



LET'S TALK GLAITNESS!

http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Mrs Valerie Bleakley
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Important Newsletter Announcement!

We have decided that after this newsletter, all future newsletters will be made available online with a few copies being held at the office, for anyone who wants to pick up a paper copy. A text will be sent out to parents advising them when the newsletter is available online on the school website. As an Eco-School we continually monitor our cost to the environment and by moving to (nearly!) paperless newsletters, we can save paper, printing costs and clerical time. The savings will enable us to direct these costs towards the children's education.

Haiti Fundraising

Pyjama Party and Bake Sale



On Tuesday 9th February we held a fundraising day for the Haiti Appeal. A bake sale was held, and pupils and staff were asked to donate a minimum of £1 to dress in their pyjamas for the day! We are delighted to announce that we managed to raise a total of £383.99. Many thanks to everyone for their support.



BBC School Report 2010



On Thursday 11th of March Primary 7 pupils at Glaitness School took part in the 2010 BBC School Report. It is an exciting nationwide live news link up for schools. The BBC News School Report gives 11-14 year-old young people in the UK the chance to write and create their own news reports for a real audience.

Firstly, we decided which news stories to report on locally, nationally, internationally. This year our local story covered the new Peedie Sea paths which the school has been involved in naming. The national story was about the important issue of the health and fitness of young people and children in Scotland. We decided that the international story should be about the terrible earthquake in Haiti which we had fundraised for. We also included a report on the important sports fixtures at our school which range from football to kayaking!



We developed our confidence and interviewing skills when we interviewed Alistair Carmichael the MP for Orkney and Shetland and Liam McArthur MSP on the Haiti issue and the health and fitness of children. Laura Cromarty the OIC Officer for Kick Start Kirkwall was also interviewed about the new paths being developed around the Peedie Sea.

We have really enjoyed the BBC School Report experience and we are glad we took part in the project. We feel we have learned a lot from it.

We want to say a huge thank you to Ms Lesley Mackay for support with filming and editing and Fionn McArthur for mentoring us and trusting us with the loan of equipment! Primary 7 would say to any schools who are taking part next year it is definitely worth while, great fun and good luck!! The final report and Radio Orkney interview can be seen and heard on the links for BBC School Report on the Glaitness School website.

<http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk/>

<http://glaitnessschoolreport.blogspot.com/>



I enjoyed the whole reporting experience. It was fun!



All the steps involved really helped develop my skills.

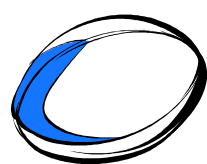


I enjoyed the experience and would definitely do it again.



It has helped us understand about broadcasting and we will pay more attention to the news in future.

Class News



Class 5

Class 5 have been taking part in rugby training on Tuesday afternoons with Bruce Ruthven. They have been practising their running and passing skills and have now started to play games! Below are a few comments from some of the pupils.

"We've learned lots of new skills." - *Dona*

"It's tiring but we really enjoy it!" - *Jordan*

"Sometimes it's a bit cold but we still enjoy it!" - *Claire*

"You get fit and healthy doing it." - *Emma*

"It's really good fun!" - *Leah and Bethin*



Class 3/4

P3/4 received a parcel from Canada last week. There was great excitement when it was opened. There were lots of pictures inside, so they decided to create a display about their link with the Outma Sqilx'w Cultural School in British Columbia so that the rest of the school can share in the experience.

Class 6

Vicky Anderson, who is one of the school nurses came in to visit Class 6 to discuss a healthy diet. Here are the pupils selecting different foods to place on the appropriate section of the food map.



Other News



School Uniform

Glaitness School uniform will soon be available from InterSport, KT Sports, we have attached a letter and order form to this newsletter. If you wish to order school uniform from them for the next school year, please can you return the form either to KT Sports or to the school by 30th April. In the meantime, you can still place small orders through the school until the end of May if you want to get items before the summer holidays. Just a reminder to everyone that the wearing of school uniform is to be encouraged. The inclusive ethos of the uniform is supported by the Parent Council who often have good quality secondhand uniforms for sale at a reduced price. Please ask at the School Office and any requests for secondhand uniform will be passed on to the Parent Council.



School Meals Price Increase

Please note that from 12th April the charge for school meals will increase from £1.50 to £1.55, and books of dinner tickets will increase from £15.00 to £15.50.

To obtain books of dinner tickets you can come along to the school and buy them direct from the school kitchen staff. Or alternatively you can put the money in with your child to hand in at morning registration, this will then be given to the kitchen staff who will then give them the tickets to take home.



Beavers and Cubs in the Scout Hall



The Beavers and Cubs sections of the Scouts are keen to welcome new members, both girls and boys. Beavers meets on Monday evenings at 6.15 pm (for children aged almost 6 to around 8 years) and Cubs (for children 8 - 10 years) on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm. Come along and give it a try!



If you wish to put your daughter on the waiting list for Rainbows (ages 5-7) or Brownies (ages 7-10), please contact Katrina Black on 871069. Anyone who has recently put their daughter's name on the list but not heard anything back regarding them joining a unit yet should also please contact Katrina.



Thank you to everyone who has been collecting Tesco vouchers and Nestle Box Tops tokens for the school, keep up the good work!

We hope to collect enough Tesco vouchers to get football goals, netball posts and a play tunnel for our playground. The Tesco vouchers and Nestle Box Tops can either be handed in to the school office or put in the collection boxes at the Main and Pre-School entrances.



