



Ulva Primary School Newsletter

Summer Term 2017

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DEAR PARENTS

Welcome back to the Summer Term. Although we are still feeling the chill winds, it is great to see the sun shining and the burst of spring colours.

This term is always very busy and seems to fly by. This newsletter will recap on highlights from last term and provide you with information about this term's activities.

Susie

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COMMON GROUND PROJECT

On Friday 24th February we went to the Aras Hall to see the culmination of A Moments Peace Common Ground Project. This was a beautiful blend of photographs, creative writing, sculptures and sound pieces. The



pupils got the opportunity to hear their podcast as well as actively engaging with the exhibition.



HYDRO VISIT

Hydro visit - Following his visit to enrich the children's understanding of engineering, Moray Finch kindly invited both pupils and staff to join him for a guided tour of the Garmony Hydro Electricity Scheme on Friday the 17th of March. We were taken high up towards the top of the hill, where the streams flow into the weir, Moray explained with great knowledge and enthusiasm all about the construction of the scheme. We were also able to get a tour around the turbine house, which was extremely noisy, but very interesting!

MR JOHN NICOLSON

As part of Scottish Engineering Leaders Award competition, Mr John Nicolson, who is TSL's Regional Construction Manager and a qualified Civil Engineer came to school to share his expertise with us. It was very obvious how much he loves his career in engineering, which inspired the pupils to work hard on their own designs.



BEACH SCHOOLS

On Thursday 23rd March Janie from the GRAB organisation came to join us for a day of beach schools. The day was split into two sessions with the children coming back to school for lunch but enjoying a lovely warming hot chocolate from Janie's Kelly Kettle in the afternoon. The children gained a great deal from Janie's enormous knowledge of the animal and plant life of our coast and surrounding waters. Janie will be joining us again for our beach clean.

PLANTING AND GROWING

We are so fortunate to have fertiliser on our doorstep! This term the pupils collected some seaweed for their vegetable beds. Thank you to the Leitch family for continuing to allow us to use their beach as part of our beach school.



SWIMMING

The pupils enjoyed another 6 week block of swimming this term. There was a marked improvement in all the children's swimming skills - well done to all!



CYCLING



Davie Graham visited the school this term to give the pupils some cycle coaching and Gus Whyte visited for a day to provide cycle maintenance training. The pupils enjoyed both sessions very much.



SPORTS CLUBS

The pupils have done really well with their sports clubs this term. Isabelle and Kate ran a very successful skipping club, Ashley and Malik are running a football club and Nuria and Malik are organising a very well attended table tennis club. The coaches have all had training from Babs Whyte as to how to keep their attendance register up to date and were given sports t-shirts and coach badges. Well done to you all!

BBC2

'The World According to Kids' is being shown on BBC2 on Thursday. The Ulva pupils are total stars!



THANK YOU

The Parent Council gave Don Lambert a super planter set to thank him for kindly auditing the PC accounts.



HEALTH DAY

On Friday the 24th of March, the primary 2-6 children were invited to join the Lochdonhead and Salen children for a day of Health and Wellbeing related activities at Salen School. The children were mixed with the other schools and split into their year groups and followed a timetable of well organised activities, including internet safety,

fun relays and yoga. The whole day was a huge success which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

The P7 pupils had the opportunity to travel by school bus and work with cluster P7s and S1 in Tobermory High School. They took part in a number of workshops including healthy eating, living life to the full, modern day slavery and PE games. This was a wonderful day and it gave the opportunity for the pupils to start their transition to high school.



EDUCATION OFFICER VISIT

John Macpherson, our Education Officer, visited on Thursday 30th April. He was very pleased with the continued success of the school and with the work being done through the School Improvement Plan.

STAFF TRAINING

Myself, Mairi Nicolson and Claire Bidwell were all trained this term as Assessment and Moderation Facilitators. This training has deepened our understanding of assessment and we continue to work together to ensure meaningful and rigorous moderation for the children's work.

COMMUNITY CAFE



At the March community cafe we said goodbye and thank you to Rachel French who has been our ASN Assistant at the school for almost 2

years. Rachel will start her teacher training in September. We wish her all the very best in her new career.

This term's raffles have raised £17.40 for the Camus trip and £35.00 for Comic Relief. Our future café dates are: 25th April and 30th May. Thank you very much for your continued support with this.

BOOKS

Thank you very much to the Parent Council for buying some new books for our library. We have such avid readers in the school and it is always wonderful to get a new stock in.



DONATION

Gremlin has given the school a very generous donation of £280 which was raised at his annual Frisbee Golf Tournament - Thank you very much Gremlin!

THE TERM AHEAD

ART EXHIBITION & WORKSHOP

Pupils from P5-P7 will be visiting An Tobar on Thursday 20th April for Graham Fagen's art exhibition. Alicia Hendrick will be leading a series of creative activities which will enhance the pupils experience of the exhibition.



