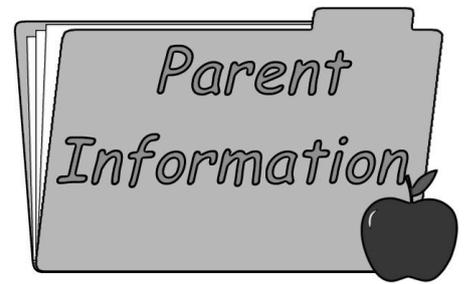


Forehill Primary School
NEWSLINK
April 2019



I hope you all had a lovely Easter and got time to enjoy the amazing weather - hopefully that was not our summer! As we start Term 4, we have much to look forward to and lots to do before the summer. I would encourage you where possible, to get involved in activities within the school. It is through the school and parents working together that the best can be achieved for the young people in Forehill.

Pupil Reports

As you know, we are using a different format for reporting to parents this session. Pupil progress reports will be issued in the week commencing **13th May**, in advance of the parent teacher meetings.

Parent Teacher Meetings



Our parent teacher meetings will take place in the school from 6.00pm onwards on **Tuesday 21st May** and from 3.45pm onwards on **Wednesday 22nd May**. Appointment times will be issued with pupil reports. Where no preference slip has been returned, parents will be given the first available appointment. On both days, our book fair will be available for you to view and our parent council will be serving teas and coffees. We look forward to welcoming you to the school.

Self-Evaluation Visit

A team of officers from South Ayrshire Council will visit the school on **Tuesday 14th May** to evaluate the quality of the work we do. As part of the visit the team will meet with the senior leadership team, focus groups of staff, groups of parents, partners and groups of children. In addition, visits will be made to classes to observe learning and teaching across the school. We are looking forward to this visit and will share the feedback in the next newsletter.



Class Structures Session 2019-2020

We are beginning to look at class structures for next session, and as you are aware, the structure of the classes in the infant department change year on year due to the numbers of children we have and the maximum class sizes. The classes are put together through consultation, with the focus on the learning needs of each learner, rather than parental preferences. I will of course keep parents informed as we work through this.

Parent Council



Our parent council are in the process of organising a number of events which will take place between now and the summer. The next fundraising evening is a Musical Cabaret evening which will take place in the school on **Friday 17th May** at 7.30pm. There will be a licensed bar, entertainment, cabaret and loads of laughs. Please see the rear of the newsletter for more details. Get your tickets now - bring your friends - it is sure to be a great night.

The group are always looking for new faces, with new ideas, to come along to meetings. As well as discussing a range of topics about the life of the school, the group raise significant amounts of money which benefits all young people in the school. Our Summer Fair will take place on **Friday 21st June** - keep the date free.

Infant Trim Trail

I am delighted to let you know our parent council were successful with a recent grant application, to assist in funding the installation of a trim trail for our infant playground. We are so grateful to the group for their work in raising the funding for these pieces of play equipment for our playground and look forward to having it installed soon.

Baby News

I'm sure you will know by now that Mr McDowall is now the proud daddy of a baby boy - Charlie, born on 17th March. I know you join me in sending our congratulations to Mr McDowall and his wife. We are all delighted and look forward to meeting Charlie soon!



Staffing

I am in the process of working through our staffing exercise for next session. We currently have two permanent teacher vacancies and two temporary teacher vacancies which I will interview for in the next few weeks. More information will follow.

Assessments



Children in Primaries 1, 4 and 7 are about to begin undertaking the computerised Scottish Standardised Assessments over the next few weeks. These will be done as part of on-going learning and children will be supported through these to ensure they fully understand the process. All children will undertake assessments in numeracy, reading and spelling. This will provide additional information to us to make accurate evaluations of pupil progress and attainment across the school. Should you have any questions about these, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

E-Mail Addresses - Communicating with Parents

We are currently exploring a new additional way of communicating with parents called Groupcall. This would provide the facility to e-mail information to you more frequently instead of texting, which has become quite expensive. Newsletters, posts on Facebook and Twitter will continue. If you have not already done so, I would be grateful if you could provide the school office with details of your e-mail address.

