



# Lairhillock School Newsletter

September 2016

## EVENTS

Our first visitors this year were the **Osiligi Maasai Warriors** who entertained the whole school with a fabulous display of traditional singing, whistling and dancing. Their performance was so entrancing that the children from nursery to Primary 7 sat for almost an hour. For those of you following us on Twitter you will have seen the video clips and photos posted on our very first Tweets.



If you would like more information about the Osiligi Maasai Warrior group please visit their website: <http://www.osiligiwarriors.co.uk/>

Again, the gardening volunteers have been out in the garden preparing for the year ahead. Thank you to those families who attended the **gardening session**. We really appreciate all the hard work.

Tuesday 13 September was our **Rights Respecting Reaccreditation** assessment day. The children were star performers and were praised for their knowledge and understanding of their Rights. The feedback from the assessors was very positive, but we will have to wait for around 6 weeks to find out if we have been successful. Thank you to the parents who spoke to the assessors; parents and families for their support; and to Mrs Kirk for leading the Rights Respecting School initiative.



The feedback from the **Reporting to Parents sessions** was very positive. Could the people who wrote, "Maybe different colours/patterns may help," and "More details of levels which children are at through the year", please contact me to clarify how they would like these suggestions taken forward.



The general expectation is that most children will work through the Curriculum for Excellence levels as detailed below:

- Early level Nursery and Primary 1
- 1st level Primary 2-4
- 2nd level Primary 5-7
- 3rd/4th level First year – Third year
- Senior phase Fourth year – Sixth year

Full information on the Curriculum for Excellence levels can be accessed on the Education Scotland website.

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/learningandteaching/thecurriculum/howisprogressassessed/stages/>

Primary 2 kicked off our **Jeans for Genes** campaign with a lovely assembly. They raised £159 for this very worthy cause.



To celebrate our **third Eco Flag** we had a party on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Our fabulous baking mums made the most delicious cone cakes and worked with the children to decorate them. After the party food Mrs Blair entertained the children with an Eco quiz. This was a well-deserved party as everyone has worked hard at sustaining our Eco ethos for such a long time.

The two hugely successful **Macmillan coffee events** in one day! Not bad going. Thank you so much to the children and staff in Nursery and P7 who managed to amass £489.24 between them. We very much appreciate the baking and support from parents and families.

### SECURITY

Adults visiting the school should not ask children to let them in to the building. This puts children in a difficult position and, in addition, it means that the office staff are not aware of who is in the building.



### **IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2016-2017**

This year's school improvement plan priorities are:

1. Leadership across the school
2. Curriculum development
3. Transitions (Nursery/P1, across stages and P7/S1)
4. Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)
5. Raising attainment

The full document can be viewed in school or on the school website.

### **EVENTS**

Next Monday (3<sup>rd</sup>) and Thursday (6<sup>th</sup>) are **nursery 'stay & play'** sessions. All nursery parents are welcome.

Wednesday from 15.45 onwards is our **parents' meetings**. Don't forget the new style meetings include your child. You will be given a copy of the 'Settling-in Report' to complete and sign. These should be handed back on the night for us to copy and send home with your child.

The first class **assembly** will be held on Wednesday 05 October at 14.30. The **Primary 3/4** class are looking forward to family and friends coming along to see them.

### **STAFFING**

Miss Emma Thomson joined us at the end of the month as a volunteer in P7 on Thursday mornings and P3/4 on Friday afternoons.

Miss Sarah Taylor, North East of Scotland College student, will start in nursery and P1 on Monday 03 October. She will be in for the full week followed by Wednesday and Thursday of each week thereafter.

In January we welcome Ms Lisa Watt, Post Graduate student, into Primary 2 for two months.

### **STAFF TRAINING**

This term staff have engaged in training in CALM, Child Protection, Data Protection, Equalities and Diversity Training, Early Years Literacy, Film in Education, Getting it Right for Every Child, Individualised Educational Programmes, iPads, Numeracy & Maths, and Skills focused learning.

### **PARENT COUNCIL**

The next Parent Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 07 November 2016 at 7.30 p.m.** All parents of children from Nursery to P7 are invited. Items for the agenda should be forwarded to the secretary, Mrs Joanne Owen.



## Lairhillock School

### **OCTOBER HOLIDAY**

Our last day of term is Friday 07 October and we return on Monday 24 October. I hope you all have a very pleasant break.

Christeen Saward  
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 1</b>			
03 10 16	MONDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
05 10 16	WEDNESDAY	PM	P1 parents meetings
		PM	P2-P7 learning conversation sessions
06 10 16	THURSDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
		a.m.	Last day for Travelling Book Fair
		14.30	P3/4 assembly
<b>Term 2</b>			
31 10 16	MONDAY	ALL DAY	P4/5, 5/6 & 7 visit to Aberdeen Science Centre
		18.0-19.30	Parent Council Halloween Party
02 11 16	WEDNESDAY	ALL DAY	P1 & 2 visit to Aberdeen Science Centre
07 11 16	MONDAY	19.30	Parent Council meeting
08 11 16	TUESDAY	18.30-20.00	Curricular evening for parents
20 11 16	SUNDAY	14.00-16.00	Family Ceilidh at Cookney Hall
26 11 16	SATURDAY	10.00-12.00	Christmas Fayre
05 12 16	MONDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
		p.m. TBC	P-17 open session
07 12 16	WEDNESDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
21 12 16	WEDNESDAY	09.45	Christmas service in <b>LAIRHILLOCK SCHOOL</b>
<b>Term 3</b>			
17 01 17	TUESDAY	19.30	Parent Council meeting
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
03 03 17	FRIDAY	18.00	Parent Council Bingo!
15 03 17	WEDNESDAY	09.30	P1 assembly
22 03 17	WEDNESDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
24 03 17	FRIDAY	09.00-10.00	Nursery Stay & Play
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
		19.30	Parent Council meeting
27 04 17	THURSDAY	TBC	Parent Council photography session
<b>Term 4</b>			
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
14 06 17	WEDNESDAY	TBC	Digital Technologies exhibition
16 06 17	FRIDAY	TBC	Parent Council disco
29 06 17	THURSDAY	TBC	P7 leavers assembly



**SCHOOL HOLIDAY / TERM TIME DATES**

**SESSION 2016 – 2017**

<b>Term 1</b>	16/08/16 - 07/10/16
<b>Term 2</b>	24/10/16 – 21/12/16
<b>Term 3</b>	05/01/17 - 31/03/17
<b>Term 4</b>	18/04/17 – 30/06/16

**In-service Days**

15 August 2016  
14 November 2016  
15 November 2016  
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:** \_\_\_\_\_