

Low Port Primary School: Where you are given opportunities and leave with happy memories.

Newsletter November 2018

Staffing Update

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Clapton, our PE specialist, from maternity leave. All classes will have a PE session with her each week. Please can all pupils ensure they have a PE kit with them in school.

We have a student support worker working on Thursdays and Fridays in all classes. Miss Large will be shadowing support staff and following up with small groups of pupils, as well as assisting in the playground.

School Improvement Update

Recent Friday professional learning sessions and the October In Service day were spent focusing on Building Resilience training. We plan to launch this approach early November. Look out below for a family learning event for further information on this. A parent leaflet has already been sent out to all families.

Staff also continued with mindfulness training. We plan to launch this with all classes after Christmas. We have had individual teachers attending Maths Mastery sessions and a Mathematical Mind-sets conference and professional learning they gained was shared with all other staff. We have also been focusing on using self-evaluation of Health and Wellbeing as a whole staff. This work will be shared with pupils and parents in due course to the views of the school community.

A focus group of pupils has been established to work with leadership team to begin the process of reviewing our curriculum rationale – what we teach at Low Port and why. This group will also work alongside Parent Council later in the school session.

This Friday, we begin cluster partnership working looking at progression in numeracy, planning learning in this area together and then assessing and moderating pupil work across the cluster.

Lateness to School

Attendance includes arriving to school on time.

Punctuality is very important as it sets the standards later in life. As Parents/Carers you have a duty to ensure your child attends school and on time. Arriving for school late can mean:

- Missing important announcements during registration.
- Missing early morning challenge work.
- Embarrassment at coming into class when class has already started work.
- Missing part of the lesson which can be difficult to catch up on.
- A poor attendance record.
- A reluctance to go to school at all.

It also disrupts the lesson and other children learning in class.

If your child arrives after the register has closed without prior agreement, they will be marked as unauthorised absence.

Sharing Our Learning Events

Enterprise Evening

On the evening of Thursday 6 December we would like to invite all families and friends of Low Port to our enterprise evening. Every class will have been working on an enterprise project using a £25 donation from FLPPS and will share (or sell!) to you on the evening. There may be Christmas gifts for you to buy as well as teas and coffees. Teachers will be looking for pupils to run the stalls – look out for further information nearer the time about how each class has decided to make their money grow! All funds raised will go towards interactive technology hardware in the school. You can also see a demonstration of this on the night! We look forward to seeing you there!

Building Resilience Programme

As part of our 'Health and Wellbeing' curriculum, we wish to let you know about the *Building Resilience* programme which we are implementing across the school from this term. *Building Resilience* has been developed by a multi-disciplinary team over a number of years, is informed by the most up-to-date evidence about strategies to support social and emotional wellbeing, and has a proven positive impact on learners. Each child may have a unique set of challenges to face as they grow and the strategies taught through the programme equips children with tools they need to deal with these challenges in a positive, healthy way.

Building Resilience sits alongside a range of Health and Wellbeing programmes we use in school including the ICE Pack (Inclusion Citizenship and Equality), mindfulness approaches and our Rights Respecting Schools work. Please find attached some initial information about programme itself. We plan to launch the first unit next week and you will receive more detailed information about this first unit 'Be Resilient' along with a short family task.

Each unit is delivered through a combination of special assemblies, follow up class activities and a family learning activity to triangulate whole school, class and home learning. We would really appreciate your support in completing the family learning activity as we believe it is really important for the children to have the opportunity to reflect upon and discuss their learning with you.

We would like to invite you to join us for tea or coffee while you hear more detailed information about this programme, see the resources, have small groups of pupils share aspects of their learning with you and have any questions you may have answered. **This will take place on Friday 30th November from 11.15am.**

We look forward to seeing you on the day.

Parent Body News

Parent Council

Our next parent council meeting is 28th November 7pm with tea coffee and biscuits in the staff room - bring a mug!

Issues raised for discussion so far include single use plastic in schools and updates on school garden and grounds, school travel and music.

Parent Council are planning to be at enterprise night in December. Please come and chat!!

FLPPS update

Below are a few updates from the FLPPS team:-

Fundraising Target

Our target this year is to raise £24,000 to buy interactive panels for all class rooms. This is a big target, so we're keen to hear from anyone who has suggestions on ways to raise this amount. In particular we're looking for people who could help us by making some funding applications. You don't have to have any experience of doing this before, as full support can be provided. It's a relatively easy task, which can be completed independently at home. However the payoff of a successful application, could be substantial. Please contact us if you can help.

