



Beaulieu Primary School Newsletter – October 2012

Dear Parent / Carer

Staff News

We are writing to advise you that Julia MacLeod has been appointed to the temporary P7 teacher post following professional interview. Miss MacLeod is already known to the children as she has undertaken some supply work and will take up this role full-time after the October break. We would like to welcome Miss MacLeod to our staff and hope that she will enjoy her time with us here in Beaulieu.

Pirate Day

The children very much enjoyed their Pirate themed dress down day on Tuesday 25th September. We would like to thank you for your financial contribution and also for all the effort that went into the costumes. We are pleased to let you know that £131.05 was raised for School Fund. This fund is essential to the school as it allows us to provide subsidised school trips, investment in workshops, visiting performers and of course carefully chosen treats for the children! Pupils very much enjoy these experiences which are in line with the ethos of Curriculum for Excellence and often facilitate cross-curricular learning.



Thank you

We would like to thank the Co-op for the £400 raised for the school as part of their community work. Thank you very much to Miss Seona Fraser, Royal Bank of Scotland, for the donation of £250 which we received as part of the Community Cashback Award Scheme. Both donations have been set aside as part of a large scale fundraising campaign for outdoor play equipment e.g. a trim track.

We would like to thank our local postman, Billy Mackie who is also a community coach for Inverness Caledonian Thistle Football Club for the very generous donation of five first team training balls. The children are very excited about making use of these.

We would also like to thank Mr S Stewart for the donation of wooden posts which have allowed us to strengthen our goalposts - this is much appreciated.

Badminton

Gillian MacDonald has very kindly volunteered to run after-school Badminton coaching. This is initially being offered to our P7 pupils and will commence after the October break. The sessions are being held from 3.15pm – 4.15pm each Tuesday in the Gym Hall. Any P7 pupil who would like to take part but has not already completed a request / consent form can obtain a form from the school office.

Walk to School Week



Walk to School Week takes place from 1st – 5th October. Please encourage your child to walk to school, or if this is not possible, maybe consider parking a little distance from the school and walking the last part of your journey.

SSPCA

Representatives from the Scottish SPCA visited the school on 10th September. An assembly was held for children in the early stages to provide an age appropriate overview of animal welfare and the work of the charity. The P3/4 and P7 classes learnt about the diversity of Scottish wildlife the SSPCA rescued, and introduced how children can help protect these animals through learning about their habitats and behaviours. The P5/6 class focussed on the work of Scotland's farming and food industries, highlighting where our food comes from, the types of farming operating in Scotland and choices children can make regarding farm animal welfare.

Pegasus Children's Trust

Beauly Primary School is currently in the process of forging links with Ellerton Primary School in South Africa. Judy Westwater, who was formerly a street child in South Africa but is now resident in the Highlands, set up the Pegasus Children's Trust in order to help those less fortunate in South Africa. Mrs Westwater visited the school and talked to the children about her work and Ellerton Primary School. We are in the process of establishing pen friend relationships with the pupils in Ellerton Primary and to date Beauly has received 52 letters. Children are currently writing responses to these letters to build understanding of what life is like in another country.



Self-Evaluation

The school is looking to develop more robust self-evaluation procedures and to this end a regular feature of future newsletters will be the request for parents / carers to share their feedback with us. Similar processes will be undertaken in school with staff and children and further surveys and questionnaires may be used from time to time to support school development.

Wet Weather Clothing

As we now approach the colder and more unpredictable weather we would be grateful if pupils could ensure that they have a waterproof jacket with them every day. In the event of very cold weather pupils should also remember to bring with them a hat and gloves.

Inverness Caledonian Thistle

Craig Masterton from the Inverness Caledonian Football Club will be in school on Friday 26th October. He will provide either football sessions or footwork classes for P1 – P7 depending on the weather. This is to encourage children to stay fit and healthy, and also to promote the ethos of teamwork and commitment.

School Garden

Howden's Garden Centre in Inverness runs a 'Gardens for Schools' scheme whereby customers receive one voucher for every £10 spent. Schools can then redeem these in exchange for a gift voucher which can be used to purchase tools, equipment, plants, seeds or other miscellaneous items. Customers may need to **request** these vouchers – staff do not always automatically offer them. We would be very grateful if you could request vouchers if you are making a purchase from Howden's as the school receives a £100 gift voucher for every 250 vouchers we manage to collect.

Parent Council

The next meeting of the Parent Council, which is also the AGM, will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd October in the P7 classroom. The Parent Council always welcomes new members and would be delighted if you could join them. This is a great opportunity to find out about the life and work of the school. As the Parent Council only meets once per term being a member is not an onerous task.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Safer Routes to School - Lisa Mackellaich, Road Safety Officer
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Matters Arising
5. Head Teacher's Report
6. Chair Person's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. School Garden
9. Fundraising
10. Election of office bearers
11. Date of Next Meeting

We value your opinions on the life and work of our school. Any feedback received will be used to evaluate our work and inform future developments for the school and its links with the wider community. Comments can be shared with the school directly in writing or alternatively please e-mail beauly.primary@highland.gov.uk