



# LET'S TALK GLAITNESS!

<http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk>  
Head Teacher: Mrs Valerie Bleakley  
Issue 1: Friday 7th September 2007



## Ministerial Visit



Maureen Watt MSP - Scottish Executive Minister for Schools and Skills arrived in school on Thursday August 30th for a visit which focussed on health promotion and eco-school developments at Glaitness. Ms Watt was shown the Healthy Tuck Shop (Jason Cook and Maggie Nicolson) in operation. She also met members of the Eco Explorers group (Evie Peace and Alistair Walker) who explained the process of how the school has gained its Healthy Promoting Schools accreditation and Eco Flag Award. Ms Watt was also given a tour of the school and was delighted to see inclusion in practice within such a well resourced school. She was very pleased to see so many children eating a healthy school lunch and commented how well behaved all the children were.



## Parent Council

There will be a Parent Council Meeting on Tuesday 11th September at 7pm in the staffroom. All parents automatically belong to the Parent Council and are therefore invited to attend this meeting. We look forward to welcoming new and any other interested parents.

## Eco Explorers



The following pupils (Alistair Walker, Evie Peace, Aidan Moodie, Victoria Linklater, and Rebecca McHaffie) visited St Andrews Primary on Wednesday to share at an assembly the work we completed within Glaitness School with regard to gaining the Eco Schools award. The pupils have made a PowerPoint presentation about the events and activities that took place within the school.

## School Photos



School photos will be taken on Wednesday 19th September, beginning with class photograph, followed by individual and family groups. A slip will be given out with this newsletter detailing the time of your appointment. Please ensure you arrive in plenty of time

We would like to ask all Parent Council Reps to assist on the day of the school photos. Please contact the school office for details. If you are unable to attend, please find a replacement who will be able to take your place. Any other parents who would like to help would be very welcome!

## 7A Cake Sale

Class 7A will be having a cake sale -10p a bun- on Friday 14th September to raise some money for class activities/resources.



## Green Fingers



Congratulations to Ruth Clark who designed the winning Green Fingers Club Logo you can see here.

The Green Fingers Club will resume next spring.

It is lovely to see the children wearing school uniform. We would like all of them to be wearing school uniform for the class photograph and will be loaned uniform if necessary.

If any parent does not wish their child to wear school uniform for the class photograph, please contact the school office where a note of their wishes will be made.

For individual photographs, school uniform does not need to be worn.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## Nethybridge 2008

### P7 Nethybridge Parents Meeting

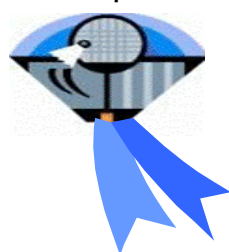


A meeting to discuss the Nethybridge trip will take place on Thursday 13th September at 3.40 pm. All parents of Class 7 children going on the trip are asked to attend.

## Extra Curricular Club News



The extra-curricular clubs at school are as popular as ever. Football started on Tuesday night, netball on Wednesday and tonight sees the start of Octopush and Badminton.



### NETBALL LEADER APPEAL

Unfortunately, no adult has yet volunteered to lead the netball on weeks when Karen Johnstone is unavailable. We are urgently appealing to anyone who can lead netball every other Wednesday. Training on netball coaching skills is available from Catherine Johnson of Active Schools. If we have no additional leader, netball training sessions will depend on Karen's availability which we are very grateful to her for. Please contact the office if you are able to help.



### Water Bottles

Water is one of the most important nutrients for children. It improves physical and mental performance, and helps with a variety of health problems.

We have several water coolers located around the school for the children to fill up from. Please ensure that your child is supplied with a named water bottle.

### Anti-Bullying Week



The dates for Anti-Bullying Week 2007 will be 19-23rd November. More details of activities which will be taking place at schools will be published at a later date.

## RSPB 'The Big Picture'

50 pictures from Glaitness were taken across to the Pickaquoy Centre to show the artwork that our pupils made as part of stage 1 of the RSPB's Big Picture project. The RSPB in association with the Pier Arts Centre were presenting displays and activities to celebrate our coasts and seas as part of the Orkney Science Festival 2007. Please go and take a look at the 'Big Picture', can you identify our pictures?



## Fundraising/Charity News

As a school, we have committed to supporting three charities this year— The Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal, Children in Need, and Sport Relief. Children in Need and Sport Relief fundraising details will follow in due course, but we start off with the Shoebox Appeal.

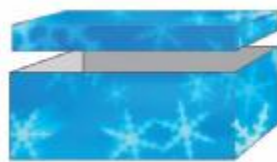
The Blythswood Care Shoe Boxes have brought much joy to the children and adults who received them. In 2006 Blythswood took shoeboxes to India as well as delivering them to Eastern Europe. You can help us send even more this year. After checking your box, Blythswood Care will add a Bible storybook for kids, a diary with bible verses for teenagers or a Bible calendar for adults. It will then be sent to someone in Eastern Europe in time for Christmas.

Each class will be creating their own shoebox, but you are more than welcome to create one yourself (see instructions) and/or donate items for the class boxes.

