



Sgoil a' Bhac



Newsletter I
October 2011

Newsletter brought to you by the Press Gang!!! (See us on the right!)

Pupil Council by Martin Beaton

This term the school pupils elected new pupil councillors. The nine new councillors will ensure that the children in the school are happy and safe. They are ranged from P1 to S2 and will have meetings regularly to share their fellow classmates' ideas, along with their own.



Pupil Council. See left: Back row from left to right: Abbie Morrison, Cara Graham, Maia Pickering.

Middle row: left to right, Angus J MacDonald, Christina MacDonald, Catriona Bain, Catherine MacDonald.

Front row: left to right, James Mutch, John A Bain.

Health Matters— Parents' Workshop

Primary and Secondary parents attended a 'Sex Education and Health' consultation evening on Tuesday 4 October.

The purpose of the evening was to inform parents about the Curriculum for Excellence Learning Outcomes for 'Relationships, Sexual health and parenthood' and to make them aware of the risks involved with social networking, sexual content in media (computer games, magazines) and alcohol.

School staff members Donna Murray and Peigi Mairi Nicholson described the learning programmes and gave parents an opportunity to view resources used, while Hamish Budge (Education Dept) and Sgt. Roddy Mackay explained the ways in which parents can safeguard their children on Facebook or other sites.

Western Isles Sexual Health Co-ordinator, Isobel Steele outlined the sexual content in teenage magazines and games such as Grand Theft Auto (Cert 18) and the early sexualisation of children through merchandising.

Suzanne Macaulay informed parents about alcohol and drugs issues with a quiz, audience participation in measuring a unit of alcohol, the use of 'beer goggles' and identification of a range of illegal substances. All parents were given handouts and plastic tumblers which show accurate measures of alcohol.

Parental feedback indicated they found the evening both informative and enjoyable.



Sgt Roddy Mackay explains the dangers of social networks e.g Facebook, MSN etc.



Below: Some Sgoil Araich pupils on their recent bus tour of the Back area.



Below: Ghostly characters from the Haunted Heritage Roadshow



Dates for the diary...

- 13.10.11**-School closes and staff & pupil Zumba
- 25.10.11**-Teachers back to school
- 27.10.11**-Pupils back to school
- 3.11.11**-S2 girls – HPV
- 8.11.11**-Pupil-led parents' meeting: Sgoil Araich, Primary and Secondary) 7:00 pm
- 11.11.11**-P7 pupil-led Remembrance Assembly 10:45am. All welcome.
- 13.11.11** Remembrance Service at War Memorial
- 25.11.11**-School closed
- 28.11.11**-School closed
- 19.12.11**-Christmas concert
- 21.12.11**-S1/S2 Social
- 22.12.11** School closes

House Captains

- Well done to our new House Captains 2011-2012:
- Seaforth - Annmarie Macdonald:
 - Suilven - Leanne Macdonald:
 - Columba - Mairi MacIannan:
 - Claymore - Sharyn Ferguson.
- It is part of their duty to know everyone in their house and when it comes to house activities they should keep everyone in line and in order.

Left: Parents identifying illegal substances.

Primary Projects this term by Joanna Maclean

The primary projects this term were: EP1&2 and GP1&2- People Who help us; EP3&4- Forces and Magnets; GP3-5- Feelings, Forces and Magnets; EP5&6 - Ancient Greeks; GP6&7- Relationships; EP7- Am I Safe? Christianity in Action & Electricity.

Celebrating achievement

The Term 1 winners of Certificates of Achievement at the whole-school assemblies were: Talia Graham EP2 for learning number sequences to 100; Aimee MacIver EP2 for confidence working with numbers to 100; Alexander Macleod EP2 for confidence working with numbers to 100; Louise MacIver EP2 for learning number sequence to 100; Euan Mackenzie EP7 for hard work in all areas of class work; Aron Mackenzie GP2 adhartas mòr ann an leughadh agus sgrìobhadh; David Anderson GP3 sgrìobhadh pearsanta inntineach; Maia Pickering GP4 sàr obair co-cheangailte ri nobhail; Amy Emmott GP4 airson a bhith ag obair cruaidh aig matamataig; Ellie Domhnallach GP4 airson sàr obair co-cheangailte ri nobhail; Rhys Pritchard S2 for competing in and completing a triathlon.



EP2 winners of Certificates of Achievement

Congratulations too to the first Mod prize-winners of the National Mod: John Alasdair Bain (GP6) who won the Mod Art Poster competition and Hannah C Macleod (GP5) who won second prize in the Mod Literary Competition and third in the Mod Art Poster competition. Rinn sibh math!

Goodbye and Hello!

We say goodbye and many thanks to After-school Club staff Joan Etta Walker and Marina Macrae who have decided to 'retire' after seven years' service and hello to Christine Martin and Maureen Campbell, who will be taking over after the October holidays.

Right: Grandparents enjoying a visit to GP5/6/7 as part of their topic 'Relationships'. A number of grannies and grandpas came in to talk to the pupils, have a cuppa and home-baking and listen to a selection of items including presenting and choir songs for the national Mod.

Best wishes to all the pupils who will be taking part in the National Mod during the holidays!

Congratulations to ...



Back Primary boys who were semi-finalists in Cuach na Cloinne, seen here in Fort William with their coach Willie Macdonald

Back Boys reach Football Finals

by Andrew Smith

Back Primary boys football team reached the semi-finals of Cuach na Cloinne football tournament. They qualified some weeks earlier and travelled to Fort William on Friday the 30th of September and played on Saturday. They fought through to the semi-finals but were beaten 3-1 by Tollcross from Edinburgh. The players of the team were: Lewis Macleod; Seamus Macrae; Cameron Maclellan; Calum MacIennan; John A Bain; Euan Anderson. Staff members Willie Macdonald (their coach) and parent Lena MacIennan also travelled with them. Euan Anderson said, "The weather didn't affect the finals much but at one point it got so windy that the ball was hard to control." We hope to see another Back team do well in Cuach na Cloinne 2012.

