

Forehill Primary School
NEWSLINK
May 2023



Welcome to our May edition of Newslink. The summer term is well under way, with lots happening in our school. We were always fortunate in Forehill to have extremely high levels of parental engagement and involvement, but sadly, following COVID this has fallen significantly and many parents do not respond to any communication we issue. I have outlined some important information for you in this newsletter and would encourage you to get involved where you can. Your involvement as a key partner in your child's learning helps ensure we work together to provide the best learning experiences for your child.

Planned Learning - Term 4

Details of planned learning this term for your child's class can be found on the school website. As always, it is great if learning undertaken in school is reinforced at home through home learning tasks. The link to the website is: www.forehill.sayr.sch.uk

Parents' Night - Early Years Centre

Our parents' night in our Early Years Centre will take place on **Wednesday 31st May** between **6.30pm and 7.30pm**. No appointments are needed for this, as key workers will be available to chat to parents about their children. We look forward to welcome you to the school.

Parents' Night - Primaries 1-7

Our parents' night for P1-7 classes will take place on **Wednesday 31st May** between 6.00pm and 8.30pm and then on **Thursday 1st June** between 3.45pm and 6.15pm. All P1-7 parents have already been sent a link through e-mail and Groupcall asking for their preferred appointment. Times will be confirmed nearer the time. Where parents do not respond to the link, no appointment will be allocated. We look forward to welcoming you to the school.



Pupil Reports

Pupil reports will be issued to parents of P1-7 classes in the week commencing **22nd May**. We would ask that parents, along with children, complete the response sheet and return this to class teachers as quickly as possible. Final reports for pre-school children within the Early Years Centre will be issued to parents in the week commencing 19th June.

National Standardised Assessments for Scotland

Within the next few weeks, all our children in P1 will be undertaking standardised assessments as part of their learning. These are computerised assessments and will be supported by class teachers and School assistants. The focus is on Literacy and Numeracy/Mathematics.

Lost Property

We have a significant amount of lost property, which is stored in boxes at the main reception area. We would encourage parents to have a look and reclaim any lost jackets or other uniform items. These will be on display at the parents' nights and will then be recycled or disposed of.

Assessing Children's Progress

Through parental feedback, a significant number of parents asked for more information about how we assess children's learning and what the different levels mean. A short on-line information session was set up for parents on Thursday 27th April, but only one parent responded to say they would be interested in attending - which was extremely disappointing. We will look at other opportunities in the new session, when hopefully more parents would be able to take part.



P7 Information Evening - Kyle Academy

An information evening for parents of children starting Kyle Academy in August, will take place in Kyle Academy on **Monday 22nd May at 7.00pm**. More detailed information has been issued directly from Kyle Academy.



Children Starting P1 in August

Our transition programme for children starting P1 in August will start on the afternoon of Friday 19th May. Further sessions will take place on 25th May, 2nd June, 8th June and morning of 14th June. The theme this year will be "The Colour Monster Goes to School". More detailed information about this has been sent out to parents.

New Primary 1 Parent Meeting

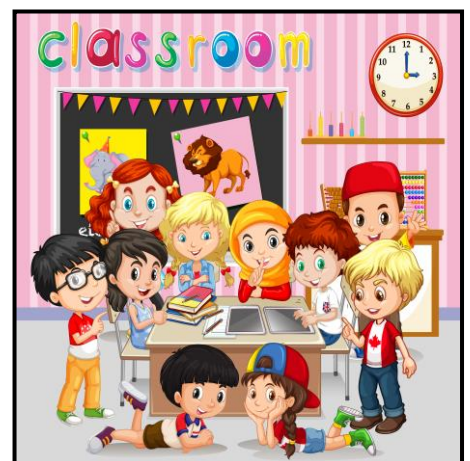
A meeting for parents of children moving into Primary 1 in August will take place in the school on **Wednesday 24th May at 7.30pm**. This is a meeting for adults only and children should not attend. All information about children starting school will be provided, along with an opportunity for parents to ask any questions and meet P1 staff.