You will receive a Blythswood leaflet in due course which contains the official checklist to attach to the outside of the shoebox, but to get you started, a list of suggested items is printed at the bottom of the page.

### Instructions:

1. Find a shoebox. Decide to fill it for a child, a teenager, a man or a woman.
2. Wrap your box and lid separately so that the lid can be removed without tearing the paper (see diagram below)
3. Gather the items and pack them into the box.
4. Remember that any goods disallowed by customs will be removed. No foods are permitted apart from sweets, but no loose sweets or lollies are allowed



*\*Best Before Date : No earlier than July 08*

5. On the checklist, tick the items you have put in your shoebox and note any not on the list.
6. Complete the checklist below, cut it out and secure the ticked checklist to the outside of the shoebox lid using sticky tape. Detach the donation envelope as instructed and place inside your shoebox.
7. Secure the lid with rubber bands. Custom regulations require Blythswood Care to check the contents of your box
8. In order for us to ensure Christmas Delivery, your shoebox/items for shoeboxes should be delivered to school by **FRI 5th October**. McAdie & Reeve will then transport the boxes to Blythswood.

Please tick items included and firmly secure this list on your shoebox lid.

### DESIRABLE ITEMS: Hat, Gloves, Socks, Toothbrush, Toothpaste

Suggested items (all items must be new):

Toiletries (NO TALCUM POWDER)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Miscellaneous	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soap/Shampoo/Shower gel	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Make-up	<input type="checkbox"/>
Face cloth/ Moist wipes/Sponge	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sewing Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deodorant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Household Candles	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moisturising Cream	<input type="checkbox"/>	Screwdrivers/Pliers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comb/Brush	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen Utensils	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sanitary Products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>NEW Stationery</b>	
Shaving foam/Razors	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pens/Pencils/Sharpener	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toothbrush and Toothpaste	<input type="checkbox"/>	Notepads/Colouring books	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NEW Clothes</b>		Rulers/Rubbers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Underwear	<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Toy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socks/Tights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Sweets</b> * 'Best Before' date	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hat/Scarf	<input type="checkbox"/>	July 08	
Gloves	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>NO CHOCOLATE</b>	
<b>Other Items</b> (T-Shirts/Pyjamas/Jumpers/Shirts) .....			

(All items of clothing must be new)

### PLEASE CIRCLE WHO THE BOX IS FOR

Girl <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Boy <input type="checkbox"/>
Teenage Girl <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Teenage Boy <input type="checkbox"/>
Woman <input type="checkbox"/>	Man <input type="checkbox"/>

## Dates for your Diary!

### Autumn 2007

Start (Staff) Monday 20 August 2007  
 Start (Pupils) Tuesday 21 August 2007  
 Parent Council First Meeting at School, Tues 11th Sept 7pm  
 School Photos Wednesday 19th September 2007  
 Hockey Festival Monday 24th September, Picky Centre  
 Harvest Service Wednesday 10th October, 2pm Picky Centre  
 End Friday 12 October 2007

### Spring 2008

Start Monday 7 January 2008  
 In-service Thursday 7/Friday 8 February 2008  
 Mid-term break Monday 24 March 2008  
 Easter Service Wed 26th March 2008, venue to be confirmed  
 End Friday 28 March 2008

### Winter 2007

Start (Staff) Thursday 25 October 2007  
 In-service Thursday 25/Friday 26 October 2007  
 Start (Pupils) Monday 29 October 2007  
 Parents Evening Tuesday 13th November 6-8pm (All Classes)  
 Parents Evening Thursday 15th November 6-8pm (All Classes)  
 Xmas Service Wed 19th December, 2pm (venue to be confirmed)  
 End Friday 21 December 2007

### Summer 2008

Start Monday 14 April 2008  
 Mid-term break Monday 5 May 2008  
 Leavers' Service Wed 11th June 2008, venue to be confirmed  
 Sports Day To be confirmed  
 End Friday 27 June 2008  
 Autumn Term 2008  
 Start (Staff) Mon 18 Aug 08/(Pupils) Tues 19 Aug 08

## School Closure Procedures

Information about school closures will be available from 7.30am every morning by phoning the Council's main switchboard number on 873535

You can also listen to Radio Orkney at 7.30 am and 12.55pm for school closure info.

**If school is closed during the day, only school staff will call parents to advise of arrangements for getting pupils home.**

Please don't call each other or the school unless absolutely necessary to ensure that home and school telephone lines are kept clear.

(Extra-curricular activities, ie badminton, netball, football and octopush are automatically cancelled if school is closed).

**Have you notified us of any changes to your Emergency Contact Details?**

## And Finally...

We have had a wonderful start to the new academic year, already P7's have completed a school trip - and have another planned for next week. We have had a Ministerial Visit, P7, 6 and 5 visited the Picky for a science demonstration and we have a visit from a science group on Friday for P3, 4 and 5. Leslie Manson, Director of Education, is also visiting on Friday and it is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of term! My thanks to all those who support the school in any way, we really do need your help to give our children the best experiences we can offer. However, we can always do with more help so if you are able to offer any time please let the school or your class rep know. It is only by working closely together we can go forward and give the children the very best education they deserve.

*Valerie Bleakley*

