

# Skene School Bulletin 5 08.03.17

*Working Together, Learning Together, To Be The Best We Can Be*



## **A message from Miss Hampton...**

What a busy start to the new calendar year; it is hard to believe that we are into March already. We have not stopped since we returned from the Christmas Holidays with Poetry Competitions, a Burns Supper, TechFest sessions, Bible Alive, Rotary Quizzes, Jazzamatazz, community tree planting and World Book Day. It has been a very busy few months but thoroughly enjoyable for pupils and staff.



With less than four weeks until the holidays we are continuing to work very hard in all classes. Thank you to those of you have responded to the snapshot jotters with comments, there has been a positive increase from the November sessions. The jotters are now part of our reporting process to replace the year end formal report and are an opportunity to show you how your child is getting on and progressing with their work.

Thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to welcoming you all into school soon to share more of our learning.

## **Class Updates:**

### **P1/2 by James Grant...**

This term our topic is Fairyland. We got a special letter asking for our help to build Fairyland. We have built a castle and a beanstalk for Jack. We have read Little Red Riding Hood and Jack and the Beanstalk and we have done lots of writing about Beauty and the Beast.



We are continuing to practice our number bonds to 10 in primary 1, and some beyond this. In Primary 2 we are practicing number bonds to 20 and beyond. Our new topic in Maths is money. We have been looking at different coins and their shapes. My favourite is the 2p coin.

In Music, we have been learning Scottish songs and in PE we have been doing circuits. We are practicing bouncing a ball and throwing bean bags into a hoop.

### **P2/3/4 by Mack Thomson ...**

We are all really enjoying our new project, Space. We have been learning about Tim Peake and his recent space mission. We have also learned about Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins. Did you

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know that some scientists think there is life on Mars? We have been exploring this planet a lot. We are now learning about Jupiter. My favourite fact is that if Jupiter was not there then Earth could not live. Jupiter sucks in all of the asteroids to stop them from hitting planet Earth.



In Maths, we are starting to learn about money. Some of us are learning about the decimal point and how to add and subtract using this.



We have Miss Hammond working with us for 9 weeks. This term we have Mr Strachan and Miss Crawford for PE and Mrs Cooper for Art.

In Art, we have been exploring a two point perspective - we look forward to sharing our work with you soon.

### **P5/6/7 by Jess McWilliam...**

In Maths we have been learning about money, fractions and decimals. We have also been doing data handling on Wednesdays and Thursdays with Miss Hampton. In writing, we have been writing letters, emails and African fables. We also wrote an imaginative piece about an African Adventure for our writing assessment.

In PE, we have been doing some gymnastics and now we are beginning to explore athletics as the weather is getting nicer and we can go outside. In Art, we were creating silhouettes of African animals to tie in with our topic, 'Africa'. They look fantastic and are up on the wall for everyone to see.



Our P5/6/7 show this year is going to be **Pirates of the Currybean**. We have casted for this and rehearsals began last week. We are sure it is going to be lots of fun with many laughs and jokes for everyone to enjoy.

### **Scots Poetry Competition**

Well done to everyone for learning a Scots Poem. It is important for us to uphold traditions and celebrate the life and times of our National Poet, Robert Burns. As you will know we had a whole school Scots Poetry Competition this year with a new shield presented to the winner.

A big thank you to the President of the Rotary Club, Graham Barnes and member, Rev. Rodgers, for judging our competition.



The results were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> - Jess McWilliam, P6, My Love is Like a Red Red Rose

2<sup>nd</sup> - Erin Main, P5, The Neep

3<sup>RD</sup> - Ellie Stewart, P3, The Puddock

### **Burns Supper**

Thank you very much to the Parent Council for organising a fantastic Burns Supper. Not even a power cut or snow storm spoiled the night. The food from Garlogie Inn was delicious, the music from the Haymakers and our piper was great and the entertainment from our very own talented pupils was superb! Well done everyone. The Parent Council raised just over £750 from this event.

### **Community Time**

Just a quick note to make you aware that we have all swapped groups after the February Midterm. The Bear Grylls group are now Healthy Heroes and the Healthy Heroes now Bear Grylls. Each group will continue the hard work of their predecessors. Staffing will remain the same to ensure consistency and a good handover between groups. Miss Bruce and Mrs Geddes work with the Healthy Heroes and Miss Law and myself with the Bear Gryll. We now meet on a Tuesday after lunch.