Early Years Centre Places & Parent Meeting

Parents who have registered for a place in our Early Years Centre will receive an e-mail on **12th May**, with the outcome of their application. Visits for new children offered places will take place on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th June. A meeting for parents of children starting in our EYC next session is planned for **Wednesday 24th May at 6.30pm**. This is an adult meeting and children should not attend. All information about children starting nursery will be provided, along with an opportunity for parents to ask any questions and meet the early years staff.

Class Structures Session 2023-2024

The school roll continues to grow quite significantly as we welcome many new children and families into the school community. We will soon begin to look at class structures for next session, and as you know, the structure of the classes in the infant department changes year on year due to the numbers of children we have in the school and the maximum class sizes. This year we also have an additional P6 class, and the structure at this part of the school may also change. In addition, there may also be a need to make an additional P4/5 class. The new 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.



Chitty Chitty Bang Bang



Our P5, 6 & 7 pupils are working so hard during rehearsals for our school show which takes place in the Gaiety Theatre on **Thursday 8th** and **Friday 9th June**. Tickets are selling fast and are on sale directly from the Gaiety Theatre Box Office.

Children in P1-7 will have the opportunity to see the show on the morning of **Thursday 8th June**, with the EYC seeing the show on the morning of **Friday 9th June**. A small charge will be made for this, to help cover costs.

Forehill Parent Council NEEDS YOU!

Sadly, due to lack of interest, the future of our wonderful parent council is at risk. This group have done the most amazing job supporting the school, raising fantastic sums of money which are used to benefit the whole school community. Unless parents come forward and get involved, this group will reach a point it just cannot function. This of course will in turn mean we are unable to subsidise trips, outings and other events and purchase additional equipment for our young people.

We cannot let that happen. The solution is in your hands. Please contact Mr Watson at the school for an informal chat if you feel you can offer any help! My thanks to those who have already offered to assist - it is much appreciated. When we work together, great things can happen.



Parent Council QUIZ NIGHT

Following requests from a number of parents for another quiz night, information has been sent out about the Family Quiz Night which will take place in the school on **Friday 12th May**, starting at **6.30pm**. This is sure to be a great family night - don't miss it!



Summer BBQ & Fair

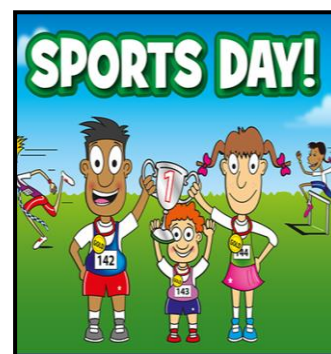
Our Summer BBQ and Fair takes place in the school on **Friday 16th June**. We look forward to seeing you there! More information will follow. Should you be able to offer any assistance at this event, or you would like to host a stall - our parent council would love to hear from you. Please drop them an e-mail at: forehillpcfrg@gmail.com

Sports

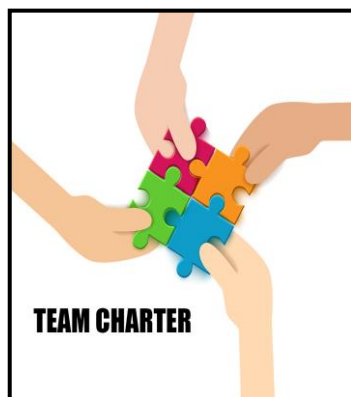
We are hoping for good weather for our sports events which will take place as follows:

Early Years Centre	Wednesday 21 st June	Various
P1-3 Classes	Friday 16 th June:	1.30pm
P4-5 Classes	Thursday 22 nd June:	11.00am
P6-7 Classes	Thursday 22 nd June:	1.30pm

Parents are welcome to attend these events, which will take place on the grass area at the rear of the school. Should the weather be inclement, we will try our best to reschedule, but this may not always be possible.



