



# LET'S TALK GLAITNESS!

<http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk>  
Head Teacher: Mrs Valerie Bleakley  
Issue 5: Friday 25th January 2008



## STAFF CHANGES

Congratulations to Ms Angela Rosie who has been appointed as Depute Head for a period of one year to cover Mrs Ingrid Rendall's maternity leave. Ms Rosie is well known throughout our school community having been a class teacher at Glaitness School for some 20 years. We look forward to Ms Rosie taking up her appointment from Monday 24th January.

Our good wishes go with Mrs Rendall and we look forward to hearing news of the latest addition to the family in due course.

We currently have 2 part time temporary posts, and one part time permanent post being advertised to replace Mrs Currie's timetable and the job share for Mrs Recep and Mrs Bunning's classes. The interviews for these posts will be in February and we will inform all parents who has been appointed as soon as possible. Supply staff currently covering these posts will remain in place until the new staff members are able to take up their posts.

## Mobile Phones

Since Christmas we have seen a significant increase in the number of mobile phones that pupils are bringing into school. Whilst I understand that there may be the odd occasion when you may need to contact your child after school, all pupils have access to a telephone during the day and the school office is 'manned' until 4 p.m. should an emergency occur when you are coming to pick your child up. At after school events and during school trips, all leaders have your details in a folder so that you can be contacted and will either be carrying a mobile themselves or they will be in a location with a phone.

If you do feel that your child does need a mobile, then please could I ask you to speak to your child about appropriate use of their phone- particularly those with a camera, and to ensure that they are placed in the 'phone container' in the classroom. Having spoken to the pupils, they feel happy that their phones are safe in school, but may I remind you that the school does not take any responsibility for the loss or damage to any mobile phone.

*Valerie Bleakley*

## Fundraising

### Christmas Silver Collection



£152.47 was raised from the silver collection at the Christmas Service. The money will be donated to the Women's Refuge.

### Present Aid

Instead of buying presents for each other, Glaitness School staff donated £110, £30 of which was donated to Bangladesh. The remaining £80 donated to Present Aid purchased a herd of goats for £60 and 2 disaster kits for £10 each. If you want to buy ethical gifts, here is Present Aid's webpage  
<http://www.presentaid.org/page/home>

### Sledge Raffle



Mr Stuart Smith kindly donated a John Deere sledge to be raffled off. The raffle raised 114 for the Nethybridge funds. Thank you so much, Stuart, for the generous donation!

### Class 5 Ceilidh



Well Done to Mrs McRae and Class 5 who raised £99.17 from sales of their Ceilidh DVD. Thank you to everyone who purchased copies.

### Nethybridge

There will be a bingo night on Tuesday 12th February to raise funds for Nethybridge.. Eyes down at 7pm!

Please note that the January payment of £50 for Nethybridge is now due. Personal payment plan letters will be issued in February

## Excursion Consent and Medical Forms

The annual excursion and medical forms are attached. Please fill in both forms for each individual child and return to the school office by Friday 1st February. Please note that if these forms are not returned, your child cannot be permitted to go on curriculum excursions after 8th February.

## Extra-Curricular News

It was encouraging to see 26 pupils from Glaitness entering the Orkney Badminton Association Primary Boys/Girls Singles and Doubles Competition which took place on Sunday 20th January at the Picky Centre. For some it was their first time playing competitively. It was great to see them doing well and entering into the spirit of the competition. Ten children from Glaitness gained a total of three trophies and twelve medals. Well done to all who took part. Everyone showed great sportsmanship, displayed excellent behaviour and were a real credit to the school.

