

Halyrude RC Primary School

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2 February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been an extremely busy few weeks in Halyrude, please see below for the latest news.

Poetry

Well done to all our children who have worked so hard over the past few weeks to learn Scots songs and poems. We held our poetry assembly in school on Tuesday and our judging panel found it very difficult to decide who would go forward to the Callants competition which takes place in Halyrude on 9 February. If your child has been selected to represent Halyrude at this event, they will have brought home a letter with information for you. We would all like to thank Mrs Nichol, Mrs Fletcher and Miss Thorburn for judging this competition for us.

Netball

Our netball team recently took part in the Tweeddale Area Netball Competition at the Gytes. They showed great teamwork and sportsmanship and made it to the semi-finals! Well done to Jess (captain), Beatrice, Amy, Leah, Annie, Chloe, Aliya and Sophie N. Thank you to Mrs Peterson and Miss Purves for coaching and supporting the girls and to Christopher for the loyal support he gave to the team during the competition.

Reading

We are always keen to promote reading in Halyrude and as a staff team this is an area we are currently focussing on. We are also in the process of asking children their views on reading and how they would like to engage with reading in school. We would kindly like to ask parents to continue to support reading at home and if homework is given, please encourage your child to complete reading tasks and sign the homework diary. Children often participate in discussions and comprehension activities related to reading which has been set as homework. If the children have not completed their homework it is difficult to fully benefit from activities in class. We are always available if you should have any questions about reading homework.

Open Morning/World Book Day

Linked to the above, we would like to invite our families into school to join in with some reading activities in class. The open morning will take place on Friday 10 March from 9am until 9.45am after which you are invited to join in with the family daily mile. In order to mark World Book Day, we would like to invite our children to bring a book to school during the open morning to donate to our school library. This does not have to be a new book; a well-loved book which is in good condition would also be very much appreciated.

There will also be an opportunity for parents and carers to share their views of reading, suggest books which we should purchase for our school library and give their views on reading homework and the teaching of reading in school. All feedback would be very much appreciated.

Lateness/Absence

We would again like to ask you to ensure that children are lined up ready to come into school at 8.45am. We have a number of children who are consistently late for school. This not only interrupts learning for everyone but also means that those children have missed the opportunity to settle into the day with their peers. In a similar way, we are concerned about the amount of school some children are missing through frequent spells of absence. While we do understand that illness is unavoidable and we appreciate that children need time at home to recover, we are required to monitor attendance. We will contact you to discuss this if regular periods of absence are impacting on your child's learning.

Social Media Permission

Please be advised that the new forms issued by SBC will replace the consent given or withdrawn previously on consent forms we have sent home for Facebook and Twitter. If you have given your consent on the SBC consent form for your child to feature in the media, we will include their picture on our social media platforms. If consent has not been given, your child's photo will not appear.

Pet Visitors

Two of our pupils have asked to bring their gerbils into school to talk about their responsibilities in caring for these small animals. If your child has an allergy, please let Mrs Thomson know.

Active Kids

We would be delighted to receive any Active Kids vouchers issued by Sainsbury's Supermarket. We plan to use the vouchers to purchase new equipment for school. Thank you in advance for your support.

Peebles Youth Club

The youth club at the Community Centre (Drill Hall) has been running for around 50 years. It is on Monday nights 6pm – 7:30 during term time and is open to primary school children from **P3 upwards**. Activities include board games, football, pool, darts, table tennis, air hockey and computer games. The entrance fee is only 30p and there is a tuck shop providing a cup of juice for 10p and a sweet for 20p. New members are very welcome to come along any Monday.

Mass Cancellation

There will be no mass in school on Tuesday 7 February as Father Wojceich is unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

Scottish Opera

Scottish Opera are coming into school to work with the children in P4-7. There will be an opportunity for parents to view a performance by the children on the afternoon of Tuesday 14 March. We will confirm the time when we have spoken to the team from Scottish Opera.

Potatoes

Thank you to Dr Tredgett who came into school to work with the children in P4/5 to fill in an online survey for the Grow Your Own Potatoes research project. The project has

donated £100 towards school funds for our participation. We look forward to the next phase of the project.

Online Safety

We were delighted to welcome Carole Jackson from The Bank of Scotland who came to talk to us about financial safety online. She also shared some of the skills she needed for her job and spoke about her role in keeping everyone safe online. This ties in with our work on the wellbeing indicators and understanding the skills we need for our future in the workplace.

Our Playground

Thank you to Mrs Whelan and Mrs Noble who came into school to meet with a representative from Playdale who is going to design an outdoor learning space for our children. The staff and children in school very much look forward to working with the Parent Council on this exciting new venture for our school.

Child Sexual Exploitation Information Events

Scottish Borders Council is offering the following events for staff, parents and carers to discuss the development of the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy. Please see below for dates in our area.

Thursday 16th February – The Assembly Hall, Berwickshire High School

Tuesday 21st February – The Assembly Hall, Peebles High School

Tuesday 28th February – The Assembly Hall, Galashiels Academy

Tuesday 7th March – The Assembly Hall, Jedburgh Grammar School.