Learning Together



Our learning together sessions continue to be a useful way to engage with parents and to provide an opportunity for parents to learn alongside their children. These have been really well attended this session, and have supported parents in finding out more about what and how children learn. Our P6 session takes place on **25th April** at 2.00pm and our early years centre have sessions on the **1st and 2nd May**. Our thanks to those who have attended these this session.

Kilt Walk - Whiteleys Retreat

I am extremely proud of the staff from the school who are taking part in the Glasgow Kilt Walk on **28th April** in aid of Whiteleys Retreat. The group of staff have set up a "just-giving page" and would welcome any donations from parents and friends. Should you wish to contribute, please follow the link on the school facebook page. Sincere thanks in advance!



Congratulations to.....

- *Lily F in P3, who raised an amazing £535 for the Ayrshire Hospice in a recent sponsored walk. This is amazing, and once again is another great example of the caring young people we have in Forehill. Well done Lily!
- *Charlotte M and Gemma C who have had their writing selected to be included and printed in a Young Writers anthology. Well done girls - great news!
- *Miss Johnston, one of our P7 teachers who was married over the spring break. Many congratulations to the new Mr & Mrs McDonald - sending them our very good wishes for the future.

Help -Plants Needed

Mrs Campbell, one of our teaching staff works very hard with our eco-group garden club to grow a range of vegetables and other plants throughout the school. We are on the lookout for any spare house plants or garden plants which our young people could use. These could be sent to the school any time. Many thanks in advance!





New Primary 1 Parents

A meeting for parents of children moving into Primary 1 in August will take place in the school on **Wednesday 15th May at 7.30pm**. At this, all information about starting Primary 1 will be shared. Please note this meeting is for parents only and children should NOT attend.

Meeting for New Nursery Parents

A meeting for parents of children who are successful in securing a place within our Early Years Centre will take place on **Wednesday 15th May at 6.30pm**. Parents who have registered for a Nursery place in session 2019-2020 will receive confirmation of places offered early May. At this meeting, all information about starting nursery will be shared. Please note this meeting is for parents only and children should NOT attend.



Forehill Family 5K

Our successful running club meets weekly, with a high number of pupils and staff taking part. Mr Daily is in the process of organising a Fun Family 5K run, which will take place on **Sunday 2nd June**. It is a few years since we have done this, but it was always an amazing event - please keep the date free.

Homework Club

Our weekly lunchtime homework club for P4-7 pupils continues to run every Wednesday & Thursday at lunchtime. This is a drop-in club for children who wish some additional help or guidance with homework. We are indebted to many members of staff, who willingly give up their lunchbreak to provide this opportunity for our young people. I would ask that parents remind children of the importance of completing set homework tasks and returning them to school on time.

Music festival Successes

We are so proud of the children who sing in our junior and senior choirs, who did so well at the Ayrshire Music Festival this year. Both choirs were placed first in their respective competitions. Our thanks to Mr McDowall for preparing the children for the competition and to Miss Clark, one of our parents who assisted with conducting on the day, in Mr McDowall's absence. We also had a number of children who performed solos in a number of classes. Well done to Ava in P5 who won her class for Violin Solos and to Jackson in P5 who won his class for solo guitar.



Music Making Group

Our music making group also did us proud at the music festival. Our group of musicians and singers, totalling around 70 were outstanding. Violins, Cellos, Guitars, Ukuleles, Piano, Drums and singing - all performing an arrangement of Pink's song "What About Us" Since then, the group's recording of their performance last week has gone viral on social media, with Pink even commenting! Well done everyone.

Forehill's Got Talent

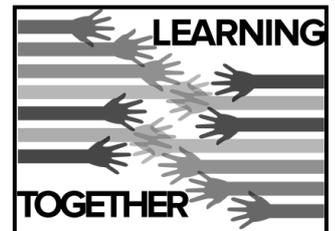
We are planning in running once again this year, a Forehill's Got Talent evening on **Wednesday 12th June**. Auditions for this will be held in the school in advance. More detailed information will be issued to those who are interested, very soon.

