

Ulva Primary School Newsletter

Summer Term 2021

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DEAR PARENTS

I hope you had a lovely Easter break. It certainly felt like a long holiday and we had a good mix of weather! We look forward to welcoming some new families to the school this term. I will organise a Google Meet to allow us all to get together virtually when they have settled in.

We are happy to welcome Sarah Dickinson in to the school as a student teacher this term.

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 my mobile number is 079029 44626/07786685227.



Susie Carmichael,
Head Teacher



ABSENCE AND ILLNESS

Individuals should not attend school if they feel unwell.

The main symptoms of Coronavirus (Covid-19) are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Please remember FACTS:



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. Please inform the school office as soon as possible if your mobile telephone number changes. Thank you.

PICK UP / DROP OFF

Parents / carers should avoid coming into the school grounds unless it is essential. Can you please drop your child off at the school gate no earlier than 9.25am for a 9.30am start. We would ask that parents maintain the 2m distance between families while waiting at the school gate for your child at 3.30pm.

WATER, SNACKS & SOUP

WATER: Children are encouraged to drink water at any time throughout the day. Please send in a water bottle to school where it can be refilled. We would ask that juices are kept for lunchtimes only.

BREAKFAST CLUB: We have resumed breakfast club, where the children are offered toast.

SNACKS: Can you please provide a healthy snack for your child for morning break.

The children have requested a healthy snack in the afternoon. We will provide this for them.

SOUP: We are providing soup again on a Tuesday.

LAST TERM

Please read our blog to catch up with all our learning.

<https://ulvaschoolprimary.wordpress.com/>

SHORE SCHOOL

We have been enjoying lots of super sessions on the beach through our outdoor learning sessions.

The children have been looking at the amazing stones and animal life and we were lucky to see an otter on our first visit!



The P6 pupils have been working with Lucie and writing up a report for the shore schools:

"Thursday the 18th of March was the third shore school we did and was a lot more fun than I had first expected. We did seaweed identification and we learnt lots of different types of seaweed such as bladder wrack, gut weed, channel wrack, dulce, saw wrack, egg wrack, kelp and spiral wrack. We managed to find all of these and identify them and we even found some other types that weren't on our chart! We learnt that if you feed cows pink seaweed it will reduce their methane output by 99%! Seaweed sucks in co2 and produces oxygen through a process called photosynthesis. When I am down at the shore I am now able to identify types of seaweed that I couldn't identify before." - P6



POLYTUNNEL PROGRESS

Our poly tunnel has a new floor, so the children have been busy planting seeds to grow in it. They have planted peppers, beans, peas, carrots, beetroot, strawberries, sunflower seeds, rhubarb and some sweet peas. We are just about to plant our potatoes. So we will have lots of delicious home grown veg to use in our soup.



PE

The children were working hard to improve their general fitness levels. This involved raising our heart rates with lots of fun partner and group games, circuit training and when the weather was too bad, yoga on well-spaced mats indoors. The children were given the responsibility of choosing which games to play and then setting up any equipment and organising themselves into appropriate groups. They also had choice in which exercises to do at each of the stations during circuits.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

To promote emotional wellbeing within the school, we introduced our 'Positivitree'. This is a tree where each week everyone, including the adults are encouraged to add a leaf with a positive thought from the previous week written on it. There are many benefits to positive thinking so we will continue to add to our tree throughout next term too.

OUTDOOR LEARNING WITH ARDROY

Report by Matilda:

Alex from the Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre came and helped us make a map of the school and taught us how to make fire. The map making skills he taught us helped us make our map at the shore. We can now mark new things that we find on the shore on our map.

The first thing Alex did with us was compass points which warmed us up for the rest of the afternoon. We went around the playground looking at where the sheds and other obvious big structures are and we drew them on our map. Alex then hid small coded squares of wood around the playground for us to find. Each one had one letter and one number on it. It was called Orienteering. We had to race to find them all, Chayce and I won the race.



LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Through consultation with the children at our Pupil Council Meetings. We have had three clubs running for some of this term.

Matilda was leading a Sports Club, Leo had a very original idea for a Funny Joke Club and Chayce had been leading Dance Club. These clubs will continue for the first two weeks of next term, before stopping to allow others an opportunity to run a club of their wish.

THIS TERM

STAFFING

We are delighted to welcome Sarah Dickinson on her PGCE placement. Sarah will be joining us from 19th April until the 4th June.

CYCLING

We will be continuing to have PE outside. Please provide your child with warm PE clothes for this. This term we will be focusing on cycling skills.



PE

We will also be using our second hour of PE to work on developing our skills in Athletics. This will hopefully build up the children's enthusiasm for the upcoming Tokyo Olympics.



TOPIC

We will be rounding up our work on Scottish Wildlife and working towards our Platinum Woodland

Trust Award, using the trees within our own grounds. Miss Dickinson will also be leading the pupils through a mini topic on Global Citizenship, with each lesson relating directly to a different UNICEF Rights of the Child Article.



OUTDOOR LEARNING WITH ARDROY

We will be having 2 more whole day sessions with Alex from Ardroy which we are all looking forward to. The dates for this are now 29th and 30th April.

POLLING DAY

Polling Day is on Thursday 6th May and as the school is the local Polling Station it will be closed. We will, however, offer remote learning that day. We will send a timetable and resources home beforehand.

PARENT COUNCIL

The post holders for the Parent Council are:

Rebecca Munro - Chair
Sam Wright - Secretary
Lucie Howard - Treasurer

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. Unfortunately, at present, we have been advised against non-essential visitors to the school. We will therefore be getting in touch with you online for your thoughts and views. I am happy to organise a

Google Meet for the next Parent Council meeting.

For more information, and many more photos, please visit our blog on <https://ulvaschoolprimary.wordpress.com/>

REPORTING TO PARENTS

The pupils are keen that we continue with WOW slips to celebrate achievements at home. Can you please return these slips to school to share.

We will be continuing with 'Seesaw' as a reporting tool. If you need any assistance with this please let us know.

We will send out a full written report in May and follow this with an online consultation on Tuesday 1st June, times to be arranged.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

19.4.21 - Schools open
29.4.21 - Ardroy outdoor learning session
30.4.21 - Ardroy outdoor learning session
6.5.21 - Polling Day - Remote learning for pupils as school closed
27.5.21 - Schools close
28.5.21 - In-service
31.5.21 - Holiday
1.6.21 - Schools open
1.6.21 - Parental Consultations
30.6.21 - Schools close
12.8.21 & 13.8.21 - In-service
16.8.21 - Schools open