

Events from April to June 2015

Note from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of the term I would like to thank you for another fantastic year at Clobber Primary School. There have been many events this term, which I have listed below. You will note that the newsletter gets longer and longer as the children take part in so many activities. This is with special thanks to all the staff that work both within the school and the nursery for all their amazing efforts all year round.

We will return in August with ten classes and a school roll of 254 and a nursery roll of 72 3-5 year morning places, 72 3-5 year afternoon places as well as 10 morning and 10 afternoon places within the 2 year old provision. The school roll and the nursery roll have never been so high!

I will inform parents of the pupil class allocation after their 'Stepping Up' event on Monday 22nd June 2015. The 'Stepping Up' morning allows the pupils to meet their new teacher and get a chance to do some activities within their new class.

It is with much sadness that I say goodbye to Miss Kim. I am very sorry to see Rebecca go after 3 very happy years at Clobber. I wish her the very best with her new career in Leeds as she joins her husband in a new life south of the border! Can I also say congratulations to Miss Kim who will soon be married in July – exciting times lie ahead for her and her new husband. It is also with great regret that I say goodbye to Mr Bertram, Miss Gibb and Ms Young this term. It has been a pleasure working with all of these teachers and I wish them every success in their future careers.

I will be welcoming new appointments to the Primary staffing and will let you know who these appointments are once our disclosure and appointment procedures are complete.

Mr Bremner

Nursery Updates – appointments and next term!

The nursery has undergone a tremendous amount of change throughout the year. Since the rebuild in August 2015 we have welcomed many new learners and staff.

I am delighted to inform you that I am now recruiting all permanent staff to the nursery and this process is well underway. The staffing for next year will be quite different as we will introduce the new extended day and extended year provision. Clobber Nursery will open from 8am to 6pm over a 50 week year starting from Monday 17th August 2015!

I have recently appointed the new Depute Head of Centre post. Mrs Kirsty Mahindru was the successful candidate who joins us from Canniesburn Nursery. This is an excellent appointment for Clobber. Mrs Law will continue to be involved in the management of the nursery in order to continue a smooth transition during this time of change.

On Monday 15th June I will appoint two new Senior Early Years Workers and I will inform you of who has been successful in due course. Interviews for the remaining Early Years Workers will be carried out by Friday 19th June and we will then inform you of the new appointments for these posts in August 2015!

Can I thank all parents for their continued support during this time of change. I am hoping that **all** vacancies will be appointed permanently as we start the new session. This should allow us to implement the extended day and year provision with ease.

Goodbye Mr Young! Leaving Ceremony for our Janitor



Friday 28th May was a very sad day as we said goodbye to our favourite Janitor Mr Young, after 10 very successful years at Clober. The pupils and staff didn't let him go without saying farewell however! A 'Goodbye' assembly was planned, with song, stories and poetry! Robert will be very sorely missed by all pupils, staff and myself. He was a professional man with a real love for the school. He had very high standards and kept Clober Primary looking immaculate! P5-7 boys will especially miss him for his efforts as the Football Coach!

Electives at Clober

Each term pupils from P4 to P7 are involved in developing their own personal choice programme of study. Some of these 'electives' have included Netball, Chess, Football, Jewellery Making, iPads and PC work, fitness and cookery classes. This allows our pupils to select different areas of interest each term to develop their skills in particular areas. We hope this then fosters a natural interest in some of the activities and sports and that they may take these up within the local community or when they go to secondary school. The children love the programme of activities which is on offer each week during Terms 1 and 3. The photograph shows the Healthy Eating Group tasting fruit kebabs!



Growing Up Project for Nursery and P1 Pupils

This will be the third year that this extremely successful Primary 1 and Nursery transition project has taken place. The aim of the project is to promote learning across the Early Level of Curriculum for Excellence and enhance learners' wellbeing. All P1 and nursery children take part in small group activities related to the environment, science or health. Within the groups there is a mixture of P1 pupils and Nursery boys and girls. This has been a real success again this year and each child has received a certificate for their efforts!

Music Instruction – Choir, Percussion, Cello, Clarinet, Violin and Chalameau!

