

Low Port Primary School: Where you are given opportunities and leave with happy memories.

## Newsletter November 2016

My apologies for the delay in getting the November newsletter out to you all.

### Staffing News

Mrs Logan has had a baby girl, Mia Autumn. We would like to wish the new family all the very best and look forward to cuddles soon!

### School Improvement Update

We are making very good progress with the priorities and actions in our improvement plan. Below is a detailed update on our development work which has been shared with Parent Council.

#### Priority 1

Teachers have begun working with cluster colleagues towards moderation of either maths or literacy. They have looked at the new Scottish Government benchmarks and how these will impact on learning. All teachers within the school are working as a trio to plan, assess and moderate learning in maths/numeracy. Additional Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning (SEAL) sessions for staff have taken place. A SEAL parent session for P1 and P2 also took place in October. Our whole school family learning event is planned for 22 November with the focus being learning in maths/numeracy.

#### Priority 2

Small changes have been made in the way we track and monitor progress to bring in wellbeing indicators. Pupils have been consulted in ways to track achievement and will now use reflection jotters to do this.

P1-3 teachers have had training in using the Online Learner's Journey as a profile. This is currently being populated with plans to launch the live system in January to those families along with an interim report at that time. This will impact on the end of session report in June with P1-3 format being different to P4-7.

#### Additional Tasks

- All staff have had bereavement training. A policy has been drafted, a toolkit is being developed for support and PTA/ETF have agreed to funding for resources.
- The positive behaviour policy review has begun. Pupils were consulted in October; staff were consulted October/November and information has been shared with Parent Council.
- Eco schools - a VLG plan is being put in place led by pupils.

- 1+2 planning and resources have been audited and reviewed. PTA/ETF funded a new Spanish resource.
- There is a focus group working towards Dyslexia Friendly Schools approaches. A parent, 2 Academy pupils and Mrs Cleland are meeting on a weekly basis. Academy staff and pupils are working together with us on developing this further. An assembly for P4-7 took place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November with a focus on dyslexia. We are using a Passport to Success document to support pupils with dyslexia.
- Growth Mindset training took place with Professor Barry Hymer with all cluster schools attending. P6 and P7 have been exploring challenge and growth mindsets as part of their class work. Examples of their work has been shared with Parent Council.
- We are using the Parental Engagement Framework to help us plan to further develop family learning in line with our current priorities and additional tasks. Feedback from the recent P1 and P2 SEAL session has been both positive and helpful for next steps.
- We are working more collaboratively across the school - second level planning together around Shakespeare; whole school anti bullying focus with Rookie Rockstars.

### Sharing Our Learning Events

Last session we held a very successful event focusing on Interdisciplinary learning and we would like to would like to invite all parents/carers to an open afternoon with a focus on maths/numeracy this session. The event will take place on Tuesday 22 November from 2.15pm to 3pm. You will be welcome to visit any class you like where pupils will be learning in a range of ways about maths/numeracy. We would ask that you leave classes by 3pm to allow the pupils time to prepare for the end of the school day.

### Rookie Rockstars

On the evenings of 22 and 23 November 6.30-7.30pm, we would like to invite you to see all our pupils perform with Rookie Rockstars as part of our anti-bullying focus. Due to the size of the hall, we will need to split the school by families to accommodate all pupils having a chance to perform. Therefore the split will be as follows -

Surname A-L Tuesday 22 November 6.30-7.30pm

Surname M-Z Wednesday 23 November 6.30-7.30pm

A letter explaining what Rookie Rockstars is about, how to buy tickets and arrangements for the night has been sent out.

On the evening your child is performing, we would ask that all children enter from the P1 PORCH DOORS which will be opened at 6.05pm. Staff will be on hand to supervise the children and ensure they are ready for their performance! Audience members with tickets will be admitted from the MAIN ENTRANCE from 6.15pm. Children will only be expected to perform on the one night.

### Wider Achievements

We currently have after school clubs running as follows -

- Mondays - choir at lunch time and dance after school
- Tuesdays - chess at lunch time; fitness, Winter Crafts and French clubs after school
- Wednesdays - netball after school
- Thursdays - football after school

Some of these clubs are for specific ages. Please contact the office should you wish further information. Should your child wish to attend an extra-curricular club and secure a place, please let us know if they will be absent at any times. For security reasons, we keep a register. In some cases there are waiting lists and places could be reallocated should your child change their mind.

### Skiing Success

Children participating in the most recent ski event were very successful! There were gold medals for both the A and B teams in open and novice categories respectively. There was also a great showing from the C team as well. Lots of fun was had despite the sometimes awful weather.

### Chess Club

Five Low Port children have taken part in individual chess tournaments over recent weekends. For several of them it was the first time they have entered individual competitions and between them they won two trophies (for a second and third place finish) and two medals. Well done to Eileen and Megan (P7), Ted and Alasdair (P6) and Ashley (P3).

### Cross Country Regional Competition

Congratulations to Low Port Primary School who won the P7 Girls Race! Additionally, a big well done to Rebecca Stirling who won the individual P7 girls race.

*On October 5th 8 girls (Ella, Laura, Rebecca, Kristina, Madeline, Ruth, Anna and Anna) from P7 went to the cross country regionals held in Livingston. All 8 of us got a strong placing especially Rebecca who took 1st place! Lots of teamwork was involved due to an injury and we supported each other along the way. A big shout out to Laura who despite an injury managed to finish the race, placing very well. A huge thank you to the parents who helped us and brought us along - we could not have done it without you!*

*As a team we felt we worked brilliantly together and we all had so much fun!  
Written by all the girls!*

### Parent Body News

The next PTA meeting will take place on Wednesday 30th November at 7pm.

The next Parent Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 1 February at 7pm.

### Diary Dates

We thought that it would be helpful to include December diary dates as this is such a busy time of year!

Friday 11 November	PTA Disco
Sunday 13 November	Remembrance Service at St Michael's Church 10.50am
Monday 14 November - Thursday 17th	Rookie Rockstars rehearsals
Wednesday 16 November	P7 Athletics Cluster Event
Friday 18 November	Children In Need Day - wear spots! Fun events in the hall.
Tuesday 22 November	Open Afternoon - sharing our learning in maths/numeracy 2.15-3pm Rookie Rockstars 6.30-7.30pm for children surnames A-L
Wednesday 23 November	Rookie Rockstars 6.30-7.30pm for children surnames M-Z
Friday 25 November	VLG 3
Wednesday 7 December	Christmas Lunch - wear a Christmas jumper if you wish! P3 football event
Monday 12 December	Nativity rehearsal - school only
Tuesday 13 December	P4 library talk
Wednesday 14 December	Nativity St Michael's Church 1.45pm All Welcome
Thursday 15 December	P6 and P7 Party PM
Friday 16 December	VLG 4 Parent Helper Mince Pies and Coffee Morning 10.30am
Monday 19 December	P4 Party PM
Tuesday 20 December	P3 and P5 Party PM
Wednesday	P1 and P2 Party PM ALL BREAK FOR HOLIDAYS