

Seo agaibh beagan fiosrachadh mu dheidhinn na tha a' dol ann am Bun-sgoil Phort Rìgh an teirm seo.

Here is some information about what is happening in Portree Primary School in the Summer term

#### Staffing

Mr John Finlayson has retired from his post of Head Teacher after 17 years at this school. We will miss him a great deal and we wish him well for the future.

Mrs Kirsty Grant will be leaving her post at the end of term. We are very sorry to lose Mrs Grant and appreciate all she has done for the school community.

Mrs Yvonne Bowditch will be leaving her post at the end of May as she is moving away from Skye. We would like to thank Mrs Bowditch for her contribution towards the life of the school.

The post of Crossing Patroller will hopefully be filled within the next week or two as we have had an applicant for the post. The post of School Bus Escort has been advertised and as no one has applied, it will be re-advertised.

#### School Improvement Plan(SIP) and Pupil Equity Funding

We are currently working on completing the SIP which details the school's aims and objectives for the coming session. We plan to work on: emotional literacy, nurture and play; improving pupil's fluency in Gaelic Medium; learning Gaelic in English Medium; developing a whole school approach to mental maths including number bonds and tables, with the support of parents; developing our phonics and spelling programmes; implementing a transition programme towards two new schools in Portree, encouraging cooperation and participation between all stakeholders. The school has received funding from the Scottish Government in order to help develop projects to enable us to support our pupils. The money the school has received this year will be used to develop the above programmes. The final version of the SIP will be uploaded onto the school website for all to view.

#### New School Times from August

Following consultation and discussion with staff and parents, Portree Primary School will be moving towards a 4 ½ day week from August 2017, in line with Portree High School. These times below are provisional and dependent on liaising with Portree High School on school transport.

The school day will begin at 9.00 am and end at 3.25pm (Monday to Thursday). On Friday the pupils will finish at 1.10pm. We will be changing our dinner times slightly on a Friday in order to accommodate this. The infants will eat at 12.10 and the older pupils will eat at 12.40.

The school will also be closing at 1.15 on the last day of term – 30.6.17

Sgoil Àraich parents will be consulted regarding changes in times for their sessions.

#### Transition Days

All Primary 7 pupils will be involved in transition days in Portree High School on 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Further information will be sent out nearer the time.

New pupils who have enrolled to start P1 from August are invited to induction days in Portree Primary between 2-3pm. All classes will move up to their new classes on this afternoon and it is hoped that all our staffing will be known by then.

#### Portree Out of School Club

This club is open for pupils now and information and application forms can be picked up at the school office. We may have to cancel this club due to a very low uptake.

#### School Sports

This year's school sports were held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at Pàirc nan Laoch and was well attended by parents and family members. Special thanks are extended to John MacKenzie and Sara Matheson for organising the event and to the Parent Council who provided us with teas, coffees and baking. The total of £338.50 was raised and the school would like to thank The Portree Coop, The Tongadale Hotel, MacLeod Estates (Dunvegan Castle), Mackenzie's Bakery and MacGregor Industrial Supplies who all donated food and soft drinks for the occasion. The High School pupils who assisted on the day also deserve a special mention as they were so supportive and cheerful.

#### Walk to School Week

Next week pupils will be encouraged to walk to school if at all possible. For those pupils who are unable to do this, our Junior Road Safety Officers will organise a walking in the playground event on a daily basis. Pupils will then be given house points for their achievements. Information has been sent home.

## Reports, Parents' Afternoon and Parents' Evenings

Reports will be issued to parents on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June. Highland Council are moving towards a new continual reporting format which will mean an end to 'year end' reports in 2017-2018. At Portree Primary, we began this transition in August 2016 with the development of our new profiling process. The profiling process will replace end of year reporting from next session. This process has involved class teachers reporting and sharing evidence termly through pupil profiles. There has been an opportunity each term for parents to view and contribute to these profiles through our Open Afternoons. This will be the last 'year end' report of this format that you will receive. Because the continual reporting has begun through our profiling process, the report you are receiving this year is much briefer than previous versions. The termly evaluations and evidence of progress are contained within the profiles which you will once again have a chance to view and contribute to on 14th June. Parents' night appointments will be available on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June and parents will be invited to make appointments if they wish to.

## Homework

Our new homework policy, drafted earlier this session states that homework will be reduced in the month of December and in the summer term. This is to allow children to get outside and play and also to participate in the many activities on offer. Reading will continue as usual.

## Cuach na Cloinne

This annual Gaelic football tournament was held at Portree High School. We wish our winning team well as they go to the finals in Fort William on 30<sup>th</sup> May. Thanks are extended to Angus and Kathryn Beaton and Iain Macleod for their coaching skills on the day.

## P7 Cycling

All primary 7 pupils are invited to participate in the annual Cycling Proficiency training which will begin on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May. All pupils who intend to participate in this training should bring a bicycle and helmet to the school next Tuesday. It would be appreciated if parents could check their child's bike prior to taking it into school. Pupils will not be allowed to share bikes or helmets due to health and safety considerations.

## P7 Sailing

All primary 7 pupils are being given the opportunity to enjoy a day's sailing courtesy of the Isle of Skye Sailing Club. Pupils will be given information shortly, including permission slips which they should complete and return to school.

## Triathlon

A large number of pupils and parents travelled to Kyle to compete in the annual Triathlon. Congratulations to all who participated.

## Blasad

Fèisean nan Gàidheal are providing a Gaelic tutor to help promote Gaelic in the English Medium classes. Fiona Cruickshank is delivering the programme and staff and pupils have been very positive about the sessions which have already started.

## Àros is Cànan

All pupils from P4, P5 and P6 will be involved in this project which involves looking at our language and culture in Skye. There will be some trips for these pupils to locations in the North End of the island. Further details will follow.

## Raasay Trip

Final information will be sent out today.

## Photography and Social Media

While we appreciate that parents will take photos of their own children at school events, please would you ensure that you do not share these on social media without other parents' permission?

### KNOWN IMPORTANT DATES

16/5/17 Parent Council Meeting 6.30 pm  
17/5/17 School Photographer – Class & Groups  
19/5/17 Rotary Club Sixes Tournament – Shinty  
20/5/17 Football Festival – Uig  
24/5/17 Meeting to establish Interim GM Parent Council  
25/5/17 Talisker League – Kyleakin  
30/5/17 Cuach na Cloinne – National Final  
1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> June Skye Mod  
w/b 5/6/17 P7 Trip 1 – Raasay  
6/6/17 P7 sailing day  
7/6/17 P7 sailing day  
7/6/17 Visit form Eden Bus and Wild about Scotland Bus  
9/6/17 Reports Out  
w/b 12/6/17 P7 Trip 2 – Raasay  
14/6/17 Parents' Afternoon  
14/6/17 Update on developments at both schools - Norma Young 6.30pm  
15/6/17 P7 sailing day  
16/7/17 P7 sailing day  
17/6/17 Soccer 7s Kyleakin  
19/6/17 Parents' Evening  
20/6/17 Parents' Evening  
22/6/17 Portree High School parents' meeting  
26/6/17 PPS Carnival Day (please note the change of date)  
23/6/17 Bank of Scotland Shinty Tournament - Portree  
27/6/17 Shinty World Cup – Inverness  
28/6/17 End of Session Prize-Giving  
30/6/17 School Closes for Summer Holidays at 1.15pm.