

# Ulva Primary School Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2018

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### DEAR PARENTS

I hope you have had a wonderful, relaxing summer holiday. It's great to see the pupils back after their break. It certainly seems that the weather is turning autumnal now that we are back to school.

I look forward to another busy, productive year and I am extremely fortunate to have such committed and dedicated staff working in our school. This, coupled with the pupils' enthusiasm and hard work, will ensure on-going success.

Let us not forget, of course the enormous support that you, as parents and carers provide to the school - we are indeed very fortunate.

Do not hesitate to contact the school if you want to chat over any areas of concern. Also be assured that no matter which school I am in, I can be contacted at any time. For point of reference, the telephone number for Lochdonhead Primary School is - 01680 812 473 and my mobile number is 079029 44626 / 07786685227.



Susie Carmichael,  
Acting Head Teacher

### STAFFING

We would like to welcome our new start to the school.

Bex Tivey is joining us as Clerical and Classroom Assistant to cover Mary Ireson's maternity leave, and we look forward to welcoming her to the school.



The staffing arrangements for this year are -

Acting Head Teacher - Susie Carmichael. I shall be in school for half the week. The days will be dependent on the needs of each school.

Mairi Nicolson, Principal and Class Teacher will be in school each day.

Beccy Roth, Music Teacher will be with us on Monday afternoons and will also help support in class on a Wednesday.

Sam Wright, Additional Support Needs Assistant.

Bex Tivey, Clerical & Classroom assistant.

Stacey Inglis, Cleaner & Janitor.

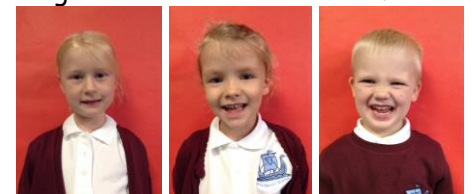
### ABSENCE AND ILLNESS

As we move into autumn, we feel it is a good time to remind everyone about NHS advice on children's attendance at school when they are feeling poorly. For bouts of sickness or upset stomach children should be kept at home for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness. If your child shows signs of being unwell, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school. Thank you for your co-operation and partnership in helping us to maintain a happy, healthy school.

If your child is absent from school it is important that the office is contacted on the morning of absence before 9:30am if possible. This procedure is in place for the safety and security of pupils. You will receive a telephone call or text message if no call is received.

### PUPILS

We are delighted to welcome Aofie, Eilidh and Ross to our P1 class. They have started off the term with great enthusiasm and I am sure they will be great assets to the school.



## LAST TERM

### I-CYCLE SUCCESS

We were delighted that both pupils from primary 7 successfully completed their i-cycle training. This training was developed by the road safety units of Argyll and Bute Council and covers everything from safety on the road, bike maintenance and Highway Code. As well as passing a written assessment on road signs, the pupils must show that they can safely and competently ride a bike on a road. Well done to you both! I would also like to thank Mary Ireson for completing the i-cycle training and taking the pupils through their training.

### P6/7 MATHS DAY

On 24<sup>th</sup> May, pupils from P6 & P7 from across the cluster schools gathered at Garmony for a Maths Day. The pupils were split into mixed groups and the activities were led by S1 pupils from Tobermory High School. All the activities were aimed at challenging the children's maths abilities but more importantly they were fun!

### GENERATION SCIENCE - POWER FROM THE PEOPLE

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of May the P4- P7's joined Dervaig and Lochdonhead schools at the Dervaig Village Hall for a fun, extremely interesting and engaging morning with the Generation Science Team from Edinburgh University.



### GENERATION SCIENCE - ELLA'S WOBBLE

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, we were joined by another Generation Science Team, from Edinburgh University, who came to Ulva Primary School to teach the P1 - P3's from Ulva and Dervaig Primary Schools all about Sound waves. We learned lots!

### P6/7 RESIDENTIAL TO STRAMASH

As part of Primary 6 & 7 transition, all the pupils from the North of Mull cluster went to Oban in May for a 4 day active residential with Stramash. The pupils enjoyed so many activities including: Coasteering, orienteering, canoeing, swimming, abseiling, castle walk and gorge walking. The children were amazing and really pushed themselves physically. Residential trips are such a valuable learning experience and on top of that all our pupils were so kind and considerate to each other.

