



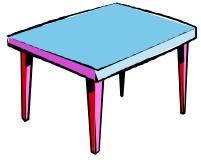
LET'S TALK GLAITNESS!

<http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk>
Head Teacher: Mrs Valerie Bleakley
Issue 2: Friday 5th October 2007



Fundraising News!

Parent Council Fundraising



The Parent Council would like to thank everyone who supported the Tabletop Car Boot Sale in aid of Parent Council funds on Sunday 7th October. You all helped to raise £461.21!



PoppyScotland



Poppies will be on sale in school from Monday 5th November for the whole week.



Nethybridge Fundraising



The bake sale outside the Arena at the Harvest Service raised £146 for Nethybridge funds.

The three free tables provided by the Parent Council for donations of Glaitness, Brownie, Scout, KGS school uniforms, sports and music equipment in good condition raised £93 for the Nethybridge 2008 trip. Thank you to the Parent Council and everyone who supported this too!

Children in Need is nearly upon us once again and we are hoping to raise lots of money for this worthwhile cause. This year our dressing up theme will be spots. We will also be collecting coppers to make into the shape of a swan. If any children would like to have their own event could they please inform their teachers by Monday 5th November.

Christmas Bazaar



The P7 parents are organizing a school disco for Nethybridge funds on Friday 9th November. The disco will commence at 6-7.15pm for Nursery to P3 pupils and 7.30-9pm for P4 upwards. The cost of entry will be £1.50 and £2.00 respectively. Entrance will be through the old entrance.



There will be a Christmas Bazaar for School Funds supported by our Parent Council on Friday 30th November from 3-5.30pm. There will be a short meeting on Monday 19th October at 7pm. All parents, not just those who are Parent Council representatives are invited to come and join in the planning fun!

Parents Evenings—Lots of goodies on sale!

Appointments are being taken by the school office for the Parents Evenings on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th November. Please call the school office to arrange your appointment. All class teachers (including ASN classes) plus Strings, Woodwind instructors, Speech Therapy and Mrs King will be available.

The Nethybridge parents are collecting donations of used school uniform to sell at the Parents' Evenings. Please either bring to school or contact Caroline Wickham-Jones on 87-8965.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Read!



The **Eco Explorers** will be holding a book sale on the Parents Evenings. All donations of unwanted books would be gratefully received in advance of these dates.

The **Eco Enterprise** Group will be making 'recycled' goods to sell for Christmas. Keep your eyes open for information during Parents Evenings and future newsletters!



Phoenix Trading cards, gift wrap, tags and stationery will be on sale at the Parents Evenings too! There will also be a children's raffle too

Charity News



Thank you so much to everyone who donated shoeboxes for the Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal. You helped us to donate 77 shoeboxes in all which was a tremendous effort!



WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Staff at Glaitness dusted off their oars on Tuesday night to raise funds for charity. The 'Glaitness Health Nuts' team of Caroline Carroll, Inga Falconer, Frank Keenan, Helen Killeen and Mharee Rendall rowed a magnificent 10,000 metres in all. The members all cheered each other on throughout and everyone agreed it had been tiring, but great fun. Inga Falconer surprised the team with achievement certificates and chocolate bars which were much appreciated by all! Thank you to the rest of the Glaitness School staff who sponsored us and hence Macmillan to the tune of £305!



Somerfield Gifts



Stephen Denoon and Pat Donohoe of Somerfield's Supermarket certainly didn't trick anyone when they came to the school on Halloween! They brought us treats—excess stock of stationery and novelties which the school will use as prizes for competitions. Here are some of the children with Stephen and Pat and the goodies

Thank you

Somerfield



Anti-Bullying Week



The Pupil Council met on Wednesday to discuss Anti-Bullying week. The discussion covered:

- the Anti-Bullying Policy—the pupils wanted a version in pupil-friendly language
- A copy of the pupil-friendly policy will be put up in all classrooms
- The policy will be shared with parents, staff and pupils
- A new community leaflet on bullying will be given to all families at school
- There will be a Parents' Afternoon on Tuesday 20th November from 2pm
- There will be competitions and prizes!

Website



Did you know that you can see this newsletter online? Did you know that you can see video podcasts of latest news? Do you want to keep up with Parent Council news? Have you mislaid your school calendar? What do the children actually do in school? Did you know that Glaitness School has its own webshop where you can get fantastic online bargains and anything you buy helps us towards our fundraising targets? All of this useful information and more is available on the school's website which you can access by clicking on <http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk>.

