



Westerton Primary News

NEWSLETTER

January 2023

Special Points of Interest

- Writing focus
- Reading Schools
- Sports Scotland Award
- Internet Safety Week
- Triple P
- PTA Events & News
- Parent Council
- Dates to Remember



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School website:
www.westerton.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

School Twitter
@WestertonPri



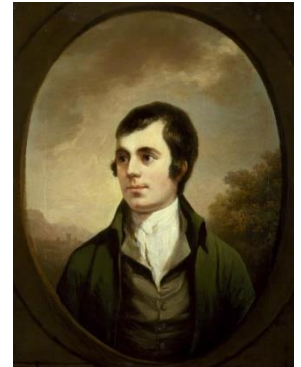
Follow your child's class on Seesaw – please contact the school office if you need login details.



Dear Parents/ Carers,

On behalf of the Westerton Staff Team, I would like to wish all our families a Happy New Year and hope you have a healthy and successful 2023. I would also like to extend a warm Westerton welcome to our very first Ukrainian pupil who is settling in to life in Scotland - Ласкаво просимо!

As it was Rabbie Burns' birthday this month the children across the school have been preparing for Scottish Week. Scottish themed interdisciplinary learning activities have been taking place in classrooms and children will be visiting the school library to read some of our new Scottish texts. You may like to do some research of your own by listening to some Scots poems with your child on the Scots Hoose website. Well done to everyone who created fabulous artwork and learned their Scots poem.
<http://primary.scotshoose.com/favouritepoems.html>



EDC Head of Education, Mr Greg Bremner, and The Convener of Education, Councillor Lynda Williamson, came along to congratulate us on our inspection results. Councillor Williamson said,

"I received a very warm welcome at Westerton Primary school, everyone was very excited about the fantastic inspection report they received, and rightly so. The staff at Westerton Primary school really do work very well as a team – their slogan 'one team, one dream' perfectly describes the way in which they come together to nurture the children and ensure high levels of attainment. This report is one that the whole school community should take pride in. Congratulations to the staff, pupils and their families."

The Parent Council meeting this month was attended by Deputy Convener of Education, Councillor Ian Gallagher, and elected member, Councillor Vaughan Moody. The councillors responded to questions raised about the new build proposals, crossing concerns and the ongoing issues with lighting in and around the school grounds. Further information about the proposals can be found on the council website:

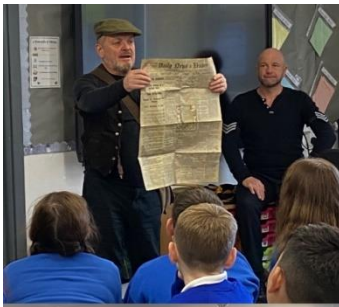
<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/news/council-agrees-consider-proposals-new-build-westerton-primary-school-and-wider-community>

Kate Turnbull,
Acting Headteacher



School Improvement Priorities – Reading and Writing Update

We have been working hard across the school to develop a range of important writing skills as part of our work within the School Improvement Plan. Last term, we enjoyed learning about personal and recount texts. This term we are very excited to move on to explore imaginative texts, including character, setting and structuring enjoyable and engaging stories with twists and tension. We look forward to sharing our work with you soon!



Staff have participated in training around the genres of writing and all classes have enjoyed working with the Macastory duo, Ron and Fergus, who inspired some great writing. Teachers have been looking into film literacy exploring ways in which film can be used to engage children in writing and how film can be used to enhance learning. We're excited to get started!



