



LET'S TALK GLAITNESS!

<http://www.glaitness.orkney.sch.uk>
Head Teacher: Mrs Valerie Bleakley
Issue 9: Friday 13th June 2008



Glaitness Parent Council

As the school year draws to a close, Glaitness Parent Council is looking for new volunteers to replace out-going parent representatives. As replacements for both the old 'School Boards' and the Parent Association, Parent Council members, or "year reps", represent parents' interests within the school (generally liaising with the Head Teacher), and organise fund-raising activities throughout the school year. In the recent past, money had been raised for a variety of useful things for the children - from play equipment (indoors and out), to speakers for classroom smart boards. Any parent interested in the school and its pupils is very welcome to come along to meetings, and we would be happy to see more than one parent willing to represent each class. If you are interested, please come to our next meeting at 7pm on Thursday 19th June.

Gillian Wylie, Chair

Sports Afternoon



Ross County FC & Scottish FA
Summer Holiday Programme

Mini Kickers: 8-10th July 9-10am 3-4 yrs £15
5th Aug 9-10 am 3-4 yrs £5
Ross County Soccer School: 8-10th July 10.15-11.45 5-8 yrs £20
Ross County Soccer School: 8-10th July 12-1.30 pm 9-14 yrs £20
Ross County All Star Road Show 5th Aug 10.30-12.30 5-14 yrs £15
For further details/book a place phone the Community Hotline on 01349-860-862



It was disappointing that the Sports Afternoon had to be postponed due to the rain. We have managed to reschedule for Tuesday 17th June. Please come and join us at the Pickaquoy Centre track and in-field area at 1.45.

Primary School Athletics Championships

Laura Cromarty wanted to let us know how proud she was of all the Glaitness athletes at the Primary School Athletics Championships on Wednesday 28th May. Didn't they do well! Their teamship was excellent and Angela Rosie's enthusiasm and managerial skills were very apparent! Gary Ward took lots of photos—here's the results and snaps of the winners.

9-10 Boys	Shot Putt—James Nicolson (2nd)	Cricket Ball—Andrew Reid (1st), Thorfinn Miller (3rd)
	High Jump—Andrew Reid (2nd), Thorfinn Miller & James Nicolson (3=)	Long Jump—Owen Harcus (2nd)
	100 metres—Fergus MacIvor (1st)	800 metres—Andrew Davis (1st), Andrew Reid (3rd)
	OVERALL WINNER Andrew Reid (1st) and James Nicolson (3=)	
9-10 Girls	Cricket Ball—Thora Cant (3rd)	Long Jump—Thora Cant (1st)
11-12 boys	Shot Putt— Stewart Flett (1st)	800 metres—Jason Cook (3rd)
11-12 girls	Cricket Ball—Vicky Shearer (2nd)	High Jump—Stephanie Fulton (2nd) Long Jump—Evie Peace (2nd)
	100 metres—Evie Peace (2nd)	800 metres—Anna Tait (3rd) OVERALL WINNER EVIE PEACE



Class News

Preschool Lifecycle Studies



Preschool have been studying lifecycles and successfully hatched 6 chicks. Our tadpoles are growing legs and our caterpillars are now in their cocoons.



We have moved onto minibeasts and planting.



Class 1 Experiments

The bairns have been doing some of the experiments from their ES project on Splish, Splash, Splosh. They planted some cress, predicted which would grow -



watered one or dry and then recorded results. We also used the cress in egg and cress sandwiches. We also have been using the outdoors for our learning.

Class 1A—Out and About

Class 1A have been enjoying going on different trips out of school this term. We have been to visit Smuggler's Cove and the cafe upstairs a few times, and we have also been to visit different playparks when the weather has been nice. If the weather isn't nice, we sometimes like to



bake but we must go to the shops to buy our ingredients first. Hopefully the sun will shine some more before the holidays and we can go on a few more trips!



Class 1/2 Active Learning

This term P1/2 have been involved with lots of active learning activities to help us learn in a fun way. We think this kind of way of working helps us to learn more quickly and we have enjoyed it too! Here are some of our comments :



(D.) 'Are we doing the moving around thing today? I like when we do that'

(M) 'Hooray, it's our turn to be at the Writing Table today!'



Class 3's Busy Year

We began the year with a topic about Early Settlers, the highlights of which were our work in



Drama with Mr Giles exploring the lives of the Early Settlers, and despite the cold and wind, our visit to Skara Brae. We also had great fun during science week with some of the experiments we tried.



In term 2, we did a project on Food. We learned all about

healthy eating, tasted fruit, designed cereal boxes and much more. We were also busy making Christmas cards which we sold at the Christmas Fayre.

In term three we were busy learning about Houses and Homes and we did a second project about Homes Around the World. We worked really well in groups to make a birds eye view of the classroom. We also made two enormous wall displays showing a mountain landscape in North West China

and a village of longhouses in Malaysia. We also started a new writing programme which saw us all make excellent progress.

We began term four by learning about the Rain-forest. After that we moved on to Nature Study. We are learning all about our local environment. We have had caterpillars in the class and are now all waiting with baited breath for the butterflies to emerge.



