

Newtonhill Newsletter

March 2023



Term 3

This term has flown by so quickly and it seems no time until the Easter break. Children have been working very hard and we have had lots of enthusiastic learning for our social subjects and history contexts. Parents and teachers may have found this more challenging especially as history this term is learning about the 70s, 80s and for Primary 1 and 2 the 90s. However the music that has been playing throughout school has definitely brought back memories for many of the adults.

Staffing

Mrs Barrack has returned to join us in Primary 2/3. She is working alongside Mrs Shiach for the remainder of this session.

We are delighted to inform everyone that Mrs Niven had a beautiful baby girl in February.

School Events

This week we have been fortunate to host Scottish Opera. Primary 5, 5/6 and 6 have been rehearsing for weeks and had an incredible morning of workshops before performing to family in the afternoon. The children were amazing and we are very proud of their performance.

Primary 7 have two teams attending the North-East Celebration of STEM. The showcase and STEM challenge day is being hosted by Young Engineers and Science Clubs Scotland with support from their industry partners BP and Shell U.K.

All Primary 3 pupils begin a 6 week block of tennis this week.

Primary 3 have had a visit from Paws on Plastic which is linked to their School Working Party.

Miss Craig will be taking three pupils from P7 to the Enterprising Maths Challenge later this month.

Parent Consultations

This term parent consultations will take place in school on Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March. We have not had face to face parents evenings since before the pandemic. Whilst we know that the Teams format has been successful, many have requested that we return to face to face appointments. Following the consultations in March we will ask parents if they have a preference.

On the evening of your consultation we kindly request that you arrive via the main entrance. Chairs for waiting will be outside your child's classroom. Teachers will be required to keep to the 10 minute allocated time slot. Please do not be offended if the teacher uses a timer or reminds you of the time as there will be other parents waiting. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding with this. An email will be sent this week to ask you about your preferred date and time.

Borrowed clothing.

If your child falls in mud/snow or has an accident we do try to provide alternative clothing. However we now have no stocks of spare clothing left. We have even used our basketball kit shorts. If your child comes home in clothes borrowed from school please can you wash them and return them to school. We have no basketball shorts left and no spare clothing due to items not being returned. We would very much appreciate the return of borrowed items and especially the kit shorts.

Comic Relief

Comic Relief takes place on Friday 17th of March. We would like to support this charity event by asking pupils to bring a minimum donation of £2 and wearing something red. We do not expect anyone to go and buy red clothes so even a red nose, red hat etc is fine. We kindly request that football colours are not worn.

Social Media / Phones / WhatsApp

We are experiencing increasing issues in school due to inappropriate use of mobile phones and social media apps. Whilst most of the incidents happen out with school it does impact on relationships and behaviour in school. Name calling, inappropriate language and videoing incidents are just a few examples from recent incidents.

Despite school advising and teaching the dangers of social media we still have ongoing problems. Your support in monitoring this would be greatly appreciated.

F.O.N.

Thank you to F.O.N for organising the recent disco. F.O.N's next meeting is Thursday 30th March at 7pm. At this meeting a team from Aberdeenshire Learning Estates will be present to give a brief update and information on the proposed [new primary school at Chapelton](#). Any parent who is interested in finding out about the new school or has questions for the learning estate team is welcome to attend.

Finally....

Your support is always valued. If you would like to volunteer in school then please just ask the school office for the appropriate forms. We look forward to seeing you at Parents evenings and please get in touch if you have any queries.

Lesley Tullock -Head Teacher