Class reading reps have been busy conducting reading surveys with their classes to ensure pupil voice informs our Reading School journey. We recently celebrated Book Week Scotland, with all classes enjoying a visit to Westerton Library. Classes participated in online events and local author,

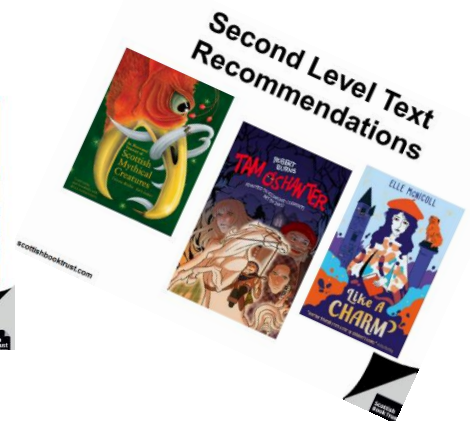


Maura MacRobbie, shared extracts of her new book with some lucky classes. Reading volunteers read some fabulous books with our pupils and a tangible enthusiasm for reading is spreading across the school. Every class has been set the task of choosing how to spend their £60 budget to enhance their class library. We had a successful Book Bag gifting event in November for P1-P3 and have more reading activities planned this term including World Book Day on March 2nd. Further information can be found on the

Scottish Book Trust Website <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/>



First Level Text Recommendations



Internet safety Week

Safer Internet week will begin on Monday 6th February and the theme this year is 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.' All classes will participate in workshops and lessons around this theme with P6 Digital Leaders delivering some lessons. Our P6 and P7 classes are having online safety workshop sessions delivered by parent volunteer, Mr Singh. Learning about internet safety is hugely important. I would urge parents to be mindful of the age ratings of some popular games and apps children are using. You are probably familiar with the age ratings used for films, but apps and games are rated differently and there is lots more to consider. For more information, please visit the NSPCC website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/app-age-rating/>

Road Safety Message from the JRSOs

Please could parents and carers be vigilant when dropping off and picking up pupils. Our P6 Junior Road Safety Officers have been on duty to keep our pupils safe on their journeys to and from school. I would ask that every parent considers the safety of all and have a conversation with their child/children to support the work we do in school relating to Road Safety. Our JRSO team will be taking forward the Big Walk and Wheel initiative from 20th-31st March by promoting walking, cycling and scooting to school. <https://bigwalkandwheel.org.uk/>



House Treat Winners Celebrate in the Sunshine



The winning House of term one was Arran. Members of Arran collected over 16,000 points and chose a giant game of hide and seek with games, prizes and snacks, as their house treat.

Well done Arran!

UNCRC Rights of the Child Booklet Launch

The UNCRC is the internationally mandated children's rights treaty, which sets out the rights that all children and young people should expect and what they need to grow up happy, healthy and safe. The treaty outlines the central role played by parents and families and recognises that they also need protection and assistance to support the rights and wellbeing of their children. The new UNCRC Rights of the Child booklet is now available on the Parent Club website which can be accessed here.

<https://www.parentclub.scot/topics/money-rights/childrens-rights>



Triple P

If any parent is interested in parenting advice, please email your details to the following address parenting@eastdunbarton.gov.uk You will receive an automated response to confirm receipt and your name will be put on a waiting list. Someone from health will be in touch with you to offer you a place on a Triple P. More information is available from the East Dunbartonshire Website.

Smoking and vaping in the school grounds



**No
Smoking
or Vaping
on these
premises**

Please could parents and carers follow EDC anti-smoking policy when accessing the school grounds. In keeping with the spirit of the policy I kindly request parents refrain from vaping.

Sports Scotland Silver Award Success

We were delighted to announce in a recent assembly, we have achieved the Sports Scotland Silver award this session. Thanks to Miss Deans for leading the Sports Committee and to our teachers and support staff who volunteer their time to run extra-curricular activities for the pupils.



EDC Christmas Concert



In December, five of our talented P7 pupils performed in the EDC Christmas Gala Concert, joining schools from across East Dunbartonshire. All in attendance at the Royal Concert Hall were treated to a wonderful evening of Christmas songs performed by a fantastic P7 choir and school orchestra. Well done to all who took part.

Wider Achievements Assembly Celebration

Our very first assembly of 2023 involved the sharing of lots of inspiring New Year's Resolutions and a celebration of a vast array of wider achievements. Well done to our talented pupils!



