

# Ulva Primary School Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2018

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### DEAR PARENTS

I hope you had a good October break. The weather has certainly become very wintry.

We have had a very busy first term as you can see from some of the events shown, but this term promises to be even busier!

Pupil voice is very important to us at the school and so I have changed the format of the newsletter to include more reports from the pupils. I hope you enjoy reading their views on school events.

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,  
Head Teacher

### STAFFING

I was delighted to be offered the permanent position of Joint Head

Teacher of Ulva and Lochdonhead Primary Schools at the end of term. I am also delighted that Mairi Nicolson has accepted the permanent position of Principal Teacher / Teacher at the school.

A vacancy has arisen for Additional Support Needs Assistant and this is being advertised.

The staffing arrangements for this year are -

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.

Bex Tivey, Clerical & Classroom assistant & ASN assistant 0.2FTE.

Additional Support Needs Assistant 0.8FTE - vacancy.

Stacey Inglis, Cleaner & Janitor.

possible if your mobile telephone number changes. Thank you.

### LAST TERM

### SMOKE FREE ME

Primary 6 and 7 pupils went to the 'Smoke Free Me' workshop in Salen on 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

"I enjoyed the show, it was very colourful with lots of interaction. It was a good show that told the story of how smoking came about and how people used to think that it was cool to smoke to look older, but it really isn't as it can make you die a lot younger." - Isabelle P7



### ABSENCE AND ILLNESS

If your child is absent from school it is important that the office is contacted on the morning of absence before 9:15am 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



## SWIMMING

"We did 6 weeks of swimming lessons at Craignure. My swimming teacher was Iona Whyte and she was lovely and helpful. I managed to swim under a hula-hoop!" - Aoife P1

## MOD

The local Mod took place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September in Tobermory. The pupils performed a wonderful joint school action song with Lochdonhead. "I liked singing in the Mod. We went to the playpark for lunch and then we went to the book shop and we chose a book for the school library" - Matilda P3



## THE CHALLENGER BUS

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September the Challenger Bus visited the island. "We went to Lochdonhead to go on a double decker bus, it was exciting. My favourite part was the puppets, they were very funny." - Leo P3



## MULL OTTER GROUP VISIT

"Carol Benetto, who is an otter expert and who has been all over the world spotting otters, came to tell us about them. After that we went with the Mull Otter Group to help them put up a new information board about otters. The best part was when Carol very kindly gave us an otter each to keep!" - Chayce P3 & Eilidh P1

"We thought the otter visit was great fun and we got little otters each and the class also got an Asian Short Haired otter and a puppet otter" - Isabelle P7 & Kate P6



## IONA ABBEY WORKSHOPS

Last term, the pupils from P6 and P7 were invited to Iona Abbey to see the new Library.

"I enjoyed the bus journey because there were lots of people I knew on the bus. It had a really good social aspect. When we got to Iona Abbey it was very quiet and peaceful and my favourite parts would be visiting the library and getting our pilgrim cards stamped.

After visiting Iona, I went to a workshop at Dervaig. It was really fun. I learned how to write calligraphy using a fountain pen. I had to dip the pen into an ink pot. I found this easy because I have done this at home before. We made lots of different styles of letters and we wrote a poem and designed a special initial letter like they did in the old manuscripts." - Kate P6

## GREAT BRITISH BEACH CLEAN

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September the pupils took part in the Great British Beach Clean at Laggan Beach.

"We walked to our shore to take part in the Great British Beach Clean. I had to put gloves on and put the rubbish in bin bags. It was good, the beach was already quite clean." - Ross P1



## MACBETH

On the 5<sup>th</sup> September Andy Cannon, formerly of Wee Stories Theatre brought 'Is this a Dagger?' To Ulva Primary School for P4-P7. In this story of Macbeth, audiences joined Andy on a thousand-year journey from fact to fiction and back again.

The show was nominated for CATS Award for Best Show for Children and Young People and described as "Strikingly heartfelt and intelligent... immensely classy stuff" by The Scotsman.

"I thought the show about Macbeth was very good and I also had quite a good seat. One man played all the characters which I thought was very good. Banquo was my favourite character because he had a funny accent." - Bruce P4

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Thank you to Johnny Paton for leading our Harvest Thanksgiving Service. We had a wonderful turnout - thank you all.



