



Dear Parent / Carer

As this is my last gazette before I retire, I should like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their support over the last four years. Your children have been a delight to work with and a credit to their families. They have participated in a variety of visits, events and competitions and have always represented their school with pride. I am also grateful to the Parent Council for the hard work and dedication they give each year and would encourage new parents to join with them. Finally, I should like to record my thanks to my staff for their continued support and commitment to Gowriehill. I wish you all well for the future.

L. Nicoll, Headteacher.

Staffing

The appointment of a new headteacher is still in progress and it is therefore necessary to make interim arrangements. From the beginning of next term, Mrs Smith, DHT will assume the post of Acting Headteacher. I know you will give her your support in the coming weeks. This interim appointment has left a vacancy at depute level. Miss Fraser has been appointed as Acting Depute Headteacher and we congratulate her on this appointment.

Principal Teacher, Enhanced Provision – Mrs Milne has now begun her maternity leave and we look forward to news of the birth of her baby in the next few weeks. We are delighted to announce that Mrs Kearns has been appointed as Acting PT for the remainder of this session. We welcome her to Gowriehill.

Mrs Westwood, P7 – We are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Liam Westwood on 13th March. Mrs Westwood brought him in to school to visit us last week and they also made a brief visit to P7.

Mrs Cooper, P7 – Mrs Cooper has joined our staff on a temporary basis to cover Mrs Westwood's maternity leave. We welcome her to our school.

Supergrounds

On Saturday, we held an Action day to progress some of the work on our school grounds. We had a very busy day and a very enthusiastic team. Our team consisted of staff, pupils, parents and staff from the Royal Bank of Scotland, one of our sponsors. We did various gardening and painting jobs. We now have picnic tables in the inner quadrangle which will double as an outdoor classroom. We also have a tree seat in the same area, surrounded by a selection of plant pots. On the outer wall of the school, we have installed a traversing wall and this has now been painted. You can see it from the road when you are passing. We have also done some work on our wildlife garden and filled bench planters. The Garden Gang will be maintaining our plants and fruit trees under the watchful eye of Mrs Wain. The grounds are progressing well with everyone contributing to their success in a variety of ways. Of course, it is the pupils who will benefit most from these changes and I know they are very excited about it.

P7 Common Room

We recently launched a P7 common room which is available to the pupils on a Friday lunchtime. The pupils have set their own rules and realise that they need to be responsible young people for it to continue. Although it is an adult free zone, Miss McCombie and Mrs Kelly are not far away!

SPL Reading Stars Literacy Competition

Congratulations to Sam Barclay, P7 who won this competition. He was presented with his prizes by David Goodwillie, one of the Dundee United players. The school were also gifted a number of books for our library and some football games.

Spark Project

Four of our classes are participating in this project this term. It involves the classes working with people from the Rep with a view to producing a short play. They also have input from a musician as well. On Friday, each of these classes will perform their play to the whole school at an assembly. This has been a very interesting and worthwhile venture. All the children who have taken part are being invited to the Rep next Tuesday afternoon to see "The Elves and the Shoemaker".

Gowriehill Website

The Parent Council would like to thank the people who returned their website surveys this term. Most people who replied gave positive comments about our site. Any further surveys may be handed in to the school office before the end of term. Some people noted that they had difficulty in accessing the site and it may have been that the site was down at the time. Mrs Petrie is now assisting with the website and is able to update it from within the school.

Sport news

The girls football team continue to be successful in their league, returning a number of very impressive scores recently which sees them currently sitting on top of the league.

The boys team are eventually getting on with their fixtures which were badly held up because of the winter weather. The boys were also fortunate to be invited to play at Dens Park during half time. There was a large crowd at the game and the boys were given a great reception as they did their lap of honour having beaten Clepington 1 – 0.

P1/2 took part in the Scottish Country Dance Festival at Dundee University. We received many complements about their ability and the fact that they knew the dances better than some of the older children. Well done!

A team participated in the Fun in Athletics Final at Next Generation and came a very creditable 5th in the Dundee, Perth and Fife Final.

The Basketball team continue to perform well under the coaching of Elaine Francis. Following good results in the CV League the team were asked to compete at DISC in the Dundee Final. They did very well against some very stiff competition.

Miss Fraser took a team to Baxter Park to compete in the Cross Country Championships. The team competed very well with Kirsty Bell winning first place in the P7 Girls race.

Diary

Tues. 29th March

Thurs. 1st April

Mon. 19th April

Mon. 26th April

Visit to Rep for P3/4, P4, P5/6, P7

Last day of term, usual finishing time of 3.15pm

School resumes for term 4

Parent Council AGM in evening, information to follow