



Harestanes Primary Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2024



Dear Parent / Carer,

This has been a very quick term indeed and now we find ourselves hurtling towards Christmas! I have attached '**December at a Glance 2024**' which I hope you find helpful. If anything changes, we will always try to give you as much notice as possible.

It was great to meet and speak with so many of you at our **recent Parent's Night** which I hope you found very useful. We strive to work in partnership with our parents to ensure that our children are **supported in their learning**.



Our aim is to work in **partnership with our parents** and to make them feel welcome in our school. We have recently introduced our new '**Drop In' 2-3pm every Tuesday** which is hosted by **Mrs Summers** our **Family Learning Assistant**. Why not drop in **before you collect your children from school** at the end of the day and enjoy a cup of tea and a chat?



You will know that as part of our **School Improvement Plan (2024/25)** we have been working very hard to improve reading skills and enjoyment of reading with all of our pupils across the school. We are already a **Silver Award Reading School**. During **Scottish Book Week** (18-22 November) the children took part in lots of events and activities which ranged from everyone taking part in **DEAR** (Drop **E**verything **A**nd **R**ead) every morning at 10.15am to visits from local authors, book swaps and the introduction of an **Outdoor Reading Trolley** which is available at breaks! We are supported by an excellent cohort of pupil **Reading Leaders**. You can also see lots more photos on our school X site (formally Twitter)



It is always great when we can share great learning with others! This month **P6/7** led their '**Sharing the Learning**' Assembly with a great presentation on **Plastics Pollution** followed by a great display of learning from **P6** who took us back to **WW2** explaining about rationing and evacuation. Our **P5** class also led an amazing Assembly about **Scotland**. Thank you to everyone who managed to come along to support the children.

This month in the ELR, we have been continuing to **develop community links**. A number of children from the ELR were welcomed into the **Harestanes Community Centre** by the **Wednesday Club**. This is a link that will continue to grow and over the coming term, more pupils will be strengthening this connection by visiting again. Multi Sports through **Active Sports** has been a great way to get everybody exercising during gym time. **Primary 6** and **Primary 7 pupils** are looking forward to visiting Santa in December on the Forth and Clyde canal courtesy of the **Seagull Trust**. Thank you very much to the Seagull Trust for organising this. In the coming weeks, all children will be making crafts to sell at the **Christmas Fayre**. Please come along and look at what we have been making.



HEAD LICE ALERT !

I have been contacted by several parents to inform me that their child **has head lice**. We do not take any action in school regarding this but instead ask that parents check their **child's head regularly**. If you require any further information, **please contact your local pharmacy who can advise**.



As a school we rely on the funding raised by our **fantastic PTA**. We use this money at Christmas, to buy ingredients for cooking in our Cooking Kitchen and for subsidising trips to give just a few examples. **The funding also allows us to purchase items to enhance the learning experience of all our children.**

Sadly, the number of parents able to support and help with fundraising is dwindling. **Can you help?** Our annual **Christmas Fayre is coming up on 5th December**. If you can get involved in any way to help please contact our school office.



As always, please do not hesitate to speak with us about any aspect of your child's experience at school by making an appointment through the school office.

Best Regards,

Ms. Jackie Gillespie
Head Teacher