



COMMUNITY HELP OUTDOOR SPRING CLEAN DAY 11TH MAY 10AM

As part of the new Playground Equipment Project, we'd like to do a bit of maintenance and tidying work to spruce up the outdoor spaces of the school. Whether you are a parent, grandparent or member of the community, if you can wield a paintbrush or sweeping brush or have particular skills like woodwork (for building a new lid for a sandpit) we'd love you to come along and help us.

PLAYGROUND PROJECT

As you will be aware from previous newsletters and from school events, we have been working for a long time now to get some new play equipment for the children in the playground. We have asked for views from children and parents as to which pieces of equipment they would like. The plan and equipment that was voted for will be on display at Parents Evening this week. Fundraising continues and there is currently a huge amount of work ongoing, to put together all the information required for a grant application.

SAVE THE DATE: SUMMER TEA PARTY 25TH MAY

As a change from the usual School Fete, this year the Parent Council will be holding a Summer Tea Party, with proceeds going towards the Playground Project. We will be looking for donations of baking please: cream scones, cakes, finger sandwiches and savouries.



Keep your fingers crossed for good weather!

Dates for your Diary

Community
Outdoor
Spring Clean
Day
11th May



Summer Tea
Party
25th May



Wine Bottle
Fundraiser
Late April



BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

Our next fundraising idea which we hope will be very popular is a Bottle Fundraiser. Anyone who wants to participate hands in a bottle of wine, with a £5 note in an envelope with your name and contact phone number on it - the envelope should be securely taped to the bottle. There will be 4 winners: 1st Place: 50% of the number of bottles of wine donated; 2nd Place: 25%; 3rd Place: 15%; 4th Place: 10%. All the £5 notes will go towards the purchase of the new playground equipment. Bottles can be handed into school after the Easter holidays (please don't give them to the children to hand in): a reminder will be sent out when school returns after the holidays. The winners will be announced at the Summer Tea Party.

HELP PLEASE

Mrs Jack one of our Clerical Assistants is retiring on the 3rd April. Until a new member of staff is appointed, please be considerate with what you may phone the school about, as there will be days when only the teaching staff are there to answer the phone. The Parent Council would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Mrs Jack for all her hard work and care of our children at Avoch Primary. We wish her a very happy, healthy and busy Retirement. A card will be available at the Parents Evenings this week to sign and there will also be a collection if you would like to contribute towards a gift.

OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB

The after-school and breakfast clubs are fully up and running, some places are available and feedback from children and parents is overwhelmingly positive. Activities include Hamma beads, dodgeball, making slime, balloon modelling and outdoor play. Comments from the children include that they enjoy the multi-age play and the freedom to have fun and choose their own activities.

Breakfast club is 8.10am with a drop off at the external entrance to the school hall. Cost is £4.10. There is an efficient sign-in procedure at the door to enable parents to quickly drop off and head away. Breakfast provided is cereal/toast/bagels etc.

Children who are booked into the after-school club are collected straight from class, or can attend following after school activities, and it is generally held in the GP room. Collection is by 17.55pm via the side door (close to the portacabins). Snacks are provided and the cost is £11.35 per day.

Parents wishing to book sessions can have a set regular place or can book individual sessions on an ad-hoc basis with 48 hours' notice. Places can also be cancelled with the same notice, once initial registration for children has been set up. Payments are in arrears and can be made by direct debit or childcare vouchers scheme: the latter allowing employees to benefit from tax savings.

The after school and breakfast clubs are invaluable to working parents and the Parent Council is very appreciative of the effort the school and staff have taken to put this facility in place and delighted that the children are enjoying the sessions so much. Any feedback or questions you may have can be sent to either the Parent Council: avochprimarypc@gmail.com, to school: avoch.primary@highland.gov.uk or to after-school club: Bonnie.forrest@highland.gov.uk

AVOCH PARENT COUNCIL (APC) - WHAT DO WE DO?

The Parent Council supports the work of the school by promoting contact between parents/carers and the rest of the school community. We discuss issues of interest, provide views and opinions to the School and organise social and fundraising events. You do not need to be a member of the Parent Council to attend one of our meetings:

- Anyone with a child in school can attend.
- You can attend in person or ask for your query to be raised and discussed
- You can volunteer to assist with any APC activities and will be welcome to participate in whatever way you can.
- Our aim is to ensure all parents/carers feel welcome, supported and listened to and that they understand what the Parent Council does.
- To contact the Parent Council please email: avochprimarypc@gmail.com

Our next Meeting is Monday 29th April, 6.30pm in School - we hope to see you there.