



Parent Information Sheet
Friday 4th October 2019

READY **KEY THREE...** **SAFE**
RESPECTFUL

SCHOOL IS CLOSED THIS MONDAY 7TH OCTOBER FOR STAFF TRAINING.
SCHOOL REOPENS AT USUAL TIME ON TUESDAY 8TH.

PTA CRYSTAL BALL

The Crystal Ball to celebrate our 15th year as an Integrated school is tomorrow evening at Clandeboye Lodge. It promises to be a great evening for parents to be able to relax and enjoy and is the culmination of months of preparation going on in the background.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a MASSIVE thanks to Julie McCusker and her fantastic team for organising Saturday's Ball. A huge amount of work has gone into ensuring that it is going to be a fantastic night for everyone. Julie has kept everyone on track, she has encouraged and cajoled, been organised and efficient and drawn together everyone's ideas and talents to create what I think will be a wonderful night of celebration as well as an important fundraiser for our school. On behalf of all the staff, pupils and parents THANK YOU!

ACTION MS Sponsored Walk

How lucky were we??!! It may have rained all through the night and into the early hours of the morning but come 9.30am the clouds parted, the sun shone and we had a beautiful autumnal walk today in Crawfordsburn. The morning ran really smoothly and our P1s and P2s managed the whole walk with the help of their buddies so that we started and finished together. Once gathered at the end we all had juice and biscuits and as we prepared to go home the rain started again. We really did find the right window of opportunity today!

I know that the children have been busy asking family and friends for sponsorship and any collected money should be returned to the class teacher on or before **FRIDAY 11th OCTOBER**.

P3 Visit Hollywood PS

This week the P3s had their first Shared Education day with their partners in Hollywood PS. Over the year the children will be taking part in 30 hours of shared lessons with their Hollywood buddies either in Hollywood PS, here in Glencraig or on a shared Educational Visit. This is the third year of our partnership with Hollywood with the P3 and P7 year groups having planned programmes up to June. Teachers are also now involved in shared training and staff from both schools kicked the year off with joint training on Wellbeing and area both schools have identified as an area for development over the next three years.

It was a great day. We got to make new friends and took part in fun activities with our buddies. We liked working in our Shared Education groups. We enjoyed playing in the Hollywood PS playground! We can't wait until our next Shared Education day! (Tom, Finn and Molly P3)

Pupil Voice

This week we have been meeting with our House Captains & Pupil Council to find out what the children think about the changes that we have made to how behaviour is being managed in school. Our children are so confident and willing to give their opinions it is brilliant to have these groups! The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The children felt that the systems being introduced are fairer and that more attention is now being given to the bulk of children who are meeting expectations of behaviour. The children also had clear opinions on what other improvements we needed to make and those ideas will feed into our next steps. Here are some of the comments from the children so far...

"I like the way the certificates are now because you could have felt ignored before" "Attention now is more on the good behaviour" "people care more about their behaviour now" "we've noticed a big difference in our class" "People not playing safely with the balls shouldn't be allowed to play there for a while" "people shouldn't get warnings or reminders they should go straight to losing a Dojo"



The children also gave ideas for developing our playgrounds, some of which are underway and we hope the children will really enjoy what's planned. We'll keep you posted!

Assembly

This week our Assembly welcomed the P1s to the whole school family as they attended their first "Big Assembly". This is always a milestone when we remind all of the children in the school about how we strive to keep them safe. The children remember it as the "Listening Ears" talk when Mrs Gough and Mrs Brown refresh memories about strategies to take and people to talk to if they ever have a worry or concern..

This week was also the first time we awarded our new class certificates created by recording compliments from classmates, teachers, themselves and home on two pupils per year group each week. Over the course of the year each child will be sure to have their "lolly stick name" selected from the class bundle so that they have the opportunity to be reminded of the many fabulous qualities they possess.

Volunteer Helper Forms

Volunteer Helper forms were sent home last week. These are to be completed if you think you might like to help out in school on an occasional basis, for example giving children a lift to an event or coming in to school to talk to a class. These forms are available from and returned to the class teacher. If however you think you are going to be volunteering on a regular basis, (once a week or four times in a month), then an ACCESS NI form must be completed and details are available from the office. Both the in-house and ACCESS NI forms now need to be completed on an **annual basis**.

Change to Bank Holiday

Advance notice that our holiday list for 2019.20 will be amended to reflect this. School will be open as normal on 4th May and closed for the Bank Holiday on 8th May instead.

Advance Notice - Healthy Eating Week

This year our ECO Team are very keen to encourage us all to eat healthily in school and have asked me to let everyone know that the week beginning **21st October** will be **Healthy Eating Week**. This will be the launch of the children's work to reduce the sugar, salt and fatty foods eaten during the school day. The children are keen to get everyone eating more fruit and vegetables and reduce the amount of sweet treats and chocolate that is coming in for breaks and lunch boxes generally. This was also identified as an area for development by parents in the parent consultation last year. I look forward to hearing the ECO Teams ideas and supporting them in this important work. Well done ECO Team!

Nearly New Uniform Store

The rails of pre-loved uniform will be available again on Friday 11th October and Monday 14th October. Thank you Mrs White.

Harvest Assembly

On Tuesday 15th October our P1 – P4 children are taking part in their Harvest Assembly. It will be a short assembly starting at 9.15am and should last about 20 minutes and you are most welcome to join them. There will also be a whole school collection that week for Storehouse and we would encourage everyone to bring in a non-perishable item such as a **tin** of beans, vegetables or soup, **packets** of dried pasta or rice or toiletries such as toothpaste or shampoo. **NO FRESH FOOD** please. There will be a box in the foyer from Monday 14th October to put your item in.

Dates to put in your diary...

Monday 7th Oct.

SCHOOL CLOSED Staff Development Day

Tuesday 15th Oct

P1 - P4 Autumn Assembly

Week beginning 21st Oct.

HEALTHY EATING WEEK

Week beginning 21st Oct.

P1-P6 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Mon 28th Oct – Fri. 1st Nov (incl)

Half Term Holiday