

SPOTLIGHT



Issue 2

Autumn Term 2010

Parents' Information Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

Next week is an especially important week in the school calendar. Hardly has the term started than the parents of Year 6 pupils have to finalise their decision about the choice of secondary school for their sons and daughters. We want them to have a proper and honest insight into what we do so well at Poltair School and so we will be opening our doors next Thursday 23 September to the primary pupils and parents of the local community and inviting them to our Open Evening. It is a vital time for the families who have that tricky decision to make, but also for the existing school community. It is Poltair School's opportunity for its pupils and staff to demonstrate and celebrate the very good work that we undertake on a daily basis. It is the single moment in the school year when we get more members of the local community across the threshold to look at our school and its activities at close-hand. This year, we will have a record-breaking number of current pupils involved on the evening; they are our very best ambassadors. Many thanks, in advance, to all those parents who have agreed to allow their sons and daughters to participate on the night.

In a new departure this year, we have also invited Year 6 pupils to join us in school on the previous day, Wednesday 22 September. This is a School Closure Day (Staff Training) for our current pupils. Our staff, however, together with some pupils who have again volunteered to work closely with us, will be delivering a range of taster learning activities in the Poltair School setting. The focus will be on improving the quality of primary / secondary transition. We are conscious that it is early in the school year for us to have a school closure and we do not want to lose the momentum created by a very good start to the school year. Therefore, all teachers who normally have classes on a Wednesday will be setting some additional homework activities; you should be able to see these activities carefully written out in your son or daughter's new pupil planner.

Let us look forward to a busy and special week for us all.

Stephen Tong

Stephen Tong
Headteacher

Year 6 Open Day Wednesday 22 September

The school is holding a special event for 377 local primary children on this date. Therefore our own pupils will be studying at home on that day. Teaching staff will be setting learning activities for all pupils to be completed as they will not be in school.

Year 6 pupils will be experiencing an exciting range of inter-active workshops including Design Technology, Maths, Science, PE and Geocaching. The day aims to give them a taste of 'life at Poltair' and secondary school education.

Open Evening Thursday 23 September

Our annual Open Evening will be held on Thursday 23 September. All parents and members of the community are welcome to come and visit the school between **6.00 and 8.30 pm** when they will be able to tour classrooms, take part in hands-on activities and hear an address from the Headteacher Stephen Tong at 6.15 pm and 7.15 pm.

Present Poltair pupils may be invited to attend in full school uniform to help in a particular subject area. Permission letters for these pupils will be sent home.

Year 7
Daniel



For showing care and consideration towards peers in his tutor group

**Students
of the
week**

Year 8
Roxie



For working well in Science

Year 9
Kirra



For excellent effort in Science

Year 10
Emily



For an excellent start to the term

Year 11
Sam



For making a positive start to the year

Safeguarding

This is a polite reminder to parents that the school has a duty of care towards pupils and may make a referral to social care or other agencies when appropriate.

Using MyMaths to boost your child's progress

Poltair subscribes to the MyMaths website and we thoroughly recommend it as a resource for use at home if you have internet access. The URL is mymaths.co.uk and users have to log in using the school login details on the front page.

The school password for MyMaths has recently changed. The revised details are:

School login: poltair
School Password: circle

Your child will also have a personal login and password and we would encourage them to log in every time they use MyMaths so that any online homeworks or revision sheets will be recorded centrally.

If you have any questions or technical issues related to MyMaths please contact any member of the Maths Faculty at Poltair.

Vince Clooney - Head of Maths Faculty

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY		
Wednesday 22 September		Yr 6 Open Day (No Poltair pupils in school)
Thursday 23 September		Open Evening 6.00 – 8.30 pm
Monday 27 September	Year 9	Target Setting Days Parents will be informed by letter of times and venue. Normal lessons for all pupils.
Tuesday 28 September	Year 7	
Wednesday 29 September	Year 8	
Thursday 30 September	Year 10	
Friday 1 October	Year 11	

As part of our focus on Literacy the MFL Department is having a 'word of the week' chosen by members of the Leadership Team

Lesley Warwick and Sue Gilbert

New roles (need info. from Steve Watkinson)

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