



# Mattocks Primary School Newsletter

February 2013

It's hard to believe that we're in to February already! However, it is good to see the days gradually begin to lengthen again.

## Snow Days

So far we have managed to avoid the worst of the snow and despite a few slippery journeys; we all made it to school safely.



However, if it should become necessary at a future date to close the school due to the weather, please remember that there is a link on our website to activities and ideas to keep pupils gainfully occupied during their time off. Just click the 'Snow Days' link on the homepage.

## Learning Journals

These will be coming home again this week and we would ask that you take time to share them with your child and discuss their learning. Parents are encouraged to write in these journals too and add their thoughts. There is also the opportunity to complete the

'Personal Achievements' section at the end where things from out with school can be shared. It is important that these books are returned to school within a fortnight to allow us to share these responses in class.

## Eco-Council

Our Eco Council continue to meet regularly and are working hard to fulfil their action plan. They have asked me to remind you that one of our goals is to become 'paperless' - so if you are receiving a paper copy of this newsletter it means we still don't have you on our emailing list. Please let Mrs Donnachie know at the school office if we still don't have your email address.

## World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. It is an opportunity to celebrate reading, books, authors and illustrators. To mark this event we are holding a **Book Exchange** whereby pupils can bring along any books they've outgrown or no longer need and swap them for a 'new' one. Any books left over will be added to the school library or donated to charity. It's a great chance to have a clear out!! More details will follow nearer the time.



## School Hours Survey

We are currently undertaking an opinion poll regarding a

proposed change to the school hours. The slight adjustment to the school day would bring us in line with most other schools and help to alleviate the issues some parents experience having two separate pick-ups. If you have not yet returned please do so as soon as possible as it is vital we gauge as many opinions as possible.

### Change of Holiday Date

Notification has been received from Angus Council about a change to the 2013 St Andrew's Day holiday date. This will now fall on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** and NOT on the 29<sup>th</sup> November as had been previously published. School will be closed to pupils for In-service Days on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of November, with the holiday Monday after the weekend. I know it seems a long way off but I am aware some families go away at this time so please amend you diaries.

### Pre-School

As of 4<sup>th</sup> February our pre-school is opening for an afternoon session due to an increase in our role. We are delighted to welcome Daniel, Jed, Aden and Laila who will be working with Mrs Kettles each afternoon.



### Scottish Poetry

Well done to all pupils who learned their Scottish poems. Everyone who was able to recite their poem will receive a certificate and overall winners will be announced at assembly on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February.

### Football Club

Unfortunately due to dwindling numbers, Mrs Johnston has decided to cancel football training at present. This will be reviewed again after Easter once the evenings are lighter and the weather (hopefully) a little warmer!



### RND 2013

The Pupil Council have been busy planning events for Red Nose Day 2013. They will be making cakes to sell and asking pupils and staff to wear pyjamas and come with 'crazy' hair. We will also be selling official Red Noses for £1. Please help us support this great charity.

### Dates for Your Diary

8<sup>th</sup> Feb - Learning Journals home  
15<sup>th</sup> Feb - mid-term holiday  
18<sup>th</sup> Feb - mid term holiday  
19<sup>th</sup> Feb - school closed to pupils for In-Service Day  
21<sup>st</sup> Feb - Parent Council Meeting 7.30 pm in school  
22<sup>nd</sup> Feb - P2 Health Morning @ David Lloyds  
25<sup>th</sup> February - Rotary Quiz 7.30 pm at Seaview Primary School  
7<sup>th</sup> March - Book Exchange for World Book Day  
8<sup>th</sup> March - Cross Country Event at Monifieth HS  
12<sup>th</sup> March - P7s to MHS to get National Entitlement Cards  
13<sup>th</sup> March - Rag Bag Collection  
15<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose "mad hair and PJ' Day  
19<sup>th</sup> March - Scottish Country Dance Festival in Forfar  
March 25<sup>th</sup> - Easter Service 9.30 am