



Ulva Primary School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016

e-mail: enquiries@ulva.argyll-bute.org.uk

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

I am delighted to take up post of Acting Head Teacher for Ulva School and I look forward to continue to take the school forward in a positive direction.

Although the sun has been a fickle friend this summer, I hope you all had a good break. It is wonderful to see the pupils back and I am convinced they have all sprouted since I saw them last! We are looking forward to another busy, productive year ahead and the joint school arrangement will continue to enhance all aspects of our school. We are extremely fortunate to have such hard working and dedicated staff working in our schools and this, coupled with the pupils' very good work ethic will ensure on-going success. Let us not forget, of course the enormous support that you, as parents provide to the school - we are indeed very fortunate. Please remember that Kate Burger, as Teacher, is at school to support the pupils and yourselves, which she does to a very high standard. Do not hesitate to contact the school if you want to chat over any areas of concern. Also be assured that no matter which school I am in, I can be contacted at any time. For point of reference, the telephone number for Lochdonhead Primary School is -

01680 812 473 and my mobile number is 079 029 44626 (O2) and 07786685227(Vodafone).



STAFFING

The staffing arrangements for this year are -

Acting Head Teacher - Susie Carmichael. I shall be in school for half the week. The days will be dependent on the needs of each school.

Principal Teacher - Interviews in August.

Kate Burger, Temporary Class Teacher.

Beccy Roth, Music Teacher will be with us on Monday afternoons and will also help support in class on a Friday.

Katherine Charlier, Class Teacher, will be teaching on Monday morning.

Rachel French, support Mon - Thursday.

Maureen Merritt, clerical & classroom assistant.

Anne MacDonald, Cleaner & Janitor.

PUPILS

We are delighted to welcome Nuria and Malik Clowes to our school. They have joined the P7 and P5 classes respectively and I am sure they will be a great asset to the school.

TOBERMORY FLOWER SHOW

The pupils created lovely art work for the Flower Show which is on Saturday 27th in Tobermory. If you would like to see the artwork it will be on display in the Aros Hall.

BEACH CLEAN

We received a fantastic cheque for £380.00 from the GRAB Trust and Marine Litter Projects for our beach clean in June which is wonderful. We would like to thank everyone who helped us manage to fill a whole skip.

ARGYLL COLLECTION

Each year Argyll and Bute set a Literacy competition, based around works of art. We intend to enter this stimulating Authority competition this term. More details will follow.

PE

Katherine Charlier will be teaching the children PE and this term she is focussing on rugby. The pupils are travelling down to Garmony on a Monday morning to join with the Lochdonhead pupils.

PE KIT



N.B Please name all your child's clothing

Can pupils please ensure that they have a PE kit in school? They need a t-shirt, shorts, socks and trainers/gym shoes, all named. If your child has long hair, can they please have a band to tie it back? We would appreciate it if pupils could keep jewelry to a minimum on a PE day.

TAG RUGBY FESTIVAL

Lochdonhead and Ulva are usually asked to host a tag rugby meeting. I have not been given dates as yet but just want to give you all the heads up. We greatly appreciate your support with this. Last year the pupils had a fantastically successful year which is a great credit to the pupils and parents.



PLAYGROUND BUDDY TRAINING

Babs Whyte is planning to do joint school buddy training with the P4-7s. Dates will be confirmed.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Mr Paton has invited the school to a Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Ulva at the beginning of October. We will let you know when the date has been confirmed.

GAELIC

This session, we shall be working closely with Kirsty Blackhall, the Gaelic teacher at Salen Primary School. She will be supporting Gaelic teaching in the class as this is our first language in the 1+2 programme. Ms Burger is very proficient in French and will be teaching the pupils some French through their weather topic.

EVIDENCE FOR LEARNING APP

The pupils are starting to create a learning journal using the online facility of Evidence for Learning. Later this term, we shall invite parents in and the pupils will run a workshop on it. At that point we shall issue the passwords to allow you to access from home.

REPORTING

This term we shall be sending home reports on the current working in Literacy and Numeracy.

MOD

The local Mod will be taking place on Friday 9th September in Tobermory. We shall be taking the pupils up for the action song. If your child wishes to perform in a solo, could you please advise us and be the accompanying adult. The school will be transported up for the action song then returning to school for the remainder of the day.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Congratulations to the school for winning the Social Enterprise in Schools Award 2016. The pupils have all worked so incredibly hard for this and deserved their award.

Our first Community Café for this year will be on Tuesday 30th August. This will follow the sod cutting. We would really appreciate it if you could provide a plate of cakes / savouries per child.



I-SPY

This BBC documentary, featuring the pupils, is due to be shown in the autumn. I will let you know as soon as I have confirmed dates. Thank you very much for your patience with this, I know you gave a lot of your time and hopefully the programme will illustrate how wonderful the children are.

GRAND OPENING OF SCIENCE LAB & SUMMER FAIR

The Ulva pupils have been invited down to Lochdonhead School on Friday 26th August for their Grand Opening of the Science Lab and Summer Fair. Michael Russell MSP will be cutting the ribbon and there are lots of exciting stalls. The pupils will be transported down in the afternoon and will be back in time for the end of the school day.

MY HOUSE PODCASTS

I think that word has got out that our pupils are stars because Rhea Lewis from 'A Moment's Peace Company' would like to come and work with the children to create podcasts. The project will be a creative exploration about the land under our feet - who decides on land use and why. Perfect timing with the new houses being built next door! Playwright, Jodie Marshall and musician, Scott Twynholm will be working with the children for 6 short sessions from 5th - 15th September. We will have a celebration of the childrens' work on Thursday 15th September and you are all invited along.

SWIMMING

We shall have swimming sessions next term **and** after February.

INSET

This term will finish on Friday 7th October and there will be an Inset on Monday 24th October.

PARENT COUNCIL

It would be good to set a date for a meeting where we can discuss fund raising and school matters.

WORKING WITH PARENTS

As you know we are very keen indeed to involve you in any way we can in the working life of the school. If you would like to come in to share any skill, assist in any project (we have our beach school as on-going projects), wish to help in class in any way, please let us know. We would really welcome your help.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

17.8.16 - School starts
26.8.16 Visit Lochdonhead for Opening of Science Lab
27.8.16 - Tobermory Horticultural Show
30.8.16 - Community Café and Sod Cutting at Houses
9.9.16 - Mod
15.9.16 - Podcast sharing with parents
27.9.16 - Community Café
29.9.16 - Parental Consultations
7.10.16 -End of term
24.10.16 - Inset

