



# Ulva Primary School Newsletter

## Winter Term 2016

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### DEAR PARENTS

I hope you all had a good October break, the weather was certainly lovely; it was great to see some autumn sun. This is always such a beautiful time of year with the vibrant colour of the leaves and a real sense of the seasons.

I am delighted that Mairi has settled in really well to her post of PT and the children are continuing to find learning fun!

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 (02).



### ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL ROAD SAFETY CALENDAR COMPETITION

The children created wonderful designs for this year's competition. Mrs Nicolson was very impressed with all the pupils' original ideas.

### PLAYGROUND BUDDY TRAINING

Babs Whyte came to the school on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October to buddy train the P4-7s. "I learned to be patient" - Nuria, "I learned to be slightly more resilient" - Kate, "I enjoyed playing lifeboat savers" - Ashley, "I learned to have a bigger voice" - Malik, "I enjoyed when we played the shouting game" - Arwen, "I enjoyed delivering my game and seeing other people delivering their games" - Eilidh and "I enjoyed playing 'murder at the barbecue'" - Isabelle



### PARENT COUNCIL

The first Parent Council meeting took place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October. We passed on our thanks to Jeanette Cutlack for her work as Chair on the PC over the years. Our new Office Bearers are: Chair - Rebecca Munro, Secretary - Katya Clowes and Treasurer - Maureen Merritt. I would like to thank parents for coming to the meetings

and contributing so much to the benefit of the school.

### SMOKE FREE ME



The P6 & 7 Pupils visited Salen School for a musical show based on smoking - and why not to start! It was a great show and hopefully the message was a powerful one.

### HARVEST THANKSGIVING



The children visited Ulva Church on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October for the Harvest Thanksgiving service. The theme for the service was Fairtrade and the children performed a wonderful play and sang beautifully.

## COMMON GROUND PROJECT



In September 'A Moment's Peace Company' came to work with the children to create podcasts and a dramatised play about the Island of Rockall. For the podcast, the children interviewed builders and architects that were responsible for the building of the new housing beside the school. Jodie Marshall and musician, Scott Twynholm really enjoyed working with the children and the final piece was shared with the parents on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

## MOD



The pupils were outstanding at the local Mod, winning first prize AGAIN for their action song. Well done to Riona, Rachel and Maureen for all their hard work with this.

## NATIONAL MOD



Eilidh sang with the Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile at the National Mod in Stornoway. They did so well that they won their Melody and sang it on TV - Well done Eilidh!

## TOBERMORY FLOWER SHOW

The pupils created beautiful space-themed art work for the Flower Show and I am delighted to say that Matilda was 3<sup>rd</sup> in her section - Well done Matilda!



## LETTER FROM THE QUEEN

The children were delighted to receive a letter and card from the Queen to say thank you for sending her such lovely birthday cards for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.



## THANK YOU

I would like to say a massive thank you to the Merritt family for volunteering to spend some of their October holiday painting our school shed and trimming the willow dome. This has made such a difference to our learning environment.



## COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Community Café continues to go from strength to strength here at Ulva School! We had a wonderful Café on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October where the children raised £30.00 through bingo and raffle for the First Responder Bags, £30.30 for Children in Need and £93.32 for school funds.



I can't express how overwhelmed I am with the generosity of the Ulva Ferry Community. Thank you all very much for supporting the children by providing the savouries and cakes for this wonderful event.

Our next café is on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The children will have a workshop station showing how Accelerator reading works and they will also have their Christmas cards and lots of handmade gifts for sale.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY

On Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October, the children will be having their Halloween party at the school. The children may come to school in costume or bring one to school to change in to.

In the morning we shall be playing some games and doing some spooky crafts as well as creating some treats to eat. Therefore, the children shall not require a snack for morning break. A packed lunch should be provided as usual.

## TAG RUGBY

Babs has provided us with dates for the Tag Rugby Competitions. These are: 19<sup>th</sup> November, 26<sup>th</sup> November, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 23<sup>rd</sup> April and 20<sup>th</sup> May.



## I-SPY

I have still had no date from the BBC as to when this will be shown, but I will let you know as soon as I hear.

## NUMERACY COORDINATOR

In September I attended the Numeracy Coordinators meeting at Inveraray. This has been set up to raise attainment in numeracy across the authority and I feel that it is a very valuable group to be a part of for both schools.

## STUDENT PLACEMENT

We are very fortunate in being able to host a PGDE student from UHI at Ulva. Sue Penny, the former librarian from Tobermory High School, will be joining us for a 4 week placement from 7<sup>th</sup> November - 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Mairi Nicolson will be working closely with her and I am certain that the pupils will undoubtedly benefit from all the skills that she can offer.

## SWIMMING

We shall have 6 swimming sessions this term from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - 7<sup>th</sup> December. The children will be swimming with the Lochdonhead pupils and will be taught by Morag MacLachlan and Vanessa MacLean.

## PROJECT TRUST

Jordan Wilson, the Education Coordinator at Project Trust, will be coming to talk to the children in the morning of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November at Lochdonhead School. She will be providing the children with a workshop on Global Citizenship and Child Poverty.

More information can be found at <http://projecttrust.org.uk/global-citizenship/>

## EVIDENCE FOR LEARNING APP

The pupils are starting to create a learning journal using the online facility of Evidence for Learning. Our reports this term will be created using this program and we hope that you find them interesting and informative.

## PANTO TRIP

This term, P5-P7 from Lochdonhead and Ulva will be visiting Glasgow with Tobermory School for a Panto Trip. We will be going to watch Elfie's Magical Adventure at the Pavilion Theatre. We leave on the 1<sup>st</sup> December and return on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Full details will follow.



## CHRISTMAS PLAY

The Children will be performing 'It's a Miracle' this year for their Christmas Play. The performance will be on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December in conjunction with our community café and we hope to see you there.

## 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, wish to help in class in any way, please let us know. This term the children hope to be creating lots of Christmas crafts so if you are able to come in and help us with that we would be grateful. We would really welcome your help.

## CITIZENS' PANEL

This is a message from Jane Jarvie, Corporate Communications Manager, Argyll & Bute Council. *The council is inviting people to join our citizens' panel. Being a panel member means you will receive surveys by email asking for your views on different aspects of the council's work. Please join and have your views heard -* <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/citizenspanel>

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

25.10.16 - School starts  
25.10.16 - Community Café  
31.10.16 - Hallowe'en Party  
2.11.16 - Swimming starts  
9.11.16 - Swimming  
14.11.16 - Project Trust workshop  
16.11.16 - Swimming  
23.11.16 - Swimming  
29.11.16 - Community Café  
30.11.16 - Swimming  
1 & 2.12.16 - P5-7 Panto Trip  
7.12.16 - Final swimming  
8.12.16 - Parental consultations  
20.12.16 - Community café & Christmas Show  
23.12.16 - End of term  
9.1.17 - School starts  
31.1.17 - Community Café