

MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMARY

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2016

KEEP SCOTLAND BEAUTIFUL BEACH CLEAN



On the afternoon of Wednesday 5th October, Primary 4 and 5 pupils, including Gaelic Medium and Enhanced Provision pupils; worked alongside Paul Castle from the Highland Countryside Ranger Service. They carried out a beach clean of Thurso beach, as part of the Keep Scotland Beautiful initiative. This also linked nicely with Primary 5's topic "The Sea" and continued our efforts towards Mount Pleasant Primary's first Eco Schools Green Flag.

Working along the length of the beach the pupils enthusiastically filled several bags of litter from along the strandline up to the sea wall. Paul Castle then took the collected rubbish away in his van to be disposed of in a safe place.

DEPUTE HEAD APPOINTMENT

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Firth is our Depute Head for this academic year. Due to a variety of reasons we were not able to appoint a permanent Depute Head teacher this session, however we will be advertising for this post early in Term 4 to allow us to have a permanent management team in place for 2017-18.

BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2016

Primary 2 are organising this year's appeal again, and all children have been given a leaflet home with instructions. All filled shoeboxes and individual items should be taken to school by **Wednesday 9th November**. Thank you once again for your kindness and support.

PARENT COUNCIL PUDDING NIGHT



There is nothing we can think that would be better on a dark November evening than eating loads of pudding!! We hope that as many of you as possible will manage along to our Pudding Night on Friday 4th November at 6.30pm. Tickets are available at £3.00 for adults and £1.00 for children.

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

Thank you to everyone for coming to the MacMillan Coffee Afternoon. We raised £518.98!!! Thank you to Anne Smith for judging our bake off. The winners were Corina Swanson with her rainbow cake and Emily Sutherland with her carrot cake. Thank you to all contestants for entering your baking. Thank you for all your donations of baking. Thank you to all staff and pupils who helped organise the event.

The FLAG Group

RIVETING READING



We would like to say a big "Thank You" to the Coop and all the Coop customers who voted for us as part of the Coop Local Fund giveaway earlier this year. We were gifted £2500 which we used to purchase units and small waterproof cushions to allow the children to participate in whole school paired reading sessions.

Two mornings a week the older children pair up with a younger child and share stories with them. This is a great way of modelling the skills of fluency and expression as well as being a great way to build our learning community across the stages and the children thoroughly enjoy this time together.

ARMISTICE

P6 and P7 pupils have been invited to attend the Armistice Ceremony in St Peter's and St Andrew's Church to commemorate the ending of the Battle of the Somme on Friday 11 November. Whilst the older pupils will attend the church service the rest of the pupils will observe the 2 minute silence in school.

Poppies will be on sale in school from Monday 7th to Friday 11th November.

P7 SOLAR PROJECT

Primary 7 went to Miller Academy to learn about the Solar project. We picked a planet from the solar system out of a polly-pocket. We went into these groups and learnt about different planets. With the information and science, we had to make a piece of art to show to the other Primary 7s (from Miller and Pennyland). We will go to Thurso High School to present what we have made in our group and tell them what we have learnt. As a whole group, we will choose which one we like best and present it to the other planets.

Lainey and Emma P7

ADVERSE WEATHER/SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURES

From time to time it may be necessary to close the School and/or Nursery. This would usually only happen if the heating should fail or in severe weather conditions when it may be unsafe for pupils or staff to attend. This has been changed to an 0800 number so that you are not charged for the call.

Three methods of informing parents of school closures are:



- By visiting the Highland Council winter weather website:
www.winter.highlandschools.org.uk
- Tuning into Moray Firth Radio (97.4, 96.6, 96.7, 102.5, 102.8FM) who regularly provide updates of school closures.
- Phoning the Schools Information Line **0800 564 2272** and entering the school's pin number **04 2640**.
Select "Severe Weather"

The decision as to whether a pupil should attempt to travel to school in adverse weather conditions, whether by transport or by foot, lies with the parent. You are encouraged to read the Education Authority policy guidelines on travelling to school in adverse weather conditions. This policy can be found by visiting **www.highland.gov.uk**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| Friday 4 th November | Parent Council Pudding Nightyummmm! |
| Wednesday 9 th November | Blythswood shoeboxes - last day for collection in school |
| Thursday 10 th November | Scripture Union Lunch Club (Primary 4 - 7) |
| Thursday 10 th November | Parents' Night |
| Friday 11 th November | Armistice Day |
| Tuesday 15 th November | Blythswood Boxes to Riverside (Primary 2) |
| Friday 18 th November | Children in Need fundraiser - more info to follow |
| Tuesday 22 nd November | Parent Council Meeting - 7.00pm in Main Hall |
| Tuesday 29 th November | Early Lunch (for Panto set up) |
| Tuesday 29 th November | Whole school pantomime - Jack & the Beanstalk |
| Friday 2 nd December | Christmas Jumper Day for Thurso Town Improvements |
| Friday 2 nd December | Santa's Grotto and Craft Fayre - 6.00pm in Main Hall |
| Wednesday 7 th December | Croileagan, Nursery & Primary 1 to TTIA Santa's Grotto |
| Friday 9 th December | Enhanced Provision to TTIA Santa's Grotto |
| Tuesday 13 th December | Christmas Show |
| Thursday 15 th December | Whole School Christmas Lunch |
| Week of 19 th December | PARTY WEEK ☺ Dates to follow in next newsletter |
| Friday 23 rd December | Last day of school |
| Monday 9 th January | School opens for Term 3 |

SCHOOL TERM DATES - Highland Council have now published all the school term dates including public holidays and in service dates up to 2018. These can be found by visiting

http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/32/school_term_dates