Inverclyde Residential Visit

Our plans are well in hand for our P7 residential visit to Inverclyde from **7th to 10th May**. This year we have approximately 60 children participating, along with Mrs Hartley, Miss Mair, Miss Johnston, Mrs Rodger, Mrs Baines and Mr Daily. I'm sure everyone will have an amazing time as always!

Planned Learning

I would encourage you to have a look at the class pages in our new website. In there you will find an outline of the planned learning for your child's class for Term 4. I hope you find this useful as you support learning at home.



New School Website

Our new website is now live and looking great. A few things have still to be amended and added, but we are delighted with how it is looking. I hope you find the information in it helpful and informative. We often post news, updates and features on the school facebook and twitter accounts. I would encourage you to follow us, to receive regular updates and information about what is happening in the life of the school.

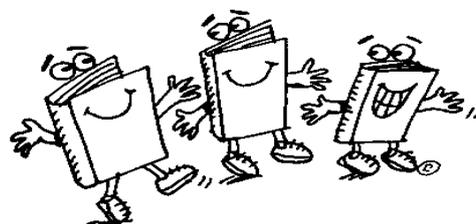
Website: www.forehill.sayr.sch.uk
Facebook: @forehill50
Twitter: @forehillprimary
@forehillN

My sincere thanks to all parents and friends of the school for their ongoing support.

Kind Regards,

David Watson
Head Teacher

DIARY DATES



Date	Times	Classes Involved	Details
25 th April	All Day	P2C	Visit to Dumfries House
25 th April	2.00pm	P6	Learning Together Afternoon
29 th April	All Day	P2G	Visit to Dumfries House
1 st May	All Day	P2/3	Visit to Dumfries House
2 nd May	All Day	P4	Festival of Farming Day
3 rd May	Am	P7J	P7J Visit to Whiteleys Retreat
6 th May	All Day	All	School Closed
7 th May	All Day	P7	Visit to New Lanark
7 th - 10 th May	Residential	P7	Inverclyde Residential Visit
9 th May	am	P1M	Outing to Belleisle
10 th May	9.30 - 12.00	P6	Transition Sport Event - Kyle
14 th May	All Day	All	Authority Evaluation Visit
15 th May	6.30pm	EYC	New Nursery Parent Meeting
15 th May	7.30pm	New P1	New Primary 1 Parent Meeting
17 th May	am	P7M	P7M Visit to Whiteleys Retreat
17 th May	7.30pm	All	Parent Council Cabaret Night
21 st May	6.00pm - 8.30pm	All	Parent /Teacher Meetings
22 nd May	3.45pm - 6.15pm	All	Parent /Teacher Meetings
23 rd May	1.30pm	N-P3	Sports Day
23 rd May	AM	P4	SSPCA Visit
24 th May	1.30pm	P4-7	Sports Day
27 th May	All Day	All	School Closed
28 th May	All Day	All	In-Service Day
31 st May	All Day	P1	Outing to Culzean
2 nd June	tbc	All	Forehill Family 5K Fun Run
6 th & 7 th June	All Day	P7	P7 Visits to Secondary Schools
12 th June	All Day	EYC	Visit to Culzean
12 th June	6.30pm	All	Forehill's Got Talent
21 st June	6.30pm	All	Summer Fair
26 th June	7.00pm	P7	P7 Leavers' Disco
28 th June	9.45am	All	Summer Service - Castlehill
28 th June	1.00pm	All	School Closes

Forehill Parent Council Fundraising Group

Performing after his sell out shows at the Gaiety Theatre and Palace Theatre. Scott Watson, one of Scotland's most promising performers comes to entertain at Forehill Primary School.

Join us for a night filled with music and games.

LIVE MUSIC

.... with **Scott Watson**

Tickets £7 on sale @
Forehill Primary School
Fri 17th May, 7pm - Late
Fully licensed Bar (Over 18 only)



Forehill Primary
Parent Council

Tickets on sale from members of the parent council and from the school office.



LET'S PARTY!