Health & Wellbeing Charter



Our Wellbeing Bees, along with Mrs Baines have been working closely with Lynn Dillon from the South Ayrshire Youth Forum to achieve the 'Say It Out LOUD Charter'. The charter was created by the South Ayrshire Youth Forum to ensure children and young people have a say on mental health and wellbeing actions within their school. We are delighted to have achieved the Charter Award which recognises our schools and our young people's commitment to supporting positive mental health and wellbeing within our school community. At the beginning of the year our Wellbeing Bees wrote a statement which they signed along with Mr Watson pledging their commitment to supporting positive mental health and wellbeing within our school community.

"At Forehill Primary School we promise to respect your emotions and ideas. The Wellbeing Bees and others in the school will work together to support you to have positive mental health. We will provide you with information on how to take care of your mental health and will encourage and help you to take responsibility for your own mental wellbeing".

Feeling Good Fortnight

We are currently planning for our annual "Feeling Good Fortnight" which takes place between **12th and 23rd June**. This year, as part of the planning we are organising evening events to provide 'Family Fun Sessions' for parent/carers and children. More info will follow.

Helping Parents to Help Their Children - NURTURE

We are noticing an increase in the number of parents who are finding it more and more challenging to best support their child at home. The Nurture Team will provide information on the key principals of nurture and how they can be used in day to day parenting, to help support children at home. Mrs McDowall will also provide information on how we use nurture within Forehill to support our young people. We are able to offer two session for parents, which will take place on **Thursday 22nd June: 7.00 - 7.45pm** or **Friday 23rd June 9.15am - 10.00am**. You are welcome to attend whichever session suits you best.

Bikeability Training

We have arranged for Primary 5 pupils to participate in Bikeability Level 1 training as noted below:

	P5S	P5P
Session 1	Tue 13 th June 9.00 - 10.45am	Wed 14 th June 11.00 - 12.30pm
Session 2	Wed 21 st June 9.00 - 10.45am	Wednesday 21 st June 11.00 - 12.30pm

On the morning of 7th June, we have arranged for "Doctor Bike" mechanics to visit the school to support the school in carrying out bike checks with the children and fix any issues which may be found.

P7 Hoodies

Many thanks to P7 pupils who have ordered a Leavers' Hoodie. We hope to receive these from the supplier in time for them to be distributed to our young people on 1st June.

Festival of Farming

Our P4 children recently had the most amazing day at Dumfries House, taking part in the Festival of Farming. The aim of the day was to increase children's understanding of the food we eat and where it comes from. The children had the opportunity to see a range of animals and to hear about all aspects of farming including dairy, sheep and arable farming, Bee Keeping, soil, Quality Meat Scotland, Farrier, Wool & Spinning, Fruit & Vegetables and many more. A great day was had to all. Our thanks go to RHET and all at Dumfries House for an amazing day.



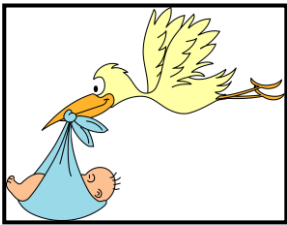
HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO:

*Both our football teams, who have reached the final in their respective competitions. Our boys' team have made it to the final of the Mackie Cup, which will take place before the end of session. Our Girls' team have reached the final of their league, which will also be played before the end of term. All players have been amazing, showing true sportsmanship and teamwork throughout all games. I know you join me in getting behind both our teams as they prepare for their respective finals. Watch this space!

*Charlotte Meek, who has been identified as a winner in the South Ayrshire Energy Agency Calendar competition. Charlotte will attend an awards ceremony in County Buildings later in the term.

*Our P3 classes, who have had their work recognised in the Young Engineer Competition. A special mention to Xander W in P3Z who has been identified as winner, and Mya T in P3C who was a runner-up.

Baby News



Many congratulations to Mrs Reith and her husband on the birth of their beautiful baby boy - Blake - born on 14th April. A few other members of staff will soon be joining the "Forehill Baby Club" and will begin their maternity leave in the next few months. Many congratulations to: Mrs MacGibbon (P1), Miss Kerr (P2), and Miss Smith (EYC). We look forward to hearing more news in the months to come.

