

SGOIL A' BHAC



NEWSLETTER

SESSION 2007/2008

Term 4

website: www.sgoilabhac.org.uk

The last term of the school session always tends to be a hectic time with Sports, football, basketball, trips, etc. all having to be fitted into a rather crowded timetable. Exact dates for some of these activities have yet to be determined and parents will be kept duly informed.

1. School Closures

The school will be closed for May Holiday on **Friday, 2nd** and **Monday, 5th May 2008**.

The school will close for the summer holidays on **Friday, 27th June** and reopens for pupils on **Thursday, 21st August 2008**.

2. Bog Slog

The Annual Bog Slog in aid of school funds will take place on **Thursday, 1st May** [weather permitting]. Details to follow.

3. Secondary Exams

The end of session examinations will take place for all secondary pupils on **Monday 26th, Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th & Friday 30th May 2008**.

4. Entrants – Induction Day for Primary / Secondary Pupils

All P1 entrants for **Session 2008/2009** will be welcomed at 9.15am on **Friday, 16th May** for a morning session. This will allow children to meet with their teachers and future classmates. At 12.00 noon on this day parents of new entrants are welcome to take their children to the school cafeteria so that they (**both parents & children**) can see and sample the range of food available.

On the same day, **Friday, 16th May**, all P7 pupils from Back, Tong and Tolsta schools are welcomed for a day's Induction to the Secondary Department of the school.

5. Secondary 2 Pupils – Visit to The Nicolson Institute

The above visit which should be regarded as a normal school day, will also take place on **Friday, 16th May**. Pupils should proceed directly to The Nicolson Institute by Stornoway school transport. Detailed arrangements for the visit will be made by the receiving school.

6. Assisted Self Evaluation

The school underwent an Assisted Self Evaluation in March. Five officers of the Education Department spent 3 days conducting an evaluation of all areas of the school's work. We are pleased to report that all fifteen areas reported on received either Good, Very Good or Excellent grades. No area of the school's work was graded as adequate, weak or unsatisfactory.

7. Euroquiz Final

P6 pupils from Sgoil a' Bhac won the Western Isles heat of the Euroquiz competition and are to take part in the Scottish Finals at the Scottish Parliament building in Edinburgh on 12th May 2008. We are very proud of their success and hope they have an enjoyable and successful time in Edinburgh.

8. Coca-Cola 7s – Scottish Schools Girls' Competition

Having won the Western Isles and the North of Scotland competitions Sgoil a' Bhac girls' football team are through to the Regional Finals Dingwall on 9th May 2008. The winners

of the Regional finals will progress to the National. We wish them the very best in their efforts to reach the National finals.

9. Sgoil Araich Loch a Tuath

The new accommodation units for Sgoil Araich Loch a Tuath are now on site. The accommodation will be completed both inside and out providing the pre-school pupils of the district with modern purpose-built facilities for years to come. We hope they enjoy their new surroundings while remaining very much a part of Sgoil a' Bhac.

10. Charlie Nicolson Primary Football Competition

The Charlie Nicolson Primary Football Competition will take place on **Tuesday 20th May 2008**.

11. Secondary Games Day

The Rural School Secondary Games Day will take place this year on **Tuesday 27th May** at Upper Coll. Details to follow.

12. Secondary 2 – Trip to Fairburn Activity Centre

This trip is scheduled for five days from **Monday, 9th June to Friday, 13th June**. We hope that this trip will be one of the highlights of the pupils' time at Sgoil a' Bhac.

13. School Sports Day

It is hoped that the School Sports Day will take place on **Tuesday, 17th June**. The sports day will be combined with a Fun Day. The sports part of the day will start early (around 11.00am). Please pencil this date into your diaries. Details to follow.

14. Rural Schools Sports

It is proposed that Rural School Sports for Upper Primary and Secondary be held at the athletic track in Stornoway in **June** (*date to be confirmed*). Details to follow.

15. School Prizegiving

The school session will come to an end with the annual Prizegiving ceremony beginning at **12.30pm on Friday, 27th June**.

16. School Uniform

It is the policy of the school to encourage pupils to wear school uniform whilst in attendance at school and the school would like to express its thanks to all parents who support this policy.

17. “Authorised” and “Unauthorised” Absence from School

The school recognises that there may be occasions when parents' holiday periods may coincide with the school term and as a result it is inevitable that children may miss schooling. When there is an element of choice, however, parents are strongly discouraged from taking holidays during school time.

The recent report “**Improving Achievements in Scotland Schools**” states:

“Parents need to think carefully before taking children out of school during term time for whatever reason; condoned absence is a major problem.”



SGOIL A' BHAC



SCHEME OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE 2008/2009

AUTUMN 2008

| | | |
|-------|-----------------|--|
| OPEN | Teachers | Monday, 18 th August 2008 |
| | Pupils | Thursday, 21 st August 2008 |
| CLOSE | Teachers/Pupils | Friday, 10 th October 2008 |

WINTER 2008

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|-------|-----------------|---|
| OPEN | Teachers | Tuesday, 21 st October 2008 |
| | Pupils | Thursday, 23 rd October 2008 |
| CLOSE | Teachers/Pupils | Tuesday, 23 rd December 2008 |

SPRING 2009

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|-------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| OPEN | Teachers/Pupils | Tuesday, 6 th January 2009 |
| CLOSE | Teachers/Pupils | Friday, 27 th March 2009 |

SUMMER 2009

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|-------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| OPEN | Teachers/Pupils | Monday, 13 th April 2009 |
| CLOSE | Teachers/Pupils | Wednesday, 1 st July 2009 |

OCCASIONAL HOLIDAYS

| | |
|--|---------------|
| 27 th & 28 th November & 1 st December 2008 | 3 days |
| 13 th , 16 th & 17 th February 2009 | 3 days |
| 1 st & 4 th May 2009 | 2 days |
| TOTAL | 8 days |

INSERVICE

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|--|---------------|
| 18 th , 19 th & 20 th August 2008 | 3 days |
| 21 st & 22 nd October 2008 | 2 days |
| TOTAL | 5 days |

GENERAL INFORMATION

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|----------------|--|
| Local Holidays | 8 days |
| National Mod | 10 th – 17 th October 2008 |