Extra Curricular Club News



Football

Remaining training sessions, Tuesdays
5.15 – 6.15pm:

Term 3: 23rd Mar 2010

Badminton Remaining training
sessions, Friday 5.30 to 6.30 pm.

Term 3: 19th Mar 2010

Netball Remaining training sessions,
Thursdays 4-5pm.

Term 3: 25th Mar 2010

Term 4: 15th, 22nd Apr 2010

Football

Football Round Up

After a long hard season the football teams have again done Glaitness proud in the Primary Indoor Football League. United finishing a credible 5th with Spurs 11th and Rovers 20th.

This year we managed to put 5 teams forward for the Lloyds TSB Trophy and Reid Crescent Shield competitions. After 3 nights of play United made it through to the quarter-finals of the TSB Trophy where they narrowly lost 2-1 to Stenness Falcons. Spurs and an impressive young Swans team were knocked out in the 2nd round of the Reid Crescent Shield with Rovers and Pirates going out in round one.

With a new primary girls competition organised this year, the Glaitness Gladiators made their debut. After a tremendous night of football and having made it to the final they narrowly lost 2-1 to Stenness.

The coaches would like to thank all of the players for their hard work at training over the past months and also for their good behaviour at Picky during all competitions.



Glaitness United (and mascot!)



Glaitness Gladiators



Glaitness Spurs



Glaitness Swans

Parent Council/Other News

Parent Council

Valentines Disco

The Glaitness School Parent Council held a Valentines Disco on Friday 19th February. There was a great number of little disco divas from the Nursery to P3 classes and they all looked great with their flashing necklaces, tattoos and glow sticks. The P4-P7 classes came along to the later disco and strutted their stuff too. All seemed to have a good time and were extremely well behaved despite us running out of sweets! We made a profit of £170 for our funds. Thanks to all children and parents who came along and to Martin Meek for doing the music for us.

School Magazine

The Parent Council are planning to do a school magazine next term that will be full of pictures, photos and writing that the pupils have done over the year. They would like the pupils to design a cover and give suggestions for a name. There will be a prize for the ones that are chosen. A letter with further details of how to enter will follow shortly.

Email

We would like to remind parents that the Glaitness School Parent Council can be emailed by contacting the following address:

gpc@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk.

WWF Earth Hour

The children are being encouraged to take part in the global campaign that is Earth Hour. To do this you need to switch your lights off on Saturday 27th March for an hour from 8.30pm. Please see the website for further information - www.earthhour.org. You will see Glaitness School registered there too.

Outdoor developments

We are continuing to develop our outdoor spaces, especially the courtyard and the Early Years area. We are planning to paint a labyrinth in the courtyard early next term and to create a digging area and various other exciting things outside the pre-school. The money raised from the parents evening raffle and toy/book sale was just over £200 and will contribute to these costs. Thank you to everyone who contributed and hope your tickets were lucky! Mrs Rendall has just returned from an outdoor learning course in Perth and is keen to get going with some new ideas!

We are hoping to resume the Glaitness Green Fingers after school group next term too - more details will follow.

Dates for your Diary

Date/Time	Event	Notes
26 th March - 2.30pm	Easter Service	At School—silver collection for Pre-school outdoor area.
26 th March	End of Term 3	
Monday 5 th April	Easter Monday	
Monday 12 th April	Start Term 4	
Wednesday 14 th April - 3.40pm	Nethybridge Parents Meeting in Staffroom	
Friday 16 th April	Highland Football Academy P3 & P3/4 Classes	
W/c 26 th April	Nethybridge P7 residential trip	
Monday 3 rd May	Mid-term break	
w/c 10 th -13 th May	Junior Instrumental Course	For invited pupils only
Friday 14 th May	P7 Transition Sport Day at Picky	
Monday 17 th May	P5 Norwegian Constitution Day	
Monday 17 th May - all day	KNEX workshop	
Tuesday 18 th May - am	KNEX workshop	
Wed 19 th May or Wed 9 th June (TBC)	P6 Hoy Trip	
Friday 21 st or Friday 28 th May (TBC)	P3/4 Outdoor Education Day	
Thursday 27 th May	Primary School Athletics	
TBA	Class Assemblies for P1,2,3/4 and 6	Class teachers will inform parents when these will take place.
Friday 4 th June	Reports to Parents	
Monday 7 th June	Curriculum for Excellence Day - School closed to pupils	
Friday 11 th June	Sports Day	
25 th June - 2.30 pm	Leavers Service	Pickaquoy Centre
25 th June	End of Term 4	
17 th August	Autumn Term 2010 (Pupils)	

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, mobile and school telephone lines are kept clear.

Texting Trial

The emergency closure text messaging system has worked well. Please ensure you update the school office about any changes to contact numbers.

And Finally...

This has been a very exciting term in school with the children engaging in active learning activities both inside and outside the classroom, the pre-school children are busy digging and developing their new outdoor learning area, and even today the P1 and P3/4 children are helping to plant many trees in the Peedie Sea area to enhance the new walkways that have been recently created.

I am particularly proud of the P7 pupils who have recently been excellent ambassadors for the school in working on the BBC School News Report and we have received many compliments on how mature and articulate our P7 pupils are, a special thanks to them and particularly Ms Rosie, Mrs McRae and Ms Mackay for all their hard work.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a good Easter Holiday and hope that the recent signs of spring continue to blossom.

Valerie Shakley