



Auchengray Primary Newsletter

September 2018

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Head Teacher Update

Dear Parents,

Once again, we have had a very busy time in school. Our three new Primary 1 pupils have settled in very well and are now firmly part of our school community. The Primary 7 Buddies have been excellent in guiding them in the ways of the school.

The children have been involved with lots of interesting learning activities around the topic of Auchengray and Community. They are enjoying their learning and making very good progress in the key areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing.

Pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the tennis coaching they have been receiving at the afterschool club and the Multi-sports. Thank-you to Sam at WATIF and Derek Howett from Active Schools for facilitating this and to Helen and Daniel for their expertise in leading these sessions.

We are beginning to plan ahead for transition of our current P6 and P7 pupils to Biggar High School. Primary 6 pupils are attending the Biggar Science Festival this week, along with the other Primary 6 pupils of the learning community. There is an information evening for P7 parents early in November at the High School and in the new year, P6s and P7s will have opportunities to visit the High School to take part in a work skills development event and STEM Challenge day.

Walston Parent Council are once again planning a film night in November, where all pupils and family members will be welcome to attend—further details to follow.

Carol Pennock

Dates for your diary

Please check the school website or app for details of up and coming events.

September 2018

Thursday 20th—P6 pupils Biggar Science Festival

Wednesday 26th

Flu immunisations (am)

Parent Council AGM 7PM

October 2018

Thursday 11th October—Harvest Festival—ACC—

Wednesday 10th—Parental Consultations

Friday 12th—School closes for half term -3pm

Monday 22nd—School reopens—9am

November 2018

Tuesday 27th—Biggar Rotary P7 quiz

December 2018

Thursday 13th—Carols around the Tree 6-8pm

Friday 21st—school closes for Christmas break 2.30pm

January 2019

Monday 7th—school reopens 9am

ParentPay

We are currently in the process of setting up the new payment system that is being rolled out across all schools in South Lanarkshire. We will let you know when we expect to go live with this system. For further information see the ParentPay website at: www.parentpay.com

Canteen

The price for lunches remains at £1.60 for P4-7. All of our P1-3 children will have a free lunch. Milk can be purchased for 20p, otherwise, chilled water is available both at lunchtime and during the day.



As you know Mrs Yuill recently decided to continue her training to be a reflexologist and we were very sad to say good-bye to her.

A new Cook-in-Charge has been appointed and we are currently waiting for all the relevant paperwork to be completed prior to her starting. In the mean time we are very lucky to have Mrs MacLennan cooking our lunches for us.

Loose Parts Play

Play is “essential to the health and well-being of children and promotes the development of creativity, imagination, self-confidence, self-efficacy, as well as physical, social, cognitive and emotional strength and skills.” (Committee on the Rights of the Child, 2013)

Loose parts create richer environments for children to play, giving them the resources they need to do what they need to do. Loose parts aren't prescriptive and offer limitless possibilities, they are materials that when given to children they can become anything they wish, from creating and making a robot to constructing their own den.

We will shortly be asking for donations of items to enable us to build up our store of materials for loose parts play. Watch this space for more information.

Fundraising

Thanks to everyone who continues to use our Clothing Bank; has been raised through the summer. Please also continue to use as this provides a vital 'top-up' to our school fund.

www.easyfundraising.org

It is amazing how much we can raise without costing you anything and with Christmas just around the corner, Please consider going through this website. Please visit the school website for the link All monies raised go to help provide additional activities and resources for your children.

The Parent Council will hold their AGM on Wednesday 26th September at 7pm in the school. **Please, if you have a spare hour or two, once a term, please consider joining you will be made very welcome.**

The members of the parent council work hard to support the school in a variety of ways as well as raising funds and supporting school events and activities which all children benefit from. For example, the Parent Council have recently been successful in a bid to obtain trees from the Woodland Trust to enable us to create a natural fence/windbreak around the school perimeter. Also they have successfully been award £500 from the WAT Group to help towards the cost of providing a storage unit for the playground to enable us to develop a loose-parts play-based outdoor area.

Please support your parent council in their support of our school. See attached leaflet.

Office Bearers:

Chairperson— Moria Marshall

Secretary—Susan Peter

Treasurer—Stuart Crighton

Contact: auchengrayprimaryparentcouncil@gmail.com