Placings were as follows:

Boys Singles - Jason Cook (2nd), Thorfinn Miller (3rd)

Boys Doubles—Andrew Reid partnered by Liam Delday of St Andrews (Winners)  
Jason Cook and Thorfinn Miller (2nd)

Girls Singles—Victoria Linklater (Winner), Claire Johnstone (2nd), Thora Cant (3rd)

Girls Doubles—Claire Johnstone and Victoria Linklater (Winners)

Thora Cant and Daryelle Watt (3rd)

Plate Competition, Boys Singles—Sean Rynie (Winner)

Plate Competition, Boys Doubles—Alistair Scott and Duncan MacLean (Winners)



### Octopush



Remaining Session Dates  
25th Jan, 1st, 15th, 22nd, 29th  
Feb, 7th, 14th, 21st Mar

### Football



Remaining Session Dates  
29th Jan, 5th, 12th, 26th Feb,  
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th Mar

(please note no football on 19th Feb due to Picky maintenance of the Arena).

We will be reviewing payments shortly and if you have paid for the 19th February we will give you a refund in due course.

### Badminton



Remaining Session Dates  
25th Jan, 1st, 15th, 29th Feb, 7th, 14th,  
21st, 28th Mar.

Please note that the sessions on 21st and 28th Mar are on from 5-6pm instead of the usual time.

We will be reviewing payments shortly and if you have paid for the 22nd Feb we will give you a refund in due course.

## NETBALL



Remaining Session Dates  
Training dates for P6/P7 are 30th Jan,  
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th Feb, 5th, 12th, 19th  
Mar (P5 can join in with the training ses-  
sions on 5th, 12th, 19th Mar)

#### Thank you Karen!

As you know, Karen Johnstone has coached the girls for a number of years and has inspired and motivated them to success. Most recently, the Panthers have retained the Herston League cup for the second year in a row! Thank you so much to Karen for all your hard work and commitment.

**We are urgently seeking volunteers who would be interested in coaching the netball after the summer.**

Netball Orkney are planning to hold an Um-  
piping Advice Session on Saturday 9th  
February in the Noust, Pickaquoy Centre at  
3.00pm - 5.00pm which will be run by Ruth  
Drever and Evie Donaldson.

This course is open to everyone, no matter what umpiring or playing ability you have. The aim of this course is to mainly improve your knowledge on the rules of netball and to be able to put this into a match situation but also to improve your confidence when umpiring. This course which will mainly be a questions & answers

day. At the start of the next netball sea-  
son (Sept/Oct) there will possibly be an-  
other theory style course and then a prac-  
tical course held where Ruth and Evie  
would shadow you in a game situation.

Rules books will be available on the day at  
a cost of £5.00 each, but the school would  
reimburse the cost of these to our volun-  
teer coaches.

The Active Schools Co-ordinator would  
help to support the new coaches.  
**Please contact the school as soon as  
possible so that we can get you  
started and you could work alongside  
Karen for the remaining session dates  
term.**

# Eco News



## Eco Water Bottles.

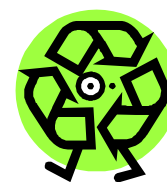
The Eco Explorers group are promoting drinking of water in school for pupils and staff. They were also anxious to avoid unnecessary waste. Hence, we have ordered Eco Water Bottles available for sale from the school office at the cost of £1.50 each. These are made from recycled plastic and can be collected at school at the end of their lifespan and sent off to be 'remade'. We also have replacement caps available for sale.

## R,R,R, Eco Enterprise

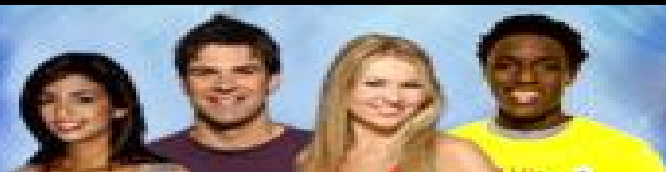


The eco Explorers and Pupil Council have been working hard on an action plan to develop our back playground areas. A small group presented an assembly last week to all pupils on their ideas for action and to consult a wider audience about what they want to see the areas used for. They are planning to consult pupils out in th playground with questionnaires and ask staff and parents about their views too.

Watch this space...



