



MACOSQUIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE

31st January 2018

WHOLE SCHOOL LITERACY

Our new Accelerated Reader Programme is now up and running in the Year 6 & 7 classes and pupils are really enjoying their visits to the new AR library each week. Many new books have been purchased through the Scholastic Rewards scheme, which is directly related to the Book Fairs held in school each year. Thank-you also to the pupils and parents who donated books to the AR library. We are also gradually adding to existing class library stocks in Year 1-5 classrooms, with the purchase of Phonics storybooks, emergent readers and mini novels.



MACOSQUIN PS FRIENDS'



The next meeting for our Friends' Association takes place on Monday 5th February at 6.30pm to discuss Term 2 events listed below. Everyone welcome.

Monday 19th March - Big Breakfast

Monday 26th March - Fashion Show

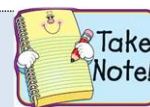
Easter activities for the children will involve an Egg Hunt in school and an Easter Bunny Raffle.

TERM 2 PARENT INTERVIEWS



These will take place on Monday 5th February to Thursday 8th February from 2pm. **The school finishes at 2pm on these days for all classes and there will be no clubs.**

DATES FOR DIARY



2nd February - Transfer Forms returned
5th - 8th February - Parent Interviews (no clubs)
9th February - School Finishes for Half Term
19th February - School Starts back
19th February - Yr 7 Shared Ed Trip to Carrowmena
20th February - Yr 6 Shared Ed Trip to Carrowmena
21st February - Yr 5 Shared Ed Trip to Carrowmena
22nd February - Yr 4 Shared Ed Trip to Carrowmena
23rd February - Yr 3 Shared Ed Trip to Carrowmena
26th February - Staff Training, early closure 2pm all classes (no clubs this day - Spanish + Orchestra)

HOCKEY UPDATE



Huge congratulations to our hockey team who played brilliantly at last Friday's hockey blitz organised by Ulster Hockey. The team got off to a fantastic start with a 3-0 victory against Culcrow P.S. and this was followed by a 2-0 win against Killowen P.S. The next game was a draw with Ballysally P.S and our goal keeper, Rebecca Maxwell, did a great job of keeping any goals out. The final game ended on a high with a 2-0 win against Leaney P.S. All of the girls played brilliantly together as a team and we wish them good luck as they prepare for the Northern Regional Qualifiers for The McCloy Cup at Limavady Grammar on Friday 2nd March. A huge thank you to both Rebecca Culbertson and Mrs Pollock for coaching the team.

NON UNIFORM - ROCK RED DAY



Wear something **Red** at the following event

ROCK RED DAY -Friday 9th February £1.00 or more
on Sims Agora
Proceeds to Children's Heartbeat Trust

SHARED EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Consent forms for Yr 3 - 7 Shared Education Trip to Carrowmena will be sent home this week. Please ensure these are returned to school by Wednesday 7th February.



BEING A DIGITAL ROLE MODEL FOR YOUR CHILD

ARE YOU A CYBER SMART PARENT?



Internet safety Day is fast approaching and as a school we are preparing activities to engage our pupils in how to keep safe online. These are challenging and changing times that our children are growing up in and research informs us that behaviour modelled at home towards digital technology can positively support our children.

Dr Fiona Pienaar advocates that in order to be your child's digital role model, it's important to get to know the world your children are growing up in. Your openness, knowledge and attitude to all things digital will play a major role in maintaining your child's mental health, emotional wellbeing and safety as they navigate an exciting but challenging new world.

A lot has been written about the negative aspects of the digital world, particularly social media. Online bullying, children becoming addicted to gaming and the potential consequences of trying to create a perfect online image are all well-documented. But the digital world has also had an enormously positive effect on society. We need to find a balance, ensuring that our children grow up with an objective, sensible and well-adjusted approach to life in this digital age.

If you want your child to have a balanced approach to the technology in their lives, set a good example. Eat meals together at a table without any technology turned on. Make time to talk to each other and to listen to each other. Show interest in their daily lives, and explain how you decide which TV programmes you watch. Equally, explain how you decide when not to engage in digital technology, how and why you turn your devices off, and how you can use time to engage with others. In these ways you can support your child to use digital technology in a safe and knowledgeable way - and try to have fun together doing it.

Nothing is more important than the example we set for children from the start of their lives. Children pick up habits and attitudes from the significant adults around them. Thinking about what we, as adults, present as normal in our homes, and in society in general, is crucial. How we manage digital devices dictates how our children and young people absorb early learning and how they develop their personal attitudes, beliefs and values.

Young people today not only have to manage their lives in real-time, but also in a parallel digital-time. If we want them to navigate that parallel world from a strong base of emotional wellbeing and mental health, we have to provide a good example and the necessary support.

More information can be found on the following website; vodafonedigitalparenting.co.uk