As you are aware we have offered Cello and Violin for a number of years. In the last few years I have been introducing more percussion based music making as well as woodwind. Primary 4 and Primary 5 have intensive music percussion classes before they are introduced to the Chalameau. This instrument is like a mini clarinet and those who enjoy playing it can progress to an 'actual' clarinet when their skills have developed. We now have an extremely successful school orchestra which grows from strength to strength each year. The Primary 3 and Primary 5 to Primary 7 Choirs continue to grow also. There is a real love for music within the school, which I am delighted to see. Pictured are some P5 pupils beginning their formal instruction on the Chalameau.



Hopscotch Theatre - What A Lot of Rubbish! Eco theme

As part of our year round Eco and Health activities Hopscotch Theatre made a visit to the school to promote recycling at home and in school. All children from Primary 1 to Primary 7 were in attendance for the drama performance of What A Lot of Rubbish. In advance they had to learn a song about REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE – I am sure some pupils will have been singing it at home! The drama was very well received by pupils and staff.



Sporting Endeavours – Hockey, Rugby, Football, Netball and Athletics Visits

Each term I report on the successes of our Sporting groups who attend many activities throughout the year to take part in tournaments for Netball, Football, Rugby, Hockey and Athletics. All children who attend these events perform extremely well in their sports but more importantly they



are superb ambassadors for Clober. Their politeness and sportsmanship qualities are often remarked upon – very well done to all. Pictured above are the Athletics team with Mr Bertram and to the left the netball team run by Mrs O'Donnell and Ms Dayer. The pupils train for weeks before the events and really enjoyed competing against so many EDC schools!

Ardmay Residential for Primary 7

Another very successful trip to Ardmay residential centre took place last term! Primary 7 pupils, together with Mrs Ashby, Miss Kim and Mr Bertram, attended this outdoor centre where they took part in hill walking, canoeing, abseiling and weaselling. Since then Primary 7 have returned to present their Ardmay assembly to parents and very interested Primary 6 pupils who will be going next session.

Ardmay is a large residential centre set off Loch Long in Arrochar. The children really enjoy the experience of being away from home in such an idyllic location.

Primary 6 will head to Ardmay on Monday 7th March 2016!



Primary 5, 6 and 7 Scottish Opera Project – Warriors!

What an amazing experience for Primary 5, 6 and 7 pupils who were part of the acting and singing crew during a Scottish Opera production. All children (and their teachers) had a lot of songs and plot to learn regarding the Chinese Warriors before the visit. The Opera visited only twice before this massive event took place. P5 to 7 parents and guests were thrilled by the performance which happened on the afternoon of the 18th May. Primary 1 to 4 pupils were the audience at the dress rehearsal and gave them a massive ‘thumbs up’ before the finale later in the day. Well done to the class teachers and all pupils for yet another amazing performance. The performance was the culmination of all of our Mandarin celebration of activities this session.

PTA Summer Fair

Congratulations to the PTA for another amazing Summer fair, held on Saturday 6th May, which raised over £1300. Thanks to all parents and friends who came along to join us on the day. I am delighted that the weather held out for us this year!



Nursery Den Day

Friday 29th May was National Den Building day in the nursery. All of the children had the most super time with many visitors, parents and staff helping to build dens throughout the nursery outdoor area. This type of activity combines so many parts of the curriculum such as technology, enterprise and outdoor learning.

Well done to the children and staff who raised a very respectable £237 to support Save the Children. I am sure this money will be put to very good use – a very worthwhile cause!

Sports Day!

At long last we managed to have our annual Sports day on Wednesday 13th May. Pictured to the right are P7 pupils taking part in the javellin competition. It was great to see the rain stayed off and that all classes had a great time.

Many activities were on offer such as sack racing, long distance running, obstacle courses and the traditional egg and spoon race were just some of what was on offer.

Thanks to all parents who attended the day – there was over 250 adults there to support the event which is an excellent turn out.

Here's hoping next year is such a success!



Primary 7 Rotary Quiz

Well done to Arron, Rachael S, Callum and Cara for their efforts in this year's Rotary Quiz held on 28th April. Each year Primary 7 pupils take part in this event held for Bearsden and Milngavie Schools.

The quiz is based around general knowledge and knowledge of the local community and Scotland. The Clober team came in 4th position overall which was an excellent achievement.





Summer Trips

On Tuesday 9th June P1-3 visited Almond Valley for their final trip of the year. They had a super time, and as you can see the weather was fantastic! Pupils took part in many activities such as 'Morag's Meadow', 'Adventure Zone' and Tractor rides to see the animals and a working farm. They had a ball!