Blue Peter Appeal—The Eco Explorers Committee have made the decision to support Blue Peter's latest appeal, Disc-Drive. We therefore need you to support us by sending in any unwanted CD's, DVD's or computer games (in saleable condition). These will be passed on to Barnardo's who will sell them in their shops to raise much needed funds for young carers in the UK. Have a pre-Christmas clearout and send your discs into school. We will do the rest!!



Blue Peter



By recycling old mobile phones through Fones4Schools the leading UK mobile phone recycling campaign, you will be helping to raised funds for our school and your child will gain prizes for the phones they collect, at the same time as helping the environment. The phones collected can be of any age and condition. Ask family, friends and work colleagues if they have any old phones they can give you. There are prizes for every participant and the school gains £300 for every 200 mobile phones collected. The more phones you donate, the bigger the prize you can choose. Don't forget to complete and include the form in the collection bag when you hand in your collection bag to the school office! That way we know who donated and what prize you want. If you have lost the bag and list please contact the school office and they will provide you with a replacement.

## More News



### Health Nuts - Tuck Shop

The Health Nuts group have decided that we should limit the amount of purchases for snacks to a maximum of 30p per child for biscuits, cheese, breadsticks etc. as some pupils have begun to spend too much each day. We will shortly be selling 'Walkers' baked crisps at a cost of 25p, 'snack a jack' rice biscuits at a cost of 45p (caramel 35g packets) and Capri-sun 100% juice drinks at 40p each - summer fruit flavour. New items will be for a trial period only to begin with. Pupils will only be allowed to purchase one packet of either snack or a selection from the items already available and a drink at any one time.

*The Nestle Box Tops Scheme offers free educational books from Dorling Kindersley in exchange for tokens found on Nestlé cereal box tops and cereal bar packs. Remember to keep collecting and post into the box located in the foyer!*



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 Tuesday 29th January at the latest plase.



**Glaitness Health Nuts Recipe Book** —if you're still looking for that gift for the person who has everything, look no more! The Recipe Book is on sale at the School Office, priced at £5 per copy.

## Dates for your Diary!

Spring 2008	Summer 2008	Start Monday 14 April	P6 Hoy Trip (will take place on either Mon & Tues 19th/20th May or Mon & Tues 26th/27th May (to be confirmed))
In-service Thursday 7/Friday 8 Feb	Make a Difference Day 3 (MADD3) Wednesday 23rd Apr		Sports Day Tuesday 3rd June
Newsletter 6 Friday 15th Feb	Nethybridge Monday 28th April—Friday 2nd May		Newsletter 9 Friday 6th June
Newsletter 7 Friday 7th Mar	Mid-term break Monday 5 May		Leavers' Service Wed 11th June (Picky Centre)
Parents Evening 6-8pm Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th Mar	Newsletter 8 Friday 9th May		P7 KGS Transition Visit Days Thurs/Fri 12th/13th June
Sport Relief Friday 14th Mar	P7 Transition Sports will take place either on Friday 16th or Wed 21st May (to be confirmed by Department)		End Term Friday 27 June 2008
Mid-term break Easter Monday 24 Mar	Norwegian Constitution Day Saturday 17th May		Autumn Term 2008(Staff) Mon 18 Aug 08 (Pupils) Tues 19 Aug
Easter Service Wed 26th Mar (to be held at St Magnus Cathedral)			
End Term Friday 28 Mar			

### 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...

*I always think that this term is the term where we expect to see the pupils really progressing and moving their learning forward. Please support your child by hearing them read, learning spellings and completing homework tasks. We will be shortly sending out information for parent workshops for maths called 'Keeping up with the Kids', this is to help parents to understand how maths is taught in schools and some activities that can easily be done at home whilst having fun or completing more mundane tasks i.e. tidying bedrooms!*

*I would like to congratulate all our teams for representing the school so well, as the end of the seasons come for netball, badminton and shortly football, I think we should also remember to thank all the folk that give up their time so that the children can take part in the after school activities - we will shortly be looking for a new netball coach - so watch this space.*

*Valerie Blackley*