Mr Geddes and Mrs Killeen are working on updating the school's website. We would love to hear from you with your ideas for what you would like to see up there. Remember to let us know about your child's achievements outwith the school. Our email addresses are :
tim.geddes@orkneyschools.org.uk
helen.killeen@orkneyschools.org.uk

If you don't have a PC at home, you can come in and use the computer at the pre-school entrance. In addition, Orkney Library has free internet access, so you won't be left out of accessing Glaitness School's window on the world.



School Link



The new School Link catalogue accompanies this newsletter featuring books at discount prices. The school earns over 10% commission on all orders, in the form of free books.

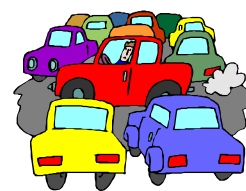
Orders with cheques made payable to Glaitness School should be handed into the school office by Friday 9th November at the latest please.

Class Photos



This is your last opportunity to be able to order your child's class photo through the school. Orders must be received by Thursday 15th November please.

Car Parking



We have been asked by St Colms to remind parents not to park in the car park outside St Colm's unless they have mobility issues or are dropping off or collecting pupils with additional support needs. We appreciate your co-operation!

Play Areas

There have been some erroneous comments in the media that the new play area adjoining the Pickaquoy Centre site has been purchased and installed by Glaitness School. In actual fact, this equipment has been installed by the Glaitness (Housing) Parents Association and is in no way connected with the school. Should you have any queries regarding this equipment/area, please contact that Association directly.

Dates for your Diary!

Winter 2007

Poppy Week	5th November
Disco	Friday 9th November 2007
Parents Evening	Tuesday 13th November 6-8pm (All Classes)
Evening	Thursday 15th November 6-8pm (All Classes)
Children in Need	Friday 16th November
National Anti-Bullying Week	Monday 19th November 2007
Xmas Bazaar	Friday 30th November 2007 3-5.30pm
St Lucy Xmas Tree Lighting Ceremony	Sat 1st December 2007
Newsletter 4	Friday 7th December 2007
Xmas Service	Wed 19th December, 2pm (to be held at St Magnus Cathedral)
Xmas Dinner	Thursday 20th December
End Term	Friday 21 December 2007

Spring 2008

Start	Monday 7 January 2008
Newsletter 5	Friday 18th January 2008
In-service	Thursday 7/Friday 8 February 2008
Newsletter 6	Friday 15th February 2008
Newsletter 7	Friday 7th March 2008
Mid-term break	Monday 24 March 2008
Easter Service	Wed 26th March 2008, (to be held at St Magnus Cathedral)
End Term	Friday 28 March 2008

Summer 2008

Start	Monday 14 April 2008
Mid-term break	Monday 5 May 2008
Newsletter 8	Friday 9th May 2008
Newsletter 9	Friday 6th June 2008
Leavers' Service	Wed 11th June 2008, Pickaquoy Centre
Sports Day	To be confirmed
End Term	Friday 27 June 2008
Autumn Term 2008	(Staff) Mon 18 Aug 08 (Pupils) Tues 19 Aug

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 are looking forward to an exciting term with lots of activities for everyone to join in with.

We recently received the evaluation of the ethos survey that was sent out earlier in the year, many thanks to the parents and children that returned the completed questionnaires (44 families—29% and 114 pupils - 61%), I have collated the results and have highlighted the key responses from each of the groups, they are as follows:-

Pupils say that they:-

feel safe in all areas of the school, get on well with staff, are listened to and their opinions matter, know what to do if they are bullied, teachers praise me when I have done well, are able to take responsibility, and have good access to games/indoor games/football league/sport

Areas for development, pupils think that these are the key areas for development-

Sports equipment/goals, Laptops - more required and School meals

School response - since this questionnaire was carried out, the new goals have been placed in the playgrounds. The school has a rolling programme of replacing and purchasing new laptops, budgets don't allow for us to purchase large quantities every year. The Pupil Council wrote to the head of catering services regarding school meals, all pupils have had the opportunity to complete a survey about school meals and some very good changes have already taken place, we will continue to work with our colleagues in the kitchen who have always been very responsive to pupils requests.

Parents reported that they:-

feel welcome in the school, pupil morale is high, pupil behaviour is high, pupils treated fairly and with respect, staff have high expectations, and school provides opportunities for pupils to take responsibility

Areas for development -there was one key area for development: improved links with the community

School response - we will have identified this as an area for development in the School Development Plan and will work hard with the Parent Forum to extend our work with the community. Last term we sent over 70 Christmas Parcels to the Blythewood Appeal, this year our Christmas and Easter Services will be held in St Magnus Cathedral. We will take every opportunity within the curriculum where possible to include extending our use of the local community. If you have any comments about the ethos survey and the results, please do not hesitate to contact me or your Class Rep.

Valerie Bleakley