Perhaps the most exciting thing this term has been the arrival of George the Emu who has come all the way from a year three class in Brisbane, Australia. George

is going home with each pupil overnight and is keeping a diary of his adventures. At the end of term we will send him back so that his friends can find out all about life in Orkney. At the same



time as George is here, we sent Peter the Puffin to Australia. We have been keeping in regular contact with the school in Brisbane via email.

Class 3A Celebrating Success

Sam and Leigh excelled themselves in their participation in outdoor activity trips, both accomplishing success in their own personal challenges.

In swimming, Morgan, Daniel and Sam have received certificates to celebrate their achievement in the swimming pool.



Class 4 Outdoor Activity Trip

On Friday 30th May Primary 4 pupils had a fantastic day out. Everyone faced their fears and successfully completed an abseil at Scapa beach. We also had a great time canoeing and kayaking at Walliwall Quarry.



Class 5

Class 5 have recently been involved in golf taster sessions with Active Schools. We had a very successful trip to the museum on 14th May to study the Viking and St Rognald exhibition. We also looked at the sea wall on Junction Road and St Olaf's archway. The pupils were very well behaved and focussed on their tasks. We even had time for playtime in Tankerness House Gardens.



Some members of the class took part in fiddle, whistle, bodhran and singing workshops in Stromness on Friday as part of the Folk Festival. They very much enjoyed the sessions and their behaviour was a credit to the school.

Class 5A—Active Learning

Glen joined the P4 class to have a go at canoeing - he loved it.



Adam enjoys riding a tandem bike from the Toy Library



Emily joined the P7 trip to Nethybridge and loved her week away.

Class 6 Celebrate Wesak

On 21st May, as part of their study of other world religions, P6 celebrated the Buddhist festival called Wesak. Many of the children, along with their parents made a selection of tray bakes and fancies. These were given away free at playtime. We felt that money is such a large part of some people's lives that it important to remember that we can still do something for nothing. The children had made Wesak garlands



out of tissue paper and they wore these when they gave away the food. Everyone seemed to enjoy the bakes as there was nothing left!

Class 7A/Health Nuts

Class 7A and pupils from the health nuts group have worked together well over the past year buying items for the Healthy Tuck Shop in school. Our weekly trips out have included visits to the Co-op and on occasions Lidl's. Wonder what our new superstore will have to offer this group of shoppers next term?



7D & 7M John Muir Award

This term both P7 classes have been working together on achieving a John Muir Award:

'So far we've been on three big walks in the countryside noting down the variety of living things we see. When we are finished we will have created an information leaflet about the Muddisdale woods and the walk from Muddisdale to Wideford summit. We will put the leaflets in the tourist office and at the Picky Centre for visitors to use and you will be able to download the guide as a PDF from our website. We hope we will help people to realise how much biodiversity is in the area.'





Netball Coaching



Thank you to those parents who have come forward to help with Netball leadership next session. Karen is going to continue in a guidance role for the next year until the leaders are confident to take the netball forward themselves.



Football



Thanks to Michael Miller, Roy Foubister, Dave Clark and Graham Scott who have all volunteered to be football leaders next winter session. We would still welcome other interested parents, please contact the school. You don't need vast expertise, simple enthusiasm and commitment are the best gifts you can give.



Blue Peter Disc Appeal Closes

We have closed our Blue Peter Disc Appeal. We have collected 30 discs which will be delivered to Lloyds TSB to be sent off with their collection.



Octopush



P6 pupils have already had the opportunity to experience snorkelling in preparation for next year's after school Octopush club.

Dates for your Diary!

School Calendar 2008/09

End Summer Term Friday 27 June

TERM	DATES		
Autumn	Start	(staff)	Monday 18 August 2008
		(pupils)	Tuesday 19 August 2008
	End		Friday 10 October 2008
Winter	Start	(staff)	Thursday 23 October 2008
	In-service		Thursday 23/Friday 24 October 2008
		(pupils)	Monday 27 October 2008
	End		Friday 19 December 2008
Spring	Start		Monday 5 January 2009
	In-Service		Thursday 12/Friday 13 February 2009
	End		Friday 27 March 2009
Summer	Easter Monday		Monday 13 April 2009
	Start		Tuesday 14 April 2009
	Mid-term break		Monday 4 May 2009
	End		Friday 26 June 2009
Autumn Term 2009	Start	(staff)	Monday 17 August 2009
		(pupils)	Tuesday 18 August 2009

Staff: 40 + 42 + 60 + 53 = 195 days

Pupils: 39 + 40 + 58 + 53 = 190days

Free School Meals

A reminder to all those who have received free school meals in the past—if you feel you are still entitled to claim, please ask the office for a form for the year 2008/2009 as these forms are required to be submitted on an annual basis.

Please note from the start of next session meals would have to be paid for until the Department notifies the school that the application has been granted.

And Finally...

Here we are at the end of another successful year where, as you can see, through the reports from all the classes, all our pupils have had exciting and interesting experiences to support their learning. Everyone at Glaitness School is committed to supporting the pupils learning regardless of their role within the school, I am sure parents and carers would like to join with me in thanking them for their hard work over the year.

I often say that we will miss our P7's when they leave and we always do, however, our current P7s have been a very special group who have been excellent role models for the other pupils in the school and have always risen to any challenge given to them and outreached any expectations we may have had. Our current P6 have a great deal to live up to, but I have every confidence they will!

May I wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday.

Valerie Bleakley