

# PORTMOAK PRIMARY NEWS

## MAY 2017



### ELAV Report

I hope you all enjoyed reading the report from our Extended Learning and Achievement visit in school last term. The staff and I are very pleased to have the many strengths of our school recognized. For those who missed this, you can download a copy of the report here:

<http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/17542/Portmoak-Primary-School>

### Parent Survey



Thank you to everyone who responded to our annual Parent Survey. We are grateful for the many lovely comments and the very positive feedback you gave. We have reviewed the information gathered, tried to identify any common themes from this to take forward and shared these with the Parent Council.

We will be looking next year towards engaging parents more regularly with their children's learning through continuing to develop the structure of the Learners' Journey Jotters and ensuring more information is available to parents about their children's progress across the year.

When analyzing for trends, I am aware that there are several individual issues which would be helpful to explore further with those parents. Please make an appointment through the school office if you feel a discussion would be useful. Thank you to all our families for your continued support with your child's learning.

### Staffing Update

Our teacher numbers are stable for next year, with 5 classes again: P1/2, P2/3, P4/5, P5/6 and P6/7. There are a few changes of teachers as follows:

- Mrs Hughes will be leaving us at the summer after a year of teaching French on Tuesdays. She will be working at Milnathort Primary, so will not be too far away.
- Mrs Fraser will be with us again for Tuesday and Fridays. She will be covering French for the teacher's reduced class contact time instead of RME. She will also teach P4/5 on a Friday.
- Mr Ainsworth will be working two days next year, delivering PE on a Tuesday and a Friday instead of just a Friday.
- We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Bell at the end of the session as she finishes her probation year. We have been advised we are getting a probationer teacher again next year and will confirm details of this in due course.
- The permanent Principal Teacher post, currently held by Mrs Woods on an acting basis, has been advertised and interviews will be held on 9th June for this post.



Our support staff allocation is the same as last year, but we have the following staff changes:

- Mrs Welsh will be leaving us at the summer to take up a place at teacher training college.
- Mrs Davies will be keeping some of her classroom hours but will also be supporting Mrs Clark in the school office.
- 11 hours of support staff hours (classroom based) will be advertised from 26<sup>th</sup> May.

## Clothing for Infants



If you have spare trousers, age 5-6, boys or girls could you please consider donating them for Ms MacGillivray's 'emergency change' box as this needs to be restocked. We have also had a few pairs of spare trousers lent out and not returned. Can you please check at home and return any stray borrowed items if you know your child has had a toileting accident and been changed at school.

## P1/2 and P2/3 Trip to St. Andrews

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May our two youngest classes went on a Gruffalo hunt in St. Andrews Botanic Garden. They then had a lovely visit to the beach. A great day out was had by all and staff were very pleased with the children's attitude and behavior on this trip. Thanks to all who helped on the day and to the other parents who volunteered.

## P5/6 and P6/7 Trip to Deep Sea World

On 4<sup>th</sup> May our two oldest classes had a visit to Deep Sea World. This was a very enjoyable day and again staff were very happy with our pupils when they were out and about. Thank you to helpers for this day also.

## Sports Day – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Sports Day – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June Parents and Carers are welcome to join us on bottom pitch from 1pm. We are hoping for glorious weather. If it is slightly wet it will still go ahead. Stay tuned to twitter for updates on the day! Children need sun hats, water bottles and their gym kit with suitable outdoor trainers on the day.



The Events & Fundraising team will have a stall selling refreshments before the first race and then an honesty box will be in operation during the races. They will also have a stall selling second hand uniforms. Donations for the cake and uniform stall would be gratefully received. Please hand these in to the school office on Monday morning.

## Health Week

Our Health Week commences on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June and we have lots of fun activities planned. Monday morning involves a series of tasks organised and led by the Eco Committee, all about looking after our environment. Our action-packed Sports Day will begin at 1pm on Monday afternoon. We have taster sessions in Cricket and Karate throughout the week. We will consider looking after our bodies in terms of getting quality sleep and complete some outdoor learning problem solving tasks to keep our minds healthy. On Wednesday there will be a healthy eating focus, with opportunities to taste a range of foods (e.g. bread, cold meat, fruit and cheese). We will, of course, take into account any food allergies, however please contact the school office to inform us of any foods you would not want your child to taste. Look out for our whole school health week homework with the aim is to complete at least one task each day. Please initial each activity that your child does and return to school on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June (so there is plenty of time over the weekend to do some activities!)