These sessions will run from 6.30pm – 7.30pm.

Community Events in Peebles

PEEBLES LIBRARY WRITING GROUP

Date: 6 February 2017

Location: Peebles Library

Time: 10.30am – 12 noon

Cost: Free

Are you Interested and enthusiastic about writing? Want to be part of a writing group? Come along and bring your ideas. Meet the first Monday of the month. For further information please contact Peebles Library on 01721 726333 or Email: libpeebles@liveborders1.org.uk

BOOKBUG

Date: 7, 21 & 28 February 2017

Location: Burgh Hall, Peebles

Time: 10.00am–10.30am

Cost: Free

Join us for fun with songs, rhymes and stories for the under 5's. Please contact Peebles Library on 01721 726333 or Email: libpeebles@liveborders1.org.uk

PEEBLES LIBRARY JUNIOR READING GROUP (P4-P7)

Date: 17 February 2017

Location: Peebles Library

Time: 2.30pm–3.30pm

Cost: Free

Interested in reading and talking about books? The group meets the 3rd Friday of the month in Peebles Library. The group will be discussing Skellig by David Almond on Friday 17th February.

For further information please contact Peebles Library on 01721 726333 or Email: libpeebles@liveborders1.org.uk

RNIB DROP IN SESSION

Date: 20 February 2017

Location: Peebles Library

Time: 11.00am-1.00pm

Cost: Free

Is sight loss affecting your daily living? Come along to this drop-in session to:

- Discuss any concerns or needs you have as a result of sight loss.
- Pick up leaflets & information.
- Try a small range of daily living equipment.

For further information please contact Alison Paton-Day on 07771940387 or Email: Alison.patonday@rnib.org.

CHAS coffee morning & toy bonanza

Mrs Isobel Morrison has asked us to inform you that the annual CHAS coffee morning and toy bonanza will be held on Saturday 11 March in Peebles Ex-Servicemen's club. Donations for stalls welcome please contact Isobel Morrison 01896 831924

Yours sincerely

Leigh Brunton

Acting Head Teacher

Swimming Lessons: 10.30am at Peebles pool	
Class	Dates
P2/3	21 st April, 5 th & 12 th May
P1/2	19 th , 26 th May, 2 nd June
P1/2 & P2/3	Fun swimming session 9 th June

Mass Timetable	
St Joseph's 10am	School 2.30pm
1 March – Ash Wednesday	7 February - cancelled
20 March – Feast of St Joseph	2 May
	20 June – Leaver's Mass

Dates for diary	
Thurs 2 Feb	Parent Council meeting 7pm
Sun 5 Feb	Rite of Illumination Cross – mass in church for children enrolled in Sacramental preparation. (Reconciliation)
Mon 6 Feb	P4/5 Prayer day PC Furness and JRSO road safety assembly PHS info evening at Kingsland 6.30pm P7
Tues 7 Feb	P1 & P7 dental inspections

Thurs 9 Feb	Callants Burns Competition for Halyrude, Priorsford and Kingsland
Fri 10 Feb	School closed to pupils: Staff in-service day
Mon 13 – Wed 15 Feb	School closed: holiday Re-opens Thursday 16 February
Tues 21 Feb	Rotary Quiz, Union Club, Innerleithen 6 for 6.30pm
Wed 22 Feb	Founders Day – children can wear uniforms P7 morning visit Peebles High School with Mrs Bony Scottish Opera workshops P4-7
Sun 5 March	Rite of Enrolment – mass in church for children enrolled in Sacramental preparation. (Confirmation and Communion)
Fri 10 March	Open morning (9am – 9.45am) and family daily mile.
Tues 14 March	Scottish Opera workshops with performance P4-7
Thurs 16 March	Borders Cross Country Championships, Galashiels
Sun 19 March	Presentation of the Gospels – mass in church for children enrolled in Sacramental preparation. (Confirmation and Communion)
Tues 21 March	PHS Book Chat visits
Wed 22 March	Rugby Festival for P6/7
Fri 31 March	School closes for Easter holidays 12.15pm and re-opens Tuesday 18 April 2017
Sun 2 April	Presentation of the Creed – mass in church for children enrolled in Sacramental preparation. (Confirmation and Communion)
Tues 18 April	P1 & P7 group photographs
Fri 21 April, 5, 12 May	P2/3 swimming
Sun 23 April	Presentation of the Gospels – mass in church for children enrolled in Sacramental preparation. (Confirmation and Communion)
Tues 25 April	Reconciliation in St Joseph's 9am
Fri 28 April	School closed to pupils: Staff in-service day
Mon 1 May	School closed May Day holiday
Sunday 7 May	Confirmation Service, 12 noon in St Joseph's
Fri 19, 26 May & 2 June	P1/2 swimming
Mon 22 May	ChildLine presentations in school
Tues 23 May	P5 Borders Countryside Day at Kelso
Wed 24 May	County Sports
Sun 28 May	First Communion
Fri 9 June	P1/2 & P2/3 fun day at swimming
Wed 21 June	Beltane lunch
Wed 28 June	School closes for the summer at 3.20pm