Primary 4-7 pupils also went on their final trip of the year to

Kelburn Country Park in Largs on Wednesday 10th June. Again, another fantastic day for the weather. Pupils took part in many structured learning activities such as Wild Kelburn and Bushcraft.

I would like to commend your children for their behaviour which was positively commented upon on both trips – very well done to everyone who took part. We couldn't have done it without our parent and class helpers! Pictured are some children arriving at Almond Valley on Tuesday morning!



Thank you to Staff!

A massive thank you to our staff who take part in many activities throughout the school year. Some of the activities include attendance at PTA and Parent Council events as well as afterschool clubs, lunchtime clubs, committees and choirs.

Some of the activities on offer to your child this year have been:

Committees – Pupil Council, Fair Trade, CCC, Eco and Health, Rights Respecting School, Sponsor a Child

Leagues and Competitions: - Football, Netball, Athletics, Hockey, Tennis

After School and Lunchtime Clubs: - Football, Hockey, Cross Country, Dance, Netball, Homework and Research, ICT, Drama, Art, Athletics and Basketball.

BBC visit Primary 5

Well done to Mr Bertram and Primary 5 pupils for their work on technology and movie making which they have conducted with visitors from the BBC. Staff from the BBC have been visiting on a number of occasions to work with Primary 5 on film animation and to get their ideas on a possible new programme which may be aired.

The pupils have loved the opportunity to work with the BBC staff and they have contributed very positively to the survey which the staff are conducting on this new show – well done!



Mobile Adventure Course! – Healthy Activities all year round.

As you know, we have moved to Health promotion throughout the year rather than doing all activities within the 'traditional' health week.

Pictured here is the Mobile Adventure Course which visited for our final big event of the year on Friday 15th May! This photo only shows you a tiny part of the course which all children had to navigate. Very well done to all children that took part in this event and thank you to parents for the sponsorship.

We will be sure to invite them back in the future!



Fly the Flag – EDC Legacy Celebrations

Primary 6 pupils attended this special event at Southbank Marina. They met Officials from EDC to hear the Commonwealth Pledge by an inspirational athlete before the raising of the flag by Provost Una Walker.

Rhondda Geekie, Council Leader was also in attendance at this special Legacy event. These pupils were very honoured as only three schools from the Council were invited to attend the event. Macey, Leoni, Beth R, Alyssa, Megan, Marcus, Grant, Jack, James and Ben McF did us proud as they joined in the days celebrations.



Primary 6 – Social Studies and Bikeability

As part of their Social Studies work on Rainforests Primary 6 visited Amazonia. During the visit they got to touch spiders and snakes and learn about the habits and habitats of these creatures.

They have also been busy this term with work on 'Bikeability'. This is such an important skill as it trains children to use their bicycles properly and learn how to ride them with the highest levels of safety in mind. As well as this they get to learn vital facts about the Highway Code. Well done to everyone who took part!

Primary 6 have also benefited from excellent rugby coaching in the last month and have very much enjoyed this experience. A very busy term indeed – well done to Mrs O'Donnell for managing such a hectic term!

Primary 2 Farm Visits and Food to Fork and Food Revolution

Primary 2 have also had a fun filled term! They have been involved in visits to a local farm as part of their Social Studies topic Food and Farming. Many activities have taken place regarding this, such as work with Tesco 'Food to Fork' initiative and then finally taking part in the Jamie Oliver food revolution day.

All pupils have really enjoyed this jam packed term of activities. They have got to see where food comes from, how it is transported, until it ultimately ended up on their plate through making their own fantastic sandwiches of their choice. A great effort from staff and pupils!



Primary 1 Induction – Meeting our Buddies

Congratulations to all Nursery boys and girls who came for their final Induction Day on the afternoon of 19th May. Everyone was very excited about visiting their Primary 1 Teachers and also getting the chance to meet their Buddies for next session.

Each new Primary 1 went home with a special certificate for their efforts, together with a photograph of their Special Buddy for next session. This was the culmination of our induction process which lasts throughout the year – a massive thank you to Primary and Nursery staff involved in this lengthy but worthwhile process!

