

SGOIL A' BHAC



NEWSLETTER

SESSION 2009/2010

Term 1

website: www.sgoilabhac.org.uk

1. STAFF CHANGES

We welcome the following new staff to the school and hope that they enjoy their time with us.

- Dawn Spark [Probationer – E3/4]
- Anne Maclennan [Probationer – E5/6]
- Chris Ann Mackenzie [Support for Learning]
- Chrissie Graham [Primary]
- Catherine Macleod [Auxiliary]

We are very pleased that Muriel Macleod who was teaching Maths and Geography in the Secondary department has now been formally appointed to the post.

Following June White's retirement in June 2009 D.J. Smith will be Primary as well as Secondary PE teacher.

For Term 1 Anne Ramsay will be in Tolsta Pre-school. Marina Macrae will assist at Sgoil Araich Loch a Tuath as required during Anne Ramsay's secondment.

We wish Laura Dillon, who was our Support for Learning for 3 years, success in her new post.

2. SCHOOL ROLL

The overall school roll for this session is 213. There were 6 entrants into P1 English, and 10 into P1 Gaelic. The total roll for the Primary department is 129 (70 Mainstream & 59 GMU), 55 for the Secondary and 29 in Sgoil Araich Loch a Tuath.

3. P1 ENTRANTS

As in previous years, P1 entrants will initially be in school until 12.20pm. As from **Monday, 21st September** they will continue in school until **3.00pm**.

4. SCHEME OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

A copy of the Scheme of School Attendance showing term and holiday dates is attached. Please note that an additional day, **MONDAY 12th APRIL 2010**, has been added for staff training on Curriculum for Excellence. Pupils should not attend school on that day.

5. SCHOOL UNIFORM

The school once more congratulates parents for the way in which they support the school policy by encouraging pupils to wear school uniform. Uniforms can be obtained through the Parent Council [Representative Katherine Maciver – 820277].

May I remind parents that clothes worn in school should be clearly marked with pupils' names. Every session the school has unclaimed clothes – jerseys, jackets, sweatshirts etc. These could easily be returned if each item of clothing carried a nametag.

Valuables and money should not be left in cloakrooms. These should be left, for safe keeping, either with the classteacher or at the School Office.

6. ABSENCES

On returning to school, following an absence, pupils should bring an explanatory note to their classteacher. This would eliminate any pupils being recorded as having “*unauthorised absences*”.

As you may be aware, the Scottish Office has now set targets for schools with regard to school attendance and the high attendances of previous years form the basis on which this year’s high target is set. We therefore rely on the continuing support of parents in keeping school absences to a minimum.

7. INFANT OPEN DAY

Parents of pupils in P1 are invited to an open morning on Friday 18th September 2009 from 11.00am to 12.20pm to see how your son/daughter is settling in school.

8. AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

A comprehensive range of afterschool clubs is now being organised and details will be circulated to parents in the very near future.

As in previous years the **Gaelic Activities Club** will be available for P1-P4 pupils from 3.00pm to 5.00pm Monday to Friday. The club will commence on **Monday 7th September 2009**. Because of the age of the pupils and numbers involved parents **must indicate daily** in the homework diary whether or not their children are to attend the club on that day.

9. DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The popular musical event held annually in An Lanntair where members of Còisir Og a’ Bhac and Còisir Sgìre a’ Bhac take part is scheduled for **Tuesday 6th October 2009**. More details to follow.

10. CANTEEN MENUS

Please note that the existing menu will continue till Friday 4th September. From Monday 7th September a new menu will be in place. Copies of the new menu will be issued to parents later this week.

SCHEME OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE 2009/2010

AUTUMN 2009

OPEN	Teachers	Monday, 17 th August 2009
	Pupils	Thursday, 20 th August 2009
CLOSE	Teachers/Pupils	Friday, 9 th October 2009

WINTER 2009

OPEN	Teachers	Tuesday, 20 th October 2009
	Pupils	Thursday, 22 nd October 2009
CLOSE	Teachers/Pupils	Tuesday, 22 nd December 2009

SPRING 2010

OPEN	Teachers/Pupils	Tuesday, 5 th January 2010
CLOSE	Teachers/Pupils	Friday, 26 th March 2010

SUMMER 2010

OPEN	Teacher	Monday, 12 th April 2010
OPEN	Pupils	Tuesday, 13 th April 2010
CLOSE	Teachers/Pupils	Wednesday, 30 th June 2010

OCCASIONAL HOLIDAYS

26 th , 27 th & 30 th November 2009	3 days
12 th , 15 th & 16 th February 2010	3 days
30 th April & 3 rd May 2010	2 days
TOTAL	8 days

INSERVICE [Curriculum for Excellence]

17 th , 18 th & 19 th August 2009	3 days
20 th & 21 st October 2009	2 days
12 th April 2010	1 day
TOTAL	6 days

GENERAL INFORMATION

Local Holidays	8 days
National Mod	9 th – 16 th October 2009