

Isla Primary School Newsletter



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Honesty, respect, responsibility, kindness, perseverance and teamwork

Dear parents, carers and families,

Welcome to our March newsletter!

It has been a busy term so far with a lot planned for the final three weeks. The ski trip was a great success and the feedback from Cally and his team was that children did very well and listened to all teaching taking place. Staff were very happy to see the encouragement from children towards others and the perseverance shown by children when certain aspects became challenging. Thanks to all children, staff, Cally's team and helpers.

Our P7 Quiz team did very well this month, winning the Rotary Quiz recently held in Kirriemuir. Against a number of local schools, we came first and are now through to the regional stage. Well done to Tom, Magnus, Mia and Gilbert! The shield is with the Rotary and will be engraved ahead of a formal presentation at the end of the academic session.

Thank you to everyone who completed our recent curriculum survey, this is a key part of self-evaluation and school improvement. We will be creating a working party to look at the curriculum and vision around May/June time. We would like this to be representative across the school. If you would like to be part of this working group, please email the school with the subject matter "Working group".

You will have been issued with a letter regarding forthcoming learner led conferences. These appointments are slightly different to traditional parents evening. The session develops greater self-advocacy, greater engagement and learner accountability for progression in the curriculum, giving key skills for learning, life and work. Your child will be prepared by staff ahead of the meeting, but they will lead the meeting themselves.

The school will be interviewing for the teaching vacancy currently in P1-4 at the end of this session. We hope to be in a position to confirm an appointment before the end of term.

With best wishes,
Simon McKell
Head Teacher

Staffing update

We have been fortunate to have supply teachers assisting in the curriculum delivery in P1-4. Thanks to Mrs Howson, Mrs Mason and Mrs Martin.

Basketball team

Many congratulations to our basketball team who competed at the recent tournament in Forfar. The team displayed excellent sportsmanship winning four matches and drawing one. Well done Calvin, Archie, Angus, Struan, Tom, Magnus, Lochy and Alistair.

Football tournament

The postponed football tournament from last year has been rescheduled for 23rd March. New consent forms for the team will be sent home shortly.

Bikeability P6

Cycle training for P6 will commence on the 10th March. Further sessions this term will be on the 17th March. All P6 children will require their bike and cycle helmet on these days. Mr Moncrieff from Active Schools will lead these sessions. Further sessions will take place in April.

School Committees and Pancake appeal for Turkey and Syria

Thank you to all families who came to our recent Rights Respecting afternoon session. Thank you for all the feedback. The school has now achieved the "Fair Aware" award as part of our recent programmes. Thanks to all families for donations of pancakes and finances. The school raised over £120 for DEC Syria/Turkey earthquake appeal.

Red Nose Day 17th March

The 17th March is Red Nose Day. The Pupil Council have suggested that the school has a "dress down day" on this day. Children can "dress down" with any donations going to Comic Relief.

School trips

Many thanks to the Parent Council who have financed two social studies field trips this session. P1-4 will be making the trip to Dundee to visit Verdant Works. This will support learning taking place in class in relation to "The Victorians" and life in the past.

P5-7 will be visiting Culloden Moor where there will be a visit to the battlefield, interactive museum and participation in a workshop. Please can all outstanding permission slips be returned to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

P5-7 Jacobites study



Jacobite targets designed by P5-7.

Nursery

Nursery hope to visit the birthplace of JM Barrie on the morning of the 22nd March and take in the Peter Pan playpark, but require assistance with transport. Please liaise with Nursery staff if you are able to assist. Thank you. Our next "Stay and play" session will be at 14:00 on the 28th March.

School uniform

Please see Border Embroideries for school jumpers and uniform needs.

Parentpay

A gentle reminder to please ensure that any outstanding lunch payments are made via Parentpay. Thank you.

Punctuality and absence

We kindly ask that children arrive for school starting at 09:00. If your child is going to be absent from school, please email the school or phone to confirm, this saves significant admin time each morning, thank you.

Dates for the diary

10th March	P6 Bikeability
17th March	P6 Bikeability
17th March	Dress Down day for Comic Relief
21st March	International day of the forest
21st March	Learner led conferences: Nursery, P1-4 and P5-7
22nd March	World Water Day
22nd March	Proposed Nursery trip
23rd March	Football tournament Webster's
24th March	Scottish Fire and rescue visit and project P5-7
27th March	EuroQuiz
28th March	P5-7 trip to Culloden, depart at 08:00. Arrive to school no later than 07:55
28th March	P1-4 Victorian school day. Come dressed to school as a Victorian child
28th March	"Stay and play" Nursery 14:00
30th March	P1-4 Verdant Works trip to Dundee
31st March	Scottish Fire and rescue visit and project P5-7 (session 2)
31st March	End of term

Spring/Easter holiday

17th April	Start of new term 09:00
20th April	P6 Bikeability
21st April	P6 Bikeability
27th April	P6 Bikeability
28th April	P6 Bikeability