## PRIMARY 1 TERM

"I am enjoying school so far. My favourite thing is learning my new sounds." - Eilidh P1

"I liked the otter group coming. My favourite thing is when I get to draw." - Ross P1

"I think school is good. My favourite thing is using the playdough to help make my hands nice and strong." - Aoife P1

## THANK YOU BARRY!

Barry very kindly came to school last term to erect a school sign that the children had made. We think it looks absolutely beautiful - thank you so much Barry!



## THE TERM AHEAD

## RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL



We were delighted to be awarded our Bronze: Rights Committed Award for Rights Respecting School last term. We are now on our journey towards Silver: Rights Aware Award. Our focus for November is Article 28 - Every child has a right to an education.

## HALLOWE'EN PARTY

We will be having our annual Hallowe'en Party & Community Caf  at 2pm on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October. It would be wonderful if you can come along - fancy dress is optional!



## 90KG RICE CHALLENGE

The pupils were very keen to take on the 90kg rice challenge that they successfully achieved last year. The challenge is to sell 90 x 1kg bags of rice for  3 each. All the money raised goes to a farmer in Malawi to pay for their child to go to school. Orders can be placed at the school.



## PE



The pupils will be doing joint PE with the Lochdonhead pupils this term. They will travel to Craignure Village Hall on a Thursday morning where they will be learning basketball skills and team games. On 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December, Allan Wright will be leading touch rugby sessions with the pupils.

## 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.

## PANTOMIME TRIP

Pupils from Primary 5 - Primary 7 will be joining pupils from Lochdonhead, Tobermory and Dervaig for the Pantomime Trip this year. The trip is on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December and they will be going to watch Aladdin at the Kings Theatre. More detail will follow.



## CHRISTMAS SHOW

The School Christmas Show and Christmas Party will be in the afternoon of Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December at the school. If we are lucky we may even get a visit from Santa!



## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December is Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. We would like to invite everyone to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper and bring £1 to donate to Save the Children.



## PARENT COUNCIL

Following the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September, Rebecca Munro has agreed to continue as Chair, Sam Wright will continue as Secretary and Stacey Inglis will be Treasurer. Rebecca Tivey has also agreed to audit the accounts. The next Parent Council will be organised soon.

## SCHOOL BLOG & FACEBOOK

We are really pleased with the feedback we are getting from you about our school blog. We would really love if all our parents could "follow" us as you will then automatically receive notifications when new information is added.

We use the blog like an online newsletter and we update it as events, news and activities happen.

There are also dedicated information pages where we will post about classroom activities and share the curriculum overviews for each term. We also have a school Facebook page, there is a link to this on our blog page.

If you have any questions or suggestions about the information that is available on the blog, or information that you would like to see, please get in touch. If you are unable or have difficulties in accessing the internet and wish to receive updates in paper or email format please let us know.

The blog address is <https://ulvaschoolprimary.wordpress.com/>

## 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.

## 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.

## COMMUNITY CAFÉS

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. The dates have been provisionally set and these are:

**31.10.18** - Community Café and Hallowe'en Party  
**27.11.18**, **5.2.19**, **26.3.19** and **21.5.19**.

We thank you for your continued support with these.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

**22.10.18** - Schools open  
**31.10.18** - Community Café and Hallowe'en Party  
**8.11.18** - **P5-6** Digital Leaders workshop at THS  
**23.11.18** - Schools close  
**26.11.18** - In-service  
**27.11.18** - Community Café  
**6.12.18** - **7.12.18** **P5, 6 & 7** Panto Trip to Glasgow  
**14.12.18** - Christmas Jumper Day  
**17.12.18** - Christmas Show  
**21.12.18** - Schools close  
**7.1.19** - Schools open  
**5.2.19** - Community Café  
**15.3.19** - Health Day  
**26.3.19** - Community Café  
**14.5.19** - **17.5.19** - **P6/7** Residential  
**21.5.19** - Community Café  
**7.6.19** - Sports Day  
**10.6.19** - **14.6.19** - **P7** Induction week  
**28.6.19** - Schools close