



◆ Respect ◆ Enthusiasm ◆
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Mintlaw Primary Newsletter

17th November 2016

Olympic Athlete to visit Mintlaw Primary

The children had a fantastic experience working with Caitlin McClatchy during their fitness circuit and then the opportunity to listen to Caitlin's story in a whole school assembly and ask questions. We hope this has inspired the next generation of athletes. We raised an amazing £2032.70, 60% has come back to the school for us to spend on sports equipment, the children are involved in the decision making for this money, 40% goes towards supporting Team GB athletes and para-athletes with their training, travel, coaching and support costs.

THANK YOU!!!

During the October break we received a very generous cheque from the Mintlaw Gala Committee for £500, we hope that some of this money will be used for IT, supporting the J-Rock group and other suggestions that the children raise.

Also we received an amazing £420 from Mr Brian Leslie from the money raised through his 3 cycling events.

Parent Helpers

We are still looking for some parents who are willing to come into school on a regular basis (preferably a Friday afternoon) or on rota to help support the learning in our classrooms. Helping with resources/mounting pictures/photocopying/laminating/working in the classroom. Please let the office know – thank you.

Parent reminders

- If you have a change of details or circumstance, eg address, phone number, email etc please do inform the office as soon as possible.
- Also please be aware of your child's online activity, we have had a couple of issues in school resulting in children's inappropriate access to online material at home.
- Party invitations, can these be handed out, out with class time.
- A polite reminder that our premises including the grounds are non-smoking.
- Please support your child with the presentation and care of homework, in particular our reading books. In the Early years some of our brand new reading books are being unnecessarily damaged, if the book is badly damaged you will be charged for its replacement.

Cross Country

Well done to the children and supporting parents who braved the chilling winds at Fraserburgh two weeks ago. Our next event is at Haddo on the 3rd December, if your child is in P4-7 and is keen to represent the school, pick up a form from the school. There are a series of events over the winter, you don't have to compete in all of them but its great if you can!

Healthy Life Styles

A reminder that we are a health promoting school, however, there are more and more sweets and cakes creeping in for children's birthdays and holiday times. Please refrain from bringing these type of items into school.

Parent Council

We had a very positive meeting this week with two Primary 7 pupils reporting back the collated responses from the pupil voice on the re-zoning of the Mintlaw Cluster.

At the previous Parent Council we were asked to share how trip money was spent. Last session we were kindly gifted £1400 from the Fundraising committee and parental contributions for buses and entrances fees totalled £549, this combined is £1949. The school paid out £1820 for buses (this would have been much more but we were able to claim some bus costs back through grants) and £427 for entrance fees, this totals £2247. For workshops, shows and visitors into school, parent contributions were £280 and we paid out £1152.

Fundraising Committee:

If you would like to help with any of the fundraising events, please contact Laura Summers or at the school office. Our recent Halloween Disco was a great success raising £261.88, many thanks to all the parent helpers from the afternoon and the evening. Also to the parents for supporting with the children's fabulous costumes and lanterns.

The next event is the Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 3rd December 1.30 – 4.30pm**. Helpers are needed for set up, during and after the fayre. We would like donations for our Christmas food and drink hampers. Also any teddies looking for a new home (in a good/clean condition). Please hand into the school office by the 1st December. Thanks!

Our thanks to all the office bearers in both committees for all their hard work on behalf of our children in the school.

RRSA – Rights Respecting School Award

The two recent articles the children have been talking about are Article 3: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children and Article 26: The right to extra money if your family hasn't got enough to live on.

Eco-Committee

As we approach the festive season, we ask you to be Eco-friendly with your Christmas card sending.

J-ROCK

We had a fantastic turn out last week for the dance workshop and are looking forward to the auditions next week! Many thanks to Miss Anderson and the senior pupils from Mintlaw Academy for running the workshop. Thanks also to Debbie Willox for all her organisation.

Sharing the Christmas Spirit

This has become an annual event at Mintlaw Primary and we would like to continue our local links at Christmas time and encourage the children to bring a gift for children less fortunate in our area so that they can also have a happy Christmas. Please label your parcel boy or girl and approximate age and bring it into school by Friday 16th December. Previously the children have brought the gifts on the day of their party but there is a change in logistics this year. I hope this continues to be a highly successful venture and one I know is greatly appreciated, thank you for your continued support.

NSPCC

We recently had Kate, our area schools co-ordinator into school working with Primary 6 and 7 discussing different types of abuse and what children can do to keep themselves safe. The children made posters which Kate was delighted with and she has them displayed at the Childline Base in Aberdeen. She has sent photos of the pictures to their media team who may share them on Facebook or Twitter.

Finally...

As always we have an open door, if you have a concern about your child please arrange a time to speak with the class teacher. We are an inclusive school which involves:

- creating an ethos of achievement for all pupils within a climate of high expectation;
- valuing a broad range of talents, abilities and achievements;
- promoting success and self-esteem by taking action to remove barriers to learning;
- countering conscious and unconscious discrimination that may prevent individuals, or pupils from any particular groups, from thriving in the school; and
- actively promoting understanding and a positive appreciation of the diversity of individuals and groups within society.

We need our parents to support this for **all** our children and embrace our diversity and break down the barriers of discrimination. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Sarah Forrest
Head Teacher