Engagement with pupils

We were very pleased to be invited to speak at the school Assembly before the October holidays, and also to speak with the P1s as part of their 'people who help us' topic. In particular it was great to hear so many enthusiastic fundraising suggestions from the students! Thank you very much to everyone who has helped so far with ideas and poster making, it's great to have help publicising our events.

New Online Platform

We have launched and are using our new online payment engine. This has been a massive step in reducing the workload required to administer events. Hopefully those who have used it have found it easy to use. We'd welcome any feedback!

Family Photoshoot day

There are still a few slots available for this fantastic event. For £25 you get a 15 minute slot with the photographer, then images for digital download for you to keep. A bargain, and an event appreciated by many each year.

Bingo Night

On Friday 9th November we will be running our first FAMILY BINGO NIGHT! This is primarily a social event, with lots of fun and games for all the family. Please save the date, we will be in touch via email with details soon.

Wider Achievements

We currently have after school clubs running as follows –

- Mondays – choir at lunch time for P4-7 AND football after school P5-7
- Tuesdays – chess at lunch time for specific classes. This is a pupils led group.

Some of these clubs are for specific ages. Please contact the office should you wish further information. Should your child wish to attend an extra-curricular club and secure a place, please let us know if they will be absent at any times. For security reasons, we keep a register. In some cases there are waiting lists and places could be reallocated should your child change their mind.

Opportunity for P7 Pupils

Historic Scotland Ranger Service is launching a brand new Junior Rangers programme, which will run on a monthly basis throughout the year at Linlithgow Peel for young people aged between 11 and 18. These free two-hour sessions will see the young people taking place in a huge variety of different outdoor activities, including bushcraft, conservation work, wildlife spotting, campfire cooking, first aid and much more. It'll help them develop new skills, build their confidence and make new friends, all while spending time outdoors taking part in lots of different fun games and activities. They are holding a taster session on Sunday 18th November from 10am to 12pm and would like to extend an invite to all Primary 7s who

are aged 11 or older. Spaces are limited and need to be booked by contacting the Ranger Service directly on rangers@hes.scot or 0131 652 8150.

Bikeability for P5

Nic Fell, Bikeability Coordinator for West Lothian Leisure is delivering Bikeability session to P5 pupils during November and December. Information and permissions have been sent out already. We look forward to seeing the children work through their level 1!

Diary Dates

We thought that it would be helpful to include December diary dates as this is such a busy time of year!

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| • Sunday 4 November | Family Photoshoot day |
| • Wednesday 7 November | FLPPS meeting in the staff room |
| • Thursday 8 November | WWI Service at St Michael's Church
Bikeability bike checks all P5 |
| • Friday 9 November | FLPPS Family Bingo night |
| • Sunday 11 November | Remembrance Service at St Michael's Church 10.50am |
| • Tuesday 13 November | P7 trip RHET
P1 prospective meeting for new intake 2019 |
| • Wednesday 14 November | Flu immunisation day
Rugby P4 |
| • Thursday 15 November | P7 Athletics Cluster Event
P1 learning through play event 2.30-3.15pm
Bikeability P5 Group 1 |
| • Friday 16 November | P6Cu assembly Parents welcome
VLG 2 |
| • Wednesday 21 November | P4 Rugby |
| • Thursday 22 November | P5 Bikeability Group 1 |
| • Friday 23 November | Author visit for P1 and P2 pupils
FLPPS school autumn disco |
| • Wednesday 28 November | P5 Church visit
Parent Council 7-9pm all welcome |
| • Thursday 29 November | P3 benchhball festival
Bikeability P5 Group 2 |
| • Friday 30 November | 11.15am Family learning event for Building Resilience |
| • Thursday 6 December | Christmas lunch – wear a Christmas jumper if you wish!
Enterprise Evening 6.30-7.30pm
Bikeability P5 Group 2 |
| • Friday 7 December | VLG 3 |
| • Monday 10 December | Nativity rehearsal – school only |
| • Wednesday 12 December | Nativity St Michael's Church 1.45pm All Welcome |
| • Friday 14 December | P1 Care Home visit |
| • Monday 17 December | P7 Party PM |
| • Tuesday 18 December | P5 and P6 Party PM |
| • Wednesday 19 December | P3 and P4 Party PM |

- Thursday 20 December Parent Helper Mince Pies and Coffee Morning 10.30-11
P1 and P2 Party PM
- Friday 21 December ALL BREAK FOR HOLIDAYS