



# LET'S TALK GLAITNESS!

<http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk>  
Head Teacher: Mrs Valerie Bleakley  
Issue 7: Friday 28th March 2008



## Staff News

We have now appointed Miss Corrine Corse as our P4 teacher until January 2009, Mrs Jennifer Tait will be taking our P1-2 class until Mrs Pettet returns from her sick leave and Miss Laura Garriock will be working with Mrs Recep and Mrs Bunning in our 5A and 7A classes. Sadly Mr Jesset is no longer able to take up his post in P3 and we will be interviewing for this post on Friday 28th March and hope to appoint a person to this post to start after Easter. We will keep you informed as soon as we are able to.

## Fundraising

[www.buy.at/glaitness](http://www.buy.at/glaitness)



Use the web link above for a great way to get some fantastic online bargains, find cheaper gas and electricity services and even book a holiday. Remember, anything you buy through our webshop will help towards our fundraising targets.

### Nethybridge Fundraising

Parents of P7 pupils have been working very hard to raise funds to support all the pupils who will be attending the trip.

A Grand Total of £2,754.30 has been raised.

Well done everyone!



## Sport Relief 14th March - Rise to the Challenge!



Our Primary 7 Teachers and Pupils did a wonderful job of organizing our Sport Relief events. The whole school completed their 'mile' either individually or as a class and fortunately the weather was kind to us. Our P7 pupils also 'rose to the challenge' by swimming 16 miles collectively before they completed their track mile! What a fit group of pupils we have!!

Thanks to everyone who donated to Sport Relief, we have raised a total of £1116.19 so far. We will announce our final total in the next newsletter as we are currently still collecting sponsor money.



## Extra-Curricular News

### Badminton

#### Orkney U13 Badminton Squad



Congratulations to Victoria Linklater, Thora Cant, Claire Johnstone, Alistair Scott and Andrew Reid who were all selected as part of the Orkney U13 badminton squad.



#### Easter Eggstravaganza!



The Glaitness Badminton Club held their Easter Eggstravaganza at the Pickaquoy Centre on Friday 21st March. The results are as follows;

##### Medal Winners

1st Place: Alistair Scott and Robert Sinclair

2nd Place: Sean Ryrie and Maggie Nicolson

3rd Place: Alex Stevenson and Evie Peace

##### Most Improved Beginners

Boy: Ryan Tait

Girl: Lynn Scott

(Both received large Easter eggs)

All participants received a certificate and a small Easter egg. Thanks to The Pickaquoy Centre who donated a voucher for a free badminton court to each player. Many thanks also to Mr Leslie Manson for presenting the medals and to all of the leaders who helped to make it such a fun event!

### Football

#### Thank you Derek!

Derek Linklater our Football Coach is leaving at the end of the indoor season. We would like to thank Derek for all his hard work over the past 6 years, many of our pupils have benefited from Derek's excellent coaching and we wish him well for the future.

Mr Michael Miller has agreed to continue as Coach and Mr Roy Foubister will be supporting him. They still need more regular leaders to assist them with the football teams and if anyone would like to volunteer to help Michael or Roy, please contact the school.

### Netball

#### Desperately Seeking Help!

We are very grateful to Karen Johnstone for working so hard with our netballers and would like to thank her for all the effort she has put in to making our teams successful.

However...

We will not be able to offer netball next session unless someone else is willing to step forward to continue Karen's good work. Support and training is available from the Active Sports Team. Please contact the school office if you are interested in finding out more!

## Eco News



We have completed the staff and pupil questionnaire on 'What do we want in and from our playground?'. More seating, quiet sheltered areas and all weather activity equipment such as Trim Track were frequently highlighted in the survey. The janitors are busy building seating benches and picnic tables from materials which have been purchased.



We will be investigating fund raising opportunities now to purchase the more expensive items of equipment which would benefit the active learning/outdoor classroom areas we are trying to create. We would very much welcome suggestions, ideas and help from parents and carers with this.



At the beginning of next term we will be busy planning for our MADD in April which will hopefully continue to improve our outdoor space. More information on this will be given at a later date.



Blue Peter



Blue Peter Appeal—The Eco Explorers Committee are still supporting Blue Peter's Disc-Drive appeal. Please send 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.



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

### Connecting with Russian TV at Skara Brae

Following our very successful launch into national TV, we have been contacted by Russian Hour TV to take part in the unveiling of the new stone in the timeline, to commemorate 'the first man in space' at Skara Brae. This is an event which all pupils and their families are invited to attend. It is being held on *Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April at approximately 10 - 10.30 a.m. Entrance is free and Orkney and Russian Flags will be available for waving!* We would like as many folk as possible to come and support our own P7 TV crew who will be interviewing a Russian Pilot, some Russian Diplomats as well as our own MSP's and dignitaries.



### Green Fingers Group

The gardening group had their first (very chilly) task of the year last Tuesday planting a large quantity of Daffodil bulbs in tubs around the school. Unfortunately the second meeting was cancelled due to the snow! We look forward though to planting vegetables next term e.g. tomatoes and cucumbers in the greenhouse which will help support our Healthy Tuckshop. We will also be planting vegetables such as potatoes and carrots in the central courtyard.

### Recycling Workshop

The Waste Management team from the Council visited the school on 11th March to hold a recycling workshop with Class 5. They are pictured with the Waste Management team's mascot, Recycling Ronald.



The Nestlé 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!

## Dates for your Diary!

Summer 2008 Start Monday 14 April	P7 Leavers' Service Wed 11th June (Picky Centre)
Make a Difference Day 3 (MADD3) Wed 23rd Apr	P7 KGS Transition Visit Days Thurs/Fri 12th/13th June
P7 Nethybridge Trip Mon 28th April	End Summer Term Friday 27 June
Mid-term break Monday 5 May	Autumn Term 2008
Newsletter 8 Friday 16th May	Start (Staff) Mon 18 Aug
P7 Transition Sports will take place either on Friday 16th or Wed 21st May (to be confirmed by Department)	(Pupils) Tues 19 Aug
Norwegian Constitution Day Saturday 17th May	End Fri 10 Oct
P6 Hoy Trip Mon & Tues 26th/27th May	
Sports Day Tuesday 3rd June	
Newsletter 9 Friday 6th June	

### 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

If school is closed during the day, only school staff will call parents to advise of arrangements for getting pupils home. (Extra-curricular activities, ie badminton, netball, football and octopush are automatically cancelled if school is closed).

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

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

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

### And Finally...

This is the end of a long term where much has happened. I would like to thank all parents for their continued support and understanding, particularly where staffing has been a bit of a challenge at times.

It was wonderful to see the newly formed orchestra play for the first time in the Cathedral yesterday, my congratulations to all the pupils who had the courage to play in front of such a large audience so brilliantly. My thanks too to all the choir and soloists who sang 'Resurrection Rock' with confidence, last week on Good Friday the choir performed the piece at the lunch club for the Salvation Army. Their performance was so good that they were asked to sing it twice.

I hope that you all have a wonderful Spring Time holiday, and return to school refreshed and ready for an exciting Summer Term, this will be the challenging term for our Primary 7 classes who I hope will make the most of their last term with us at Glaitness.

*Valerie Blackley*