### **Jazz Concert**

Skene school were very lucky to receive 12 Jazzmatazz sessions this year. We applied back in June and were one of only two schools in Aberdeenshire to receive the sessions. Mike Brogan, from Edinburgh, delivered 12 sessions for each class and arranged a whole school concert to celebrate the learning. Pupils developed their knowledge of jazz music and their playing and singing skills too.

Thank you to those of you who attended the concert on Friday, we hope you enjoyed it and we look forward to seeing lots more 'Jazz dabs' in the future.

### **Rotary Quizzes**

Well done to all of the teams who represented Skene School in the January Rotary Quizzes. You all did us proud and all came 4<sup>th</sup> in your age categories. We now look forward to the P7 Competitive Quiz and wish all of our entrants well.

### **Community Tree Planting - Garioch Rangers and P5/6/7**

Despite the wet and wintry weather, pupils in P5/6/7 participated in a community tree planting project with the Bennachie Rangers on 31<sup>st</sup> January. The pupils planted a selection of hawthorn, dog rose and holly trees near the pond at Arnhall Moss. We will keep an eye on their progress but do have a look and see what you can see if you are visiting the Moss.



## Road Safety Update

Please note that if anyone would like to assist at the school crossing during times of illness/no crossing patroller, you must be a trained employee of Aberdeenshire Council to be covered by the public liability insurance. If you are interested, please visit the Aberdeenshire Council website or Myjobscotland for an application form.

## World Book Day

Well done to all of the pupils, staff and parents for their efforts in dressing up as their favourite book characters. We had a wide variety of characters and some fantastic costumes!



Throughout the day we enjoyed sharing some of our favourite books and we read with some of the mums and dads.

We had a competition to see who was found reading in the most obscure places. Well done to everyone who took part. The winners were:

**James Morrison, P2, Ellie Stewart P3 and Aimee Main P7.**

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Thomson, Mrs Hanley and Mrs Knight for coming in to read with us. We really appreciated it. If anyone has any old books, please do hand them in to school as we are still looking for more to help us with our next Library project.

## Lunchtime and after school clubs

We are lucky to be offering a selection of lunchtime and after school clubs this term for the pupils.

Monday lunchtime - **Chess Club** run by Rev Rodgers

Tuesday lunchtime - **Book Club** run by Mrs Geddes

Tuesday after school - **Football** from 3:30 - 4:20pm, run by Mr Strachan and **Netball** from 4:25 - 5:15pm, run by Mrs Buckett, Mrs Forbes and Mrs Docherty

Friday lunchtime - **Knitting club** run by Miss Law and **Jogging Club** run by Mrs Docherty, Mrs Cruickshank and Mrs Reid.

A very big thank you to all parents and staff for running clubs. The pupils thoroughly enjoy them and get a lot from them.



### **Living and Growing**

This year we have decided to cover Living and Growing content of the curriculum at the end of Term 3. We will cover the relevant aspects with our P5/6/7 pupils in the last week of term, week beginning, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Please see the attached Policy to revise the content for each year group. If you do not give permission for your child/children to participate in these lessons, please let us know by **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March**.

### **Bible Alive**

Our P2/3/4 pupils will be participating in Bible Alive Sessions for the next few weeks. These are provided by Ms Stewart and Mrs Knight. We had our first session on Monday and it was great! The class will be using some of the knowledge that they learn to help present the Easter Assembly at Kirkton of Skene Church on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March**. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.



### **Playground Equipment**

After a very long wait we have now received a ball chute for the playground. It looks great and the children have been enjoying using it at break and lunchtime too. Fingers crossed it helps our Netballers with their shooting practice and drills at training sessions. We have also installed a selection of table top games at the picnic bench. A very big thank you to the Parent Council for funding both pieces of equipment.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March - Parent Council Meeting, 6pm
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March - P7 Rotary Competitive Quiz
- Week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> March - Living and Growing P5-7
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Open Afternoon 3:30 - 5pm to share the terms learning
- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Last day of term
- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Easter Service at Kirkton on Skene Church, 1:45pm
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April - Back to School
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May - May Day holiday
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May - P6 Sailing Taster Session at Loch of Skene, 10am - 12pm
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>(all day)/Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May (am only) - First Aid Course, Levels 1-3, for P5/6/7
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Dress Rehearsal of 'Pirates of the Currybean' 1:30pm
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May - Pirates of the Currybean. 6 for 6:30start.
- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - P7-S1 Link Days
- Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> June - Barcaple
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Leavers Assembly, Kirkton of Skene Church, 9:30am
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June - Leavers BBQ 5 - 7pm
- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June - Last day of school
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August - In-Service Day. Staff in only
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August - Back to school for pupils