Food for Thought Grant

We have purchased new cooking resources including, microwaves, induction hobs and other cooking items with the grant money we secured earlier in the year. The Food and Fair Trade committee have written to local supermarkets and businesses to ask for support to allow more activities to take place. They are also going to be collating recipe cards for all stages. Hopefully you will be sampling food made by your child very soon!

PTA Update from Mrs Cumming our PTA Chair

Christmas Disco - Thank you to our children and parents for making it yet another successful disco! The foodbank donations were incredible, and we were in the Evening Times thanks to our generous families.

Christmas Fair - Our Christmas Fair was a great success with an impressive £1,391 money raised to continue our support of the work of the school.

Family Shindig – This Family Night at Westerton Hall is another sell-out. Thanks to all for supporting the PTA Scottish celebration.

Quiz Night - Our annual, adults only, quiz night will make a return on Friday 10th March. This is a BYOB event and will be held in the school gym hall.

Spending. This term we have been able to buy lots of new playthings for the lower school, things like new playdough, lovely wooden tills and STEM materials. We have also purchased lots of new recipe books and some electrical equipment for our new food or thought initiative.

Parent Council

If you would like to raise any issues, please come along to the next meeting which will take place in person at Westerton Primary School at 5.30pm on 23 April. If you can't make it you can get in touch with your class representative or Susan Johnston, one of our co-chairs (sjohnston1909@gmail.com)

More information regarding the purpose and function of the Parent Council can be found at <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/getting-involved/parent-councils/about-parent-councils>



DATES TO REMEMBER

January

Monday 23 rd January	Parent Council Meeting (Teams)
Wednesday 25 th January	P7 Bikeability
Thursday 26 th January	P6/7 Bikeability (AM)
	Judging of Scottish week poetry finalists
Friday 27 th January	Scottish Assembly winners showcase
	7pm PTA Burns Night Family event
Wednesday 1 st February	P7 Bikeability

February

Wednesday 1 st February	P7 Bikeability
Thursday 2 nd February	P6/7 Bikeability (AM)
Friday 3 rd February	NSPCC Number Day (Non-uniform)
Monday 6 th February	Safer Internet Week
Wednesday 8 th February	P7 Bikeability
Thursday 9 th February	P6/7 Bikeability (AM)
	4-5.30pm (Boclair)– Football/Netball Games night
Friday 10 th February	P6 & P6/7(6's only) Year group assembly 2.15pm
Monday 13 th February	Holiday
Tuesday 14 th February	Holiday
Wednesday 15 th February	Inservice (school closed to pupils)
Wednesday 22 nd February	P7 Bikeability
Thursday 23 rd February	P6/7 Bikeability (AM)
Friday 24 th February	P2, P2/3, P3 visit to the Science Centre

March

Wednesday 1 st March	P5 visit to the Science Centre (TBC)
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day
Friday 3 rd March	PTA Dress Down Day / bottle bag donation
	2.15pm P3 assembly
Friday 3 rd March	SPCA class visits
Friday 10 th March	MSP Rona Mackay visit P6 and P7 year groups
	6.30 for 7 PTA Quiz night
Monday 13 th March	British Science Week
Monday 13 th & Tues 14 th March	SPCA class visits
Wednesday 15 th March	Placing requests deadline
Thursday 16 th March	Parents' Evening from 3.30pm
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day (non-uniform)
	2.15pm P4 assembly
Monday 20 th -31 st March	Sustrans Big Walking Wheel begins
Wednesday 29 th March	Tempest class photographs
Friday 31 st March	P1-P3 Easter Service 9.30am
	P4-7 Easter Service 11am
	School closes 2.30pm until 17 April

April

Monday 17 th April	School reopens 9am
	https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/school-holidays

ASSEMBLIES

(Assemblies begin at 2.15pm)

P1T	12-May-23
P1H	02-Jun-23
P2	05-May-23
P3	03-Mar-23
P4	17-Mar-23
P5	21-Apr-23
P6 year group	10-Feb-23

P7 Leavers

9.15 am P7 Leavers Assembly (P7 parents)	23-June-23
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