Heather Reid visits Primary 1

As part of their Social Studies Interdisciplinary work on 'Myself and Where I Live' pupils of Primary 1 get to know about the weather in Milngavie and Scotland!

We were very fortunate to have a visit from BBC's Heather Reid – the former weather presenter. Heather was amazed by the knowledge that Primary 1 had about weather for such a young age. She had a very special presentation which she showed to the pupils with a Q&A session afterwards!

Heather visits every year and we hope to see her again in Term 3 of 2016!



Nursery Dance-a-thon

I had not reported on this in the last newsletter and thought it was too good to miss! Well done to all nursery boys and girls for taking part in the Health Dance-a-thon on 26th March led by Mrs Law. Everyone involved had a superb time promoting fitness whilst dancing to the top dance tunes.

Well done to the nursery staff for taking part also!



Going for Gold – Primary 6 Induction to Douglas Academy



Going for Gold is a Health and Fitness, Science and Art day of fun at Douglas Academy. It forms the first day of the transition to secondary and in the past was always aimed at Primary 7 pupils.

Through Cluster improvement meetings it was decided to bring the Induction process forward and start this transition work in Primary 6. This is the first year it has been done and the children had a fantastic time in various departments. They took part in fitness games, cooking classes and science experiments.

All of this work helps your child to settle more easily when they head to their secondary school. We are delighted with the links we have with the fantastic staff at Douglas Academy.

50th Celebrations - Special Note for your diary for next session!

Clober Primary is turning 50 in September. We have a fun filled calendar of events for pupils, parents, staff and friends old and new during the month of September. I will be writing to you about all of the items in August but am asking for your help to inform **past pupils** of the school to come along to our **Open afternoon/evening event starting from 2pm on Thursday 10th September**. This will be a drop in session and will last to 7pm that evening.

Other events for pupils and parents are:

- ❖ Thursday, 27th August 2015 – Whole School photograph with children and staff on pitch
- ❖ Thursday, 10th September 2015 – 2pm Official Opening Reception and Performance – invited guests and then 3pm Open Evening to the public – tours provided by P7. Doors close at 7pm.
- ❖ Friday, 18th September 2015 – 7.30pm - Through the Decades – PTA Family Disco to celebrate Clober turning 50!
- ❖ Wednesday 23rd September 2015 – 7-8pm – Pupil Concert for Parents and Invited Guests
- ❖ Thursday 24th September 2015 – Pupil Fun Day!

Charitable Work

I would like to thank pupils, parents and staff for their contributions to charitable work throughout this session. Some of the charities that we have supported this year are:

World Vision, Yorkhill Sick Kids, Action Aid, Children in Need, Red Nose Day – each year we ask pupils which Local, UK or Global charities they would like to support.

Total donations from the School and Nursery this session are: **£2040.44 – WHAT AN AMAZING AMOUNT!**

Dates for your Diary

If you have reached this page you will see just how busy we have been!

Dates before the end of this session are listed below:

Friday 12th June – 10.30 for 10.45am

Nursery Grauation

Monday 15th June – 10.45am

Primary 7 Enterprise Careers' Day

Friday 19th June – 1.15 for 1.30pm

Primary 7 Leavers' Farewell + Evening event

Friday 19th June – 7pm and then 8.15pm

Infant and then Senior Summer Disco

Monday 22nd June – 11am

Stepping Up – All pupils meet their new teacher

Thursday 25th June – 11.20am

Summer Service at St. Luke's – please come along.

SCHOOL CLOSSES at 1PM on Thursday 25th June.

May I wish you a very happy and safe holiday – I look forward to seeing everyone back on:

FIRST DAY OF TERM Monday 17th August 2015 – 9am

NB - New Primary 1 pupils should arrive for photographs around 9.30am and enter the Main hall of Clober at 10am for their first day – how exciting!



End of Term Evaluation for Parents

PUPIL & PARENT NAME _____ CLASS _____

As this is my final newsletter this session, I would like your feedback on how you feel the year has been.

What have been the particular strengths and/or successes of Clobber Primary School and Nursery this session?

What ideas do you have for future improvements?

Please cut this back page and return it to me. We will take all of your compliments and future improvements to the staff and discuss these for next session.

Thank you for another wonderful year at Clobber! Mr Bremner



Clobber Primary School
EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Newsletter

Have a wonderful Summer break.
From everyone at Clobber Nursery and Primary

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