## Lost Property

The staff will be laying out all the lost property for parents to reclaim on Sports Day so if you are able to attend please make sure you pop along to see if you can recover anything that your child has lost. The lost property boxes will be cleared out over the summer holidays so if you have lost anything and won't make it to Sports Day please come in before or after school any day to look through the boxes which are at the school reception before the end of term.



## Michael Bruce

To commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Michael Bruce's death, we have planned a 'Michael Bruce Week' from 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June. The P4s-P7s will visit Michael Bruce's cottage, complete a series of tasks about the life and times of Michael Bruce and study his poetry. The P1-P3s are being visited by a storyteller on the afternoon of 15<sup>th</sup> June and will complete some activities inspired by some of the poems of Michael Bruce. Every pupil will write a poem, which will be displayed at the Portmoak Festival, with 12 of the poems chosen to be displayed in the village and along the Michael Bruce Way. This year's sponsored walks on the 15<sup>th</sup> June will feature part of the Michael Bruce Way and the P4s-P7s will climb Bishop Hill, a place where Michael Bruce sat and was inspired to write his poems.



### Ardroy trip – P6

The P6 children had a fabulous weekend at Ardroy from 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May. The weather was beautiful and everyone had the opportunity to experience something new and challenge themselves in different ways.

Thank you to Mr Ainsworth and Miss Kettles for giving the children such a worthwhile experience.

## Portmoak Gala & Dress Down Day

This will be held on the Well Green at Scotlandwell on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Portmoak Primary will have a chocolate / sweetie tombola stand. The children are having a dress down day on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and have been asked to bring in donations of bags, bars, boxes of sweeties or chocolates for the tombola. Children do not need to bring a donation in order to dress down. Please note we do not allow football strips on dress down days.

## Sainsbury's Tokens

If you have any Sainsbury's Active Kids tokens please can you hand these to the school office by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June. Thank you.



## School Text Messaging

We would ask you to use the school email address or telephone if you have any queries as we are not alerted to new text messages. Please only reply to text messages if we have asked you to do so.

## P7 Transition Transport

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June Primary 7 pupils will be visiting Kinross High School for their transition days. If your child requires transport to the High School, you should have received a letter from the transport department detailing bus times and pick up points. If you have not received this letter please contact the school office.

## Staff Car Park

Please do not allow children to cross the staff car park at the start and end of the day. This area is out of bounds at all times for safety reasons.



## Dalguise Trip – P7



Our P7 pupils had a very successful transition residential to PGL Dalguise on 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May. 135 children from across six primary schools travelled together and enjoyed glorious sunshine as they got to know their future KHS peers.

Thank you to Mrs Woods and Mr Ainsworth for giving their time up for this event.



## Leaver's Assembly

Our Leaver's Assembly will be on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 9.30am in Portmoak Church**. All classes will play a part in this assembly and Parents / Carers are welcome to join us. Please note that there is limited parking at the church and Portmoak Hall, parents / carers are encouraged to park in Kinnesswood and walk to the Church. As usual, we will be contacting you nearer the time to request help with walking to the church.

## Award for Miss Kettles

Well done to Miss Kettles who has been awarded the Sandy Scrimgeour Award for Outstanding Contributions to the P & K Instrumental Music Service. Miss Kettles gives a lot of her time to Junior Youth Orchestra and we are delighted that her dedication has been recognised across the Council.



## Dates for Your Diary:

- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May – P1/2 RSPB Loch Leven
- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May – P6/7 Cluster Athletics Event (4.15 – 6.00pm)
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Dress Down Day for Chocolate Tombola at Portmoak Gala
- Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Portmoak Gala
- 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June – Health Week
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – P6s John Muir Award – RSPB Loch Leven
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June – transition visits to Kinross High School for P7s
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June – transition visits to Portmoak for new P1s
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June – P6 Ardroy pupils leading John Muir Assembly – P6 family & friends welcome from 9.15am
- 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June – Michael Bruce Week
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Sponsored Walk
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June – P4-7 Trip to Queensferry Crossing exhibition
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – County Sports Finals, Perth. For those involved.
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Leavers' service at Portmoak Church 9.30am
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June – End of Term 12 noon.
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August – School Session 2017/18 commences for Staff
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August – School Session 2017/18 commences for Pupils (Primary 1 Pupils at 9.15am)