



# Lairhillock School Newsletter

January 2017

## Happy New Year

Welcome back after the Christmas break. Hopefully it was an enjoyable break and your batteries are recharged.

This year the staff decided not to do our usual Secret Santa, but instead Mrs Wilson collected the money and put it to the **Buttoney Bear** charity to help children all over the UK who have an ostomy bag. We were delighted to be able to fund three bears. Thank you to Mrs Wilson for organising this.



Primary 1 organised our '**Suitcase Sale**' and raised £291 for the Syrian new Scots' Resettlement Project. We saw the children arrive in the morning with vast quantities of items and leave at the end of the day with a whole range of different ones. Unwanted books were donated to a school in Thailand via Manuri Yahathugoda and toys and games were donated to the Juliet Johnston School in Tafo, Ghana through Jill Johnston. On the morning of the sale Katie Maclean, coordinator for the project, visited school to share information about the resettlement with the children.

Again this year we were delighted to have Mrs Engel, retired class teacher, return to judge the **Scottish poetry competition**. As ever the standard was very high and her task was extremely difficult. Our finalists were:

### Primary 1

- Finlay Cox – **Primary 1 winner**
- Megan Grimmer
- Kali-Jo Hay

### Primary 2

- Jessica Currie - **Primary 2 winner**
- Kiki Johnston
- Eve Macdonald

### Primary 3

- Callan Armes
- Ayla Gill – **Primary 3 winner**
- Renee Thomson

### Primary 4

- Anna Forbes
- Jack Macdonald – **Primary 4 winner**
- Callum Ross
- Kyra Thomas





## Primary 5

- Lilia Meachen
- Aimee Napier
- Amy Strachan
- Hayley Yahathugoda – **Primary 5 winner**

## Primary 6

- Rasmus Feld – **Primary 6 winner and OVERALL WINNER**
- Lewis Lawson
- Isla Thomson

## Primary 7

- Cara Mather – **Primary 7 winner**
- Ken Yahathugoda
- Toby Brainwood

At our Scottish assembly we were treated to violin music courtesy of Zac Cardinal and a tune on the chanter from Callum Ross, two talented young people.

### **Article 30**

*You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion - or any you choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.*



In order to support the community in accessing better broadband through BT, we have registered for the **BT Community Fibre Partnerships** competition to win either a trip for 30 children to visit the iconic BT Tower or a chance to meet a sporting ambassador. Whilst the school is unable to change broadband providers, we are able to support the community by registering our interest in the competition.

Currently Shona Grimmer and Nicola Oakey look after the running and general maintenance of the school garden, for which we are eternally grateful, but as Nicola's daughter is now in Primary 7 she will be moving on at the end of the year. With that in mind we are looking for any **parents who would like to help with the garden**. If you are interested please get in touch with the school or Shona Grimmer. No experience necessary, but useful.

## **STAFFING**

Over the next two terms Mrs Christine Ward, Additional Support for Learning Teacher, will be working in class with children of all abilities.

Mrs Lynn Fish now has a permanent Class Teacher post at Auchenblae School. At present this has no effect on the staff in classes.

Our janitor, Mr Adam Campbell, left at the end of last term to take up a new position in the Portlethen Cluster. Until we are allocated a permanent janitor, we welcome back Mr Richard Kalitski.



### EVENTS

Our additional **parents' nights** are fast approaching, so make sure you have the dates, 22 & 23 February, in your diary. Class Teachers are preparing Interim Reports to share at these meetings. **PLEASE RETURN ALL PUPIL PROFILES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Thursday 02 March is this year's **World Book Day**. We won't be dressing up this year but we are looking for photographs of children reading books in strange places. The last time we ran this competition we had some really weird entries so we are looking forward to seeing where the children can read this year. In addition the children can bring their favourite book to share.

If you are looking for a fun family night out why not come along to the Parent Council **Bingo night** on Friday 03 March at 18.00.

Again this year we are collecting the **vouchers from Sainsbury's** supermarket. There will be a collection box in the front of the school where the children can post their vouchers. In previous years we have used these to replace playground equipment, supplement baking equipment or add to our PE resources.

### STAFF TRAINING

This term staff have engaged in training in Modern Languages, CALM, Data Protection, Equalities and Diversity Training, Early Years Literacy, Growth Mindset, Health & Wellbeing, Numeracy & Maths and Resilience for Children.

### PARENT COUNCIL

The next Parent Council Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 26 April 2017 at 7.00 p.m.** **Please note this is half an hour earlier than previous meetings.** All parents of children from Nursery to P7 are invited. Items for the agenda should be forwarded to the secretary, Mrs Joanne Owen at the new Parent Council email address:

[Lairhillockparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Lairhillockparentcouncil@gmail.com)

Christeen Seward  
Head Teacher



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**Dates for your Diary** (Dates may have to change but you will be kept informed)

<b>SESSION 2016-2017</b>			
<b>TERM 3</b>			
22 02 17	WEDNESDAY	TBC	P5/6 assembly
		17.45-20.00	Interim Parents' meetings
23 02 17	THURSDAY	15.45-18.00	Interim Parents' meetings
24 02 17	FRIDAY	09.30	M&M Productions ' <i>Treasure Island</i> ' performance
02 03 17	THURSDAY	ALL DAY	World Book Day
03 03 17	FRIDAY	18.00	Parent Council Bingo!
15 03 17	WEDNESDAY	09.30	P1 assembly – open to parents
22 03 17	WEDNESDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
23 03 17	THURSDAY	14.30	P5/6 Assembly – open to parents
24 03 17	FRIDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
<b>TERM 4</b>			
16 04 17	SUNDAY	-	<b>SCHOOL'S 10<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY</b>
26 04 17	WEDNESDAY	a.m.	Nursery visit to Aberdeen Science Centre
		<b>19.00</b>	Parent Council meeting
27 04 17	THURSDAY	TBC	Parent Council photography session
29 04 17	WEDNESDAY	TBC	P2 assembly – open to parents
23 05 17	TUESDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
24 05 17	WEDNESDAY	17.45-20.00	End of session parents' meetings
25 05 17	THURSDAY	15.45-18.00	End of session parents' meetings
25 05 17	THURSDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
01 06 17	THURSDAY	TBC	P4/5 assembly – open to parents
14 06 17	WEDNESDAY	TBC	Digital Technologies exhibition
16 06 17	FRIDAY	TBC	Parent Council disco
29 06 17	THURSDAY	TBC	P7 leavers assembly – open to parents

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY / TERM TIME DATES SESSION 2016 – 2017

**Term 3** 05/01/17 - 31/03/17  
**Term 4** 18/04/17 – 30/06/16

### In-service Days

14 February 2017  
 15 February 2017

### Public Holidays

13 February 2017  
 01 May 2017

### Occasional Days

09 February 2017  
 10 February 2017



**COMMENTS, COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS**

We welcome feedback on how we are doing and will use this to plan for improvements. Please note any points in the space below and return to the school office. Please sign your name if you wish someone to respond to your comments.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_