



Heathery Knowe Primary School Newsletter

October 2017

As the October break approaches, we wanted to take the opportunity to update you on some key information and events which are happening within our school community.

School Teams

Our school teams for football, netball and athletics have all been in action over the past 2 weeks. They have represented our school extremely well and have enjoyed participating in the events. Grateful thanks to our staff who give up their time to coach the children outwith school hours in preparation for these events.

Parents Appointments

You should now have received your appointment time to meet with your child's teacher on either Wednesday 11th or Thursday 12th October. Please let us know if you will be unable to attend your appointment. The Book Fair will also be open for browsing and purchasing books during parents evenings.

Staffing

We would like to congratulate Mrs Robertson on her appointment as support staff Team Leader. Presently, we have a vacancy for a member of support staff and an Acting Depute Head Teacher. I will inform you of any appointments as soon as I have any further information.

School Improvement

In September, a leaflet was sent home outlining the school improvement plan for session 2017-18. The full establishment Improvement Plan and Standards and Qualities reports are now available on the school website for your information.

Communication

All classes are continuing to use Class Dojo to communicate with parents and we are working with staff to develop confidence and consistency across the school. Class Dojo is a useful way to communicate with your child's class teacher. However, many staff do not have time to access and respond to individual messages during the school day.



Therefore, if there is a change to plans for children being collected at the end of the day, please communicate this through the school office to ensure that messages are passed on promptly.

Harvest Assembly

On Friday 13th October, Room 5 will lead the Harvest assembly for the school. If you wish to donate any food items for the Harvest table, please send these in to school by Thursday 12th October. All donations will be passed on to the East Kilbride Food Bank.

Class Trips

Our school diary is already filling up with class trips, events and visitors to school. These form a vital part of our childrens learning and we encourage them to embrace these experiences. We try to keep the cost of these outings to a minimum by applying for grants and walking the children to visits in our local community to reduce the cost of transport. We would ask that you return permission slips and money promptly to assist in the organisation of these outings.

Parking

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the safety of our children whilst making their way to and from school is absolutely paramount. The issue of congestion outside the school at home time is an area of concern for us at Heathery Knowe and also the community of St Louise school. The proposed new housing on the ground beside our school may also impact on congestion as the site entrance will come off Whitehills Terrace.

In an attempt to minimise congestion as much as possible and to safeguard our children, parents may park in the school car park or use the drop off zone in order to collect their children at the end of the school day. However, the gates into the car park will be locked at 2.55pm and will remain locked until 3.15pm. This is to ensure the safety of all children. If you choose to park in the car park to collect your child, please be aware that you will be unable to exit the car park until 3.15pm.

In consultation with Mrs Mooty, Head Teacher at St Louise, we are proposing a joint parent focus group who may investigate and propose a longer term solution to this contentious issue. More information will follow after the holidays.



Bikes and Scooters

We encourage children to come to school on their bikes and scooters as this promotes a healthy and active lifestyle. However, our school grounds are busy with pupils, adults, young children, prams and buggies. For this reason, all children should dismount their bike or scooter on the pavement before entering the school grounds and push it to the bike shed. The children are regularly reminded of this.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Best wishes

Julie McKee



Diary Dates

Tuesday 10 th October	P7 Trip to Wagamama P6 Curling
Wednesday 11 th October & Thursday 12 th October	Parents Evening Appointments
Friday 13 th October	School closes for October break at 3.05pm
Monday 23 rd October	School reopens at 9am
Tuesday 24 th October	Room 1 & 2 Library Visit PTC Meeting at 7pm - Fundraising Focus
Thursday 26 th October	Room 3 & 4 Library Visit
Monday 30 th October	PTC Halloween Disco 6.15 – 7.15pm – Primaries 1 – 3 7.30 – 8.30pm – Primary 4 – 7
Tuesday 31 st October	Room 5 & 6 Library Visit
Friday 10 th November	Room 8, 9 & 10 Cinema Trip
Wednesday 15 th November	School Photographer
Thursday 16 th November	Room 1, 2, 3 & 4 Cinema Trip
Monday 20 th November	In-Service Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 21 st November	Room 1 trip to Riverside Museum PTC Meeting at 7pm – School Improvement Focus
Thursday 23 rd November	Room 5, 6 & 7 Cinema Trip
Friday 1 st December	P6 visit to South Parish Church P3 to the Christmas Cracker at Westwood Evangelical Church PTC Christmas Fair