RUGBY

Allan Wright the Argyll & Bute Rugby Development Officer will be offering the pupils 2 sessions of rugby coaching this term, 18th April and 9th May.

OTTER WORKSHOP

The Mull Otter Group are visiting the school on Friday 21st April. They have a workshop planned with lots of activities for the pupils.

SPORTS AWARD

Councillor McCuish will be visiting the school on Thursday 27th April to award the school with their Silver School Sports Award.

BEACH CLEAN

We plan to run our annual beach clean on Thursday 4th May. This is polling day and the school is closed so we have found, in the past, that this is an ideal time to do the beach clean - normally we are lucky with the weather and lack of midges! We start at Killiechronan beach and work our way back toward the school.

Usually we receive a very generous cheque from the GRAB trust for helping to keep our environment clean and tidy and this really helps our school funds.

We would welcome any help as we have definitely found that many hands make light work. If you can come along and help, can you please let us know, thank you.

GENERATION SCIENCE

This term I have invited Generation Science to work with pupils from Ulva, Lochdonhead and Dervaig. P4-7 will be attending a 'Fuel Hunters' workshop on Friday 12th May in Dervaig Hall. Then there will be a 'Marvellous Magnets' workshop for P1-3 on Friday 19th May at Ulva School.

ROBERT BOWMAN

Following the opening of the Science Laboratory at Lochdonhead, we were approached by Professor Robert Bowman who asked if he could visit his old alma mater. Robert is the Head of School of Mathematics and Physics at Queen's University Belfast and he was delighted to see his old school driving forward with Science. We are planning a 'Science Day' for pupils of both schools which will be held at Lochdonhead School on Tuesday 23rd May. Robert has kindly agreed to run some exciting Science workshops at it. The Ulva pupils will be offered a hot lunch on the day, more details to follow.



MOY CASTLE VISIT

Flora Corbett has very kindly invited us to visit Moy Castle and we plan to do this in June. It will most likely be incorporated with a joint school beach clean at Loch Buie. More information will follow nearer the time.

STIRLING TRIP

P6/7 will be joining pupils from the North Mull Cluster on the Stirling trip from 29th May - 2nd June. This residential trip will be jam packed with wonderful activities including visits to Scottish Crannog Centre, Scottish Parliament, Dynamic Earth, The Wallace Monument, Blair Drummond Safari Park, The Falkirk Wheel, Kelpies with Adventure playground and Stirling Castle. As well as that we plan to enjoy some bowling and a ghost walk - phew! Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

CAMAS

We will be visiting Camas on 19th and 20th June for our residential trip.

More details will follow nearer the time.

WORKING WITH PARENTS

As you know we are very keen indeed to involve you in any way we can in the working life of the school. If you would like to come in to share any skill, assist in any project, wish to help in class in any way, please let us know. We would really welcome your help.

PRODUCERS MARKET

The Parent Council have been asked to provide the teas and coffees at the producers market in Dervaig on Sunday 28th May at 12.30. Can you please let me know if you can come along to help or provide some home baking for the day. This is a really good fundraiser for school funds.

CYCLE SPORTIF

The school and Parent Council have been asked once again to accommodate the competitors of the Cycle Sportif on Sunday 4th June. The organisers are expecting a massive turnout of up to 350 cyclists. I will be here to set up from 9am. If you can spare any time to come along on the day to help make sandwiches, serve teas & coffees I would be very grateful. The Parent Council receives a very generous payment from Cycle Sportif for providing this service.



MAY DAY

Schools will be closed on Monday 1st May for the May Day holiday.

IN-SERVICE

There is an in-service on Monday 15th May. Schools will re-open on Tuesday 16th May.

ELECTION

The school will be used as a polling station on Thursday 8th June. We are planning an exciting day of learning for the pupils. We will let you know more information when details of the day are confirmed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

18.4.17 - School starts
18.4.17 - Allan Wright - Rugby
20.4.17 - Art workshop at An Tobar
21.4.17 - Otter talk
25.4.17 - Community Cafe
27.4.17 - Sports award presentation
28.4.17 - School closes for May holiday
1.5.17 - May Day holiday
2.5.17 - School starts
4.5.17 - Polling Day - Beach clean
9.5.17 - Allan Wright - Rugby
12.5.17 - Generation Science at Dervaig
12.5.17 - School closes
15.5.17 - In-service
16.5.17 - School starts
19.5.17 - Generation Science at Ulva
23.5.17 - Science day at Lochdonhead
28.5.17 - Dervaig Producers' Market
29.5.17 - 2.6.17 - P6/7 Residential trip to Stirling
4.6.17 - Cycle Sportif
8.6.17 - Polling Day
9.6.17 - Sports Day
12.6.17 - 16.6.17 - P7 Induction week
19.6.17/20.6.17 - Camas
30.6.17 - School closes
14.8.17 - In-service
15.8.17 - In-service
16.8.17 - School re-opens