Outstanding People Awards

Many congratulations to Mrs Carswell, who has received a Bronze Award in the South Ayrshire Outstanding People Awards 2023. Mrs Carswell makes a significant contribution to the life of the school and Early Years Centre, and regularly goes above and beyond to ensure all our young people receive the best possible experiences we can provide. Well done and thanks to Mrs Carswell for all she does for our school community.

Early Years Centre Award

Our Early Years Centre has been nominated in the South Ayrshire Awards, receiving a Bronze award in the Outstanding Contribution to Climate Change category. This is a great achievement and reflects the commitment to and approaches adopted in the new building, to sustainability. Huge congratulations to our architect and design team and to staff who continue to promote this ethos throughout the centre.



Holidays

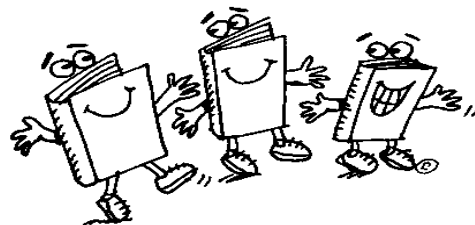
Please note the primary department is closed to all pupils on **Friday 26th May, Monday 29th May and Tuesday 30th May**. The EYC will remain open on **Friday 26th May** for children who attend on a 52-week pattern, but will be closed to all children on **Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th May**.

Kind Regards,



David Watson
Head Teacher

DIARY DATES



Date	Times	Classes Involved	Details
Mon 8 th May	All Day	All	School Closed - Coronation
Wed 10 th May	All Day	P5	Visit to Stirling Castle
Wed 10 th May	AM	P7	Transition Sports - Kyle Ac
Fri 12 th May	6.30pm	All	Family Quiz Night
Mon 15 th May	Various	EYC	Visit to Beach
Fri 19 th May	PM	New P1	Induction Visits Begin
Fri 19 th May	Various	P3	Visit to Castlehill Woods
Mon 22 nd May	Week	P1-7	Reports Issued to Parents
Mon 22 nd May	Various	EYC	Visit to Beach
Mon 22 nd May	7.00pm	P7	Info Night Kyle Academy
Wed 24 th May	6.30pm	New EYC	New EYC Parent Meeting
Wed 24 th May	7.30pm	New P1	New P1 Parent Meeting
Fri 26 th / Mon 29 th May	All Day	All	School Closed
Tue 30 th May	All Day	All	In-Service Day
Wed 31 st May	6.00pm	P1-7	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Wed 31 st May	6.30pm	EYC	Parent Drop In
Thu 1 st June	3.45pm	P1-7	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Mon 5 th - Fri 9 th June	Various	P5-7	School Show - Gaiety Theatre
Mon 12 th - Fri 23 rd June	Two Weeks	All	Feeling Good Fortnight
Tue 13 th June	All Day	P7	Visits to Secondary School
Wed 14 th June	9.30am	P1-6	Bump Up Morning
Wed 14 th June	All Day	P7	Visits to Secondary School
Thu 15 th June	Various	EYC	New Children Visiting EYC
Fri 16 th June	Various	EYC	New Children Visiting EYC
Fri 16 th June	1.30pm	P1-3	P1-3 Sports Afternoon
Fri 16 th June	6.30pm	All	Summer Fair
Wed 21 st June	Various	EYC	EYC Sports
Thu 22 nd June	11.00am	P4-5	P4-5 Sports
Thu 22 nd June	1.30pm	P6-7	P6-7 Sports
Thu 22 nd June	7.00pm	All	Nurture Info for Parents
Fri 23 rd June	9.15am	All	Nurture Info for Parents
Wed 28 th June	7.00pm	P7	Leavers' Disco - The Ark
Fri 30 th June	9.45am	All	Closing Service - Castlehill
Fri 30 th June	1.00pm	P1-7	School Closes