in Primary 6 and Primary 7. They are both in the final year of their teaching degree and will be with us until the Easter holidays. We wish them both well with their dissertations and the very best of luck when they start their teaching careers in August. I have no doubt they will both flourish!

As you will have seen in the letter from our Director of Education, Mrs Lyndsay McRoberts, I have been offered a 2-year secondment to work with the local authority as a Quality Improvement Officer. This brings very mixed emotions as I am delighted to have been offered this excellent opportunity, however, will be very sad to leave the amazing pupils and staff team here at Struthers. As yet, I do not have a start date, as a replacement for my post will need to be found first. I believe the change may happen in Term 4 sometime and as soon as I know who will be taking over, I will keep you informed.

NEW EARLY YEARS CENTRE

We are delighted to say that the hand over of the new Early Years Centre is in sight! We anticipate that the nursery children and staff will move to their new building sometime at the beginning of next term (after the Easter Holidays). This brings great excitement and as soon as we have a definite date for the move, we will be offering our current families further options for session times. Watch this space!

SOUTH AYRSHIRE BURNS SUPPER

We were delighted to have three of our P7 pupils represent the school at the South Ayrshire Burns Supper on Thursday 2nd March. Alex, Jack and Jessica were all a credit to the school and enjoyed the entertainment alongside other pupils from Carrick, Girvan, Prestwick and Marr Cluster schools.

CAREERS WEEK

Thank you to Miss McCormack who planned a fabulous 'Career's Week' for classes in the school. The school was busy with various visitors throughout the week who came to talk to the children about their profession. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to come in and speak to classes – the children have been really inspired and the event has raised awareness of the huge variety of careers there are!

We were able to also celebrate International Women's Day on Wednesday 8th March, with many inspirational women talking to our classes on this day!

ROTARY QUIZ

Our P7 pupils are experiencing great success this session, recently winning the Troon Rotary Quiz too! Alex, Connor, Jessica and Mac participated in the cluster Rotary Quiz on Friday 10th March. After a nail-biting tie breaker finish, they celebrated their victory! The pupils displayed excellent general knowledge over 6 gruelling rounds and were delighted to receive the winner's shield with the school name engraved on it. Well done team! They now progress to the regional finals which take place in Glasgow on the 25th May.

GENEROUS DONATION

Huge thanks to the kind parent who recently donated a large bag of emergency clothing! We are delighted to have this much needed resource for children who require a change of clothing throughout the school day.

COMIC RELIEF

To celebrate Comic Relief, we held a very entertaining talent show on Friday 17th March. We had 22 acts performing on stage and every single act was brilliant! The confidence the children showed on stage was very impressive and made it very hard for the judges to choose only three acts to receive certificates! Congratulations to the magical Elianna, who astounded the judges and the audience with her amazing card trick, winning first place! Well done to Emily and Eliza, gaining second place for their wonderful tap dancing, and to Freya who was awarded third place for sharing her amazing vocal talents. Thank you to Miss McCormack and to P5 pupils for organising and managing this event.

RRS VISIT

Representatives of our Rights Respecting Pupil Group have been venturing out-with the local area and sharing our RRS journey with others. On Friday 3rd March, Evie, Helaina and Lewis visited Mossvale Primary School in Renfrewshire to support the children and staff there who have just started on their RRS journey. We are looking forward to having some of the pupils and staff from Mossvale visiting Struthers in the near future!

SCHOOL VISION

Since the beginning of the school session, we have been working with parents, staff and pupils to refresh our school vision. Our School Vision pupil group have been inspirational to work with and have developed their own newsletter to tell you what they have been doing. Their newsletter will be sent out to you next week

ROAD SAFETY GROUP

The other pupil group I have had the pleasure of working with over the past couple of months is our Road Safety Group. Our children are very concerned about the behaviours of drivers round about our school. They have some very clear messages about the safety of children and adults and have shared these via video messages, posters and their own newsletter which will also be sent out next week.

HOMEWORK CHANGES

Following our parent survey and consultation with pupils and staff, we will be making changes to our homework policy. After the Easter Holidays, homework will take a different format and you will receive a letter regarding the changes next week.

YOUTH MUSIC INITIATIVE

We are delighted that Ms Tracy Nelson will be joining us after the holidays to deliver the South Ayrshire Youth Music Initiative to P6 and P7 pupils. Tracy will work with our pupils over a period of 12 weeks, culminating in a final showcase/performance which we can't wait to see!

CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

Huge congratulations to all pupils who participated in the South Ayrshire Cross Country Competition this week! We had several P6 and P7 pupils who ran exceptionally well in very soggy conditions! Thanks to Mr Rorison for assisting on the day. A special mention to Millie who placed 2nd in the girls race and to Adam who came 3rd in the boys' race. Excellent achievements all round!

Kind regards,

Gail McKellar
Head Teacher

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

Article 12: Children have the right to have a say in all matters affecting them, and to have their views taken seriously.

Article 18: Parents and families consider what is best for their child.

Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.

Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

March 2023

31st School closes at 2.30pm

April 2023

3rd – 14th Easter Break

17th School reopens

May 2023

1st Holiday

10th Parent Council Meeting – Staffroom at 6.15pm

12th Reports to Parents

17th Parents Night (evening)

18th Parents Night (after school)

23rd New P1 Parent Welcome Night

25th Travelling by Tuba music event

26th Holiday

29th Holiday

30th In-Service Day

June 2023

2nd Coffee & Chat (New P1 Parents) 9.15-9.45am and 3.30-4.00pm
Summer Cup

7th Parent Council Meeting – Staffroom 2.00pm

8th EYC –P3 Sports Afternoon

- 9th P4-7 Sports Afternoon
- 13th Bump Up Day (including P7 Bump Up at Marr)
- 14th P7 Bump Up Day at Marr
- 21st EYC Graduation
- 26th Leavers' Service
- 28th End of Year Service
- 30th School Closes at 1.00pm

Dates may be added to newsletters throughout the year. These will also be available on the school website. Please note, there is a link to all South-Ayrshire school holidays on our website – Struthers.sayr.sch.uk