

26th January 2018

Soccer Sevens Football Event

We would like to sincerely thank Mr Richard Hastings for his ongoing commitment to delivering football coaching sessions to our senior pupils. Mr Hastings recently entered two teams of pupils, one from P6 and the other from P7, into the Soccer Sevens event. Unfortunately, the first of these events had to be cancelled due to weather conditions and is now rescheduled for Wednesday 7th March. The event set for Wednesday 7th February will go ahead as planned.

Scottish Opera

We are delighted to announce pupils in our three senior classes Primary 6, Primary 6/7 and Primary 7 will all have the opportunity to work with the Scottish Opera Company on a production of 'The Dragon of the Western Sea'. Scottish Opera will visit the school for an advance vocal session on Tuesday 27th February, and again for a full day workshop on Tuesday 13th March. Parents will receive an invitation to see the children perform in the afternoon session on the 13th March. Further information will follow on this.

To complement the work undertaken with Scottish Opera on this project, The Confucius Institute for Scottish Schools will visit the school on Friday 2nd March. The purpose of the CISS visit is to provide stimulating workshops to enhance our pupils' experiences.

The Confucius team have developed a range of activities which support the learning of Mandarin and explore China's cultural heritage, providing valuable related contexts such as Chinese music (Beijing Opera), Chinese history, nature, geography, the Silk Road etc. These workshops will provide pupils with creative sessions, including role play, calligraphy, song /movement and interactive games. The themes will include simple greetings, numbers, colours, countries, animals and nature/environment.

The full cost of these events will be met by the School Fund.

Loch Insh Parent Information Evening - Reminder

There will be a meeting for Primary 7 parents to discuss next term's trip to Loch Insh, on Tuesday 30th January at 6.30pm. Please note the meeting is for parents only. A polite reminder that for those who have yet to pay the remainder of the cost, the balance is now due.

Latecomers

It has been noted that a number of children are repeatedly arriving late to school in the morning. Late arrivals are noted on a child's attendance record. I am concerned that children coming into class after instructions and teaching input have already been given require teachers having to spend additional time catching up. I would be grateful if you could ensure your child is on time from now on, as a prompt start to the morning is important for all pupils.

Disabled Parking

We are aware of a number of our parents who are entitled to use these spaces. Please show respect for this provision and ensure the space is left clear for those who need to use it.

Creative Café - Primary 4

Primary 4 welcomed a number of visitors to their Creative Café on Tuesday 23rd January. The aim of their interdisciplinary learning project was to integrate this year's initiatives of Developing the Young Workforce, STEM and creativity skills within a Science and Health and Wellbeing context. The children were involved in planning learning activities, and encouraged to use the SAY, MAKE, WRITE, DO model to record their thinking.

Their learning journey is evidenced in their 'Big Book'. By planning activities that foster creativity and skill development, the children gained key skills and subject knowledge. Throughout the project links were made with the local community to discuss employment opportunities.

Mrs Patterson reports:

We received positive feedback from the parents and special visitors. They enjoyed the interactive element of the stations and praised the children for their presentation skills and subject knowledge. They felt that the Café was well organised, informative and we had included a good range of activities.

The pupil's comments:

"I enjoyed not waiting for my turn" Emily

"I liked sharing my learning" Lois

"I enjoyed learning all new skills" Melody

Well done to Mrs Patterson and the pupils in Primary 4 for all their hard work.

Primary 1 Enrolment - Beginning Wednesday 31st January

Children in our school catchment area, who will be five on or before 28th February 2019, are eligible to be enrolled for Primary 1 starting in August 2018. Enrolment will take place in the week commencing 29th January 2017. An electronic version of the enrolment form is available on both the Council website and will shortly be available on the Holm School website. Where possible we would encourage parents to use this facility as it will save waiting time. Forms should be printed off, signed and taken in to school. Please bring your child's birth certificate and proof of address at the time of enrolment.

Please note enrolments will take place during the following dates and times:

**Wednesday 31st January - Friday 2nd February
9.15am - 10.30am and 2.00pm-3.00pm**

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings this term will take place on Tuesday 6th March and Thursday 8th March. Individual appointment request letters will be issued after the half term break. Please note that parents with children who attend our nursery will have alternative arrangements for meeting with staff to discuss their children's progress.

Mid Term Break

School closes on Friday 16th February at the usual time and reopens on Thursday 22nd February. We hope you all have a lovely break when it comes.