### THEATRE VISIT

On 6<sup>th</sup> June, pupils from Ulva joined with other pupils from across the island to watch Mull Youth Theatre's performance of 'The Wild Wood Keeps on Growing' based on Wind in the Willows. This was a wonderful show and all pupils really enjoyed the experience of visiting Mull Theatre and seeing a live performance. We were also so proud of our pupils Louise, Eilidh and Kate who performed so beautifully in the show.

### PEBBLE PRESENTATIONS

We were delighted to welcome so many of you to the school to see the pupils Pebble Projects. The pupils had worked so very hard on these Personal Based Learning projects and I'm sure you were as impressed as I was with their presentations. The

skills for life and work that the pupils learned and evidenced that day were numerous.

### END OF TERM TRIP TO DUART CASTLE

As part of the 'Year of Young People', Sir Lachlan MacLean invited us to join him for a free tour of Duart Castle at the end of term. We had a very informative tour and the children all loved exploring. We had a lovely lunch sitting in the shade of a tree and then all enjoyed an ice-cream treat. However the highlight may well have been rolling down the grass hills!

### CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT

Thank you so much for coming along to our Celebration of Achievement. The pupils performed a rousing Samba performance and musical extravaganza led by Beccy. Then they were presented with their well-deserved awards. Well done to all for their hard work.

### THE TERM AHEAD

### PE KIT



Can pupils please ensure that they have a PE kit in school? They need a t-shirt, shorts, socks and trainers/gym shoes, all named. If your child has long hair, can they please have a band to tie it back? We would appreciate it if pupils could keep jewellery to a minimum on a PE day.

## SWIMMING

We shall have swimming sessions this term **and** after February. Please see dates in the section below.



## TOBERMORY FLOWER SHOW

The pupils have created lovely 'The Fairground' themed artwork for the Flower Show which is on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August in Tobermory. If you would like to see the artwork it will be on display in the Aros Hall that day.

## MOD

The local Mod will be taking place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September in Tobermory. We shall be taking the pupils up for a joint school action song with Lochdonhead. The school will be transported up for the action song then returning to school for the remainder of the day.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

Following a major archaeological excavation, we have been invited to visit the dig site at Kildavie on the 20<sup>th</sup> September. The pupils will be given the opportunity to have a tour around the trenches and a chance to talk to the archaeologists there.



## SMOKE FREE ME

The Smoke Free Me workshop will be returning to Salen on 3<sup>rd</sup> October for their workshop on Drugs and Smoking for the Primary 6 & 7 pupils.

## THE CHALLENGER BUS

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September the Challenger Bus will be visiting the island. The Challenger teams have been visiting schools since 2008 - with over 150 primary and secondary schools visited around Scotland over the past 18 months. One of the key RME outcomes and experiences for early years is to become familiar with beliefs Christian people have about God and Jesus through Christian stories, images, music and poems. The older pupils will be exploring the lives and teachings of Jesus and other figures in Christianity, increasing knowledge and understanding of key Christian beliefs. Due to weight restrictions on the road, the bus cannot visit us at Ulva, so instead we will be visiting Lochdonhead for a joint school session with them there.



## COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The community cafes are a wonderful way of establishing ourselves into the heart of this wonderful community as well as providing the school with much needed school funds. We hope to continue these this year and will issue the dates when they have been set. We thank you all for your support with them, it is highly appreciated by all.

## REPORTING

We will continue to be using the Evidence for Learning App to allow you to follow your child's progress through their online learning journal. If you need help with accessing this please let me know.

We will send out an interim report in December and a full written report in May.

## PARENT COUNCIL

Rebecca Munro is the Chair of the Parent Council and she will be in touch with you all to set a date for the first meeting.

## 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.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- 10.8.18 - In-service
- 13.8.18 - In-service
- 14.8.18 - Schools open
- 27.8.18 - Swimming
- 3.9.18 - Swimming
- 7.9.18 - Local Mod in Tobermory
- 10.9.18 - Swimming
- 10.9.18 - 14.9.18 - Maths Week
- 13.9.18 - Challenger Education Bus - Ulva visiting Lochdonhead
- 17.9.18 - Swimming
- 20.9.18 - Archaeological visit
- 24.9.18 - Swimming
- 1.10.18 - Swimming
- 3.10.18 - P6/7 Smoke Free Me at Salen
- 5.10.18 - Schools close
- 22.10.18 - Schools open