



# Harestanes Primary Newsletter

## JANUARY 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

We have had an exciting start to 2025 with a very busy January indeed – I can't believe how quickly this year is flying in! We have already had our **Enrolment** for our new Primary 1's in August 2025 and we look now to working with our partners to begin the **Transition Programme** for our P7 children moving to High School.

We aim to work in partnership with our parents and you are welcome in our school. **Mrs Summers** our **Family Learning Assistant** hosts a '**Drop In**' every Tuesday 2-3pm for parents to come for tea and a chat. (Please feel free to 'drop in' before collecting your child from school. Please come in through the main office door)



I would like to **thank all parents/carers** for ensuring that your child is attending school in their **school uniform**. It is so important for the children to feel proud of being **part of our school community** and to reflect this in wearing it. If you are having difficulty in sourcing items of uniform, please contact school. Please note that we **do not encourage** the wearing of **branded leisure wear** as this is **not part of our school uniform**. We take the **Health and Safety** of our children very seriously and would ask that you help us to ensure their safety during PE lessons by ensuring they are wearing **suitable footwear** and are able to **remove all jewellery**. Please note that we cannot 'tape' earrings.

We love to **celebrate Scotland** here at Harestanes and this year we had to postpone our **Scottish Assembly** - thanks to **Storm Eowyn** - but it did go ahead a week later! Our Assembly also included a presentation on Robert Burns **organised by our P7 pupils** who shared the history of Robert Burns and re-enacted parts of the traditional Burns supper. Pupils learned and recited a piece of Scottish poetry and were absolutely amazing! **Here are some of our prize-winners** whose certificates were awarded at Assembly.



We have been continuing to work on **our School Improvement Plan** concentrating on Raising Attainment in Reading across the school to **Gold Level** and working towards becoming a **Silver Level** Rights Respecting School. Our **Pupil Reading Leaders** have been busy over the past two terms reorganizing our school library and continuing to raise the profile of reading across the school. As a result of their work, pupils have been **sharing book recommendations, accessing the library during**

**lunch breaks**, and taking part in a variety of new reading activities. Our Reading Leaders went on a trip to our local library in Kirkintilloch to get some **ideas and inspiration** for our **own library** and reading areas. We also have new **Star Readers** across the school who have been sharing their love of reading with others! Every class will have the opportunity to visit our local library in Kirkintilloch before June and we will be creating a '**New!**' section in



*'Creating a Community of Lifelong Learners'*  
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the school library full of novels by authors and genres of books that were requested by pupils. We will also be asking teachers and pupils to regularly **share what they are reading** and **inviting families in to attend more after-school story sessions**. Please keep an eye on **class Teams** pages and 'X' for more exciting reading/library updates!



**Woodland View** hosted the **annual ceilidh dance festival** in January where a group of pupils, from both our mainstream and ELR, came together to perform and represent Harestanes Primary School at the event. They were amazing and we were very proud of them all!

Finally, as we are beginning to see a change in the weather can I remind you that on **very frosty and icy mornings** our Janitorial Assistant will **grit the main entrance pathway to the office door** (at the Fitness Trail) before taking up **Crossing Patrol duties**. If you come into school by any other pathway you should **take extra care** as it may not be gritted yet.



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.

Kind Regards,

Ms. Jackie Gillespie  
Head Teacher

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**7<sup>th</sup> February: CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY (Including The Golden Bench)**

**13<sup>th</sup> February: CLOSURE (TO PUPILS) AS SCHOOL IS BEING USED AS POLLING STATION**

**14<sup>th</sup> February: P4 Class Assembly at 10am P4 Parents/Carers welcome to join us.**

**17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> February Break for pupils (INSET 19<sup>th</sup> February Staff only)**

**21<sup>st</sup> February: P3 Class Assembly at 10am P3 Parents/Carers welcome to join us.**

**24<sup>th</sup> February: P7 team to ROTARY QUIZ**

**24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February: Rights Week**

**27<sup>th</sup> February: PTA Valentine Disco (rescheduled)**

**28<sup>th</sup> February: CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY (Including The Golden Bench)**

**6<sup>th</sup> March: Parents' Night (links to book appointments will be sent out)**

**7<sup>th</sup> March; WORLD BOOK DAY**