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Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022

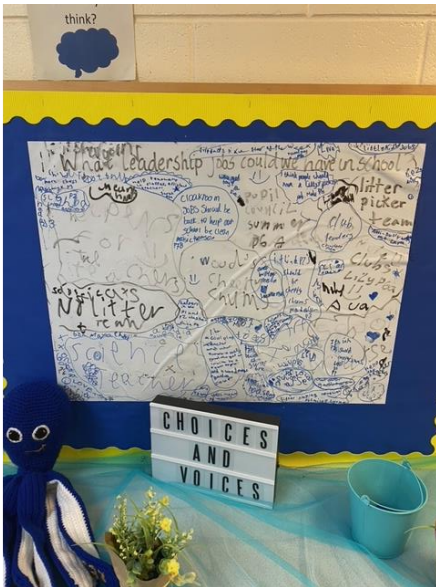
Dear Families

I hope you all had a lovely time over the holiday weekend and were able to relax and enjoy the wonderful weather. I know many of you supported the Laurencekirk Primary Partnership's Party in the Park event which was held in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and that was very much appreciated. This was a huge undertaking for the group and I would like to extend my thanks to them for organising a special event which benefitted the whole community. Your endeavours are appreciated!

### **Jubilee Jog**

In school we held a Jubilee Jog on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June. This was a very special occasion for us as it marked the first time our whole school has gathered together since March 2020. It was a lovely sight and the runners themselves were fantastic representatives for their house. However, a special mention must also go to the army of spectators who chanted and cheered and waved their flags to support and encourage their house to victory. We should never underestimate the power of support and encouragement. Next session we are hoping to extend our house events as our children love to work together to earn house points. This helps us to build our sense of community. We will ask our children for their ideas on events through our choices and voices board.





Our choices and voices board is a graffiti style whiteboard whereby our children can pop up any suggestions on a key question asked at assembly. It has been a popular addition with lots of ideas shared thus far. It is really important to actively seek the views of our children on the matters which affect them.

As you can see, SHANARRI our calamari has pride of place alongside the board!

### **Sports Day Cup**

This year our yellow house were awarded the sports day cup. Points were collated from our potted sports event and also from our Jubilee Jog. Well done to everyone. We still have it all to play for... our house trophy will be awarded at the end of term to the house with the most points.

### **Reporting to Parents**

By now, I hope that you have all received a copy of your child's written school report through the post. This was a last minute change of plan in order to comply with GDPR regulations. Our main reporting tool is Seesaw and this is how we share updates on learning, progress and achievement in an ongoing way. We are required to share attendance and attainment data with you all and therefore a short written report was required as Seesaw is not a suitable mechanism for such data. We will further developing our use of Seesaw next session. We are looking forward to welcoming our families into school in the new school year to see first hand the excellent work ongoing in Laurencekirk School.

### **School Uniform**

I know lots of you like to be organised early for the forthcoming new school year. Our school uniform remains the same. Blue Laurencekirk jumpers with trousers or skirts in black/navy or grey. School polo shirts are available but plain ones are perfectly acceptable. Shoes should be comfortable and appropriate for indoor and outdoor use. Outdoor learning is a big feature in our curriculum so comfortable shoes really help with this. We no longer have indoor shoes in school, this requirement was removed following Covid and there are no plans to reinstate. On gym days, children should come to school in appropriate sports wear such as joggers, tracksuits, leggings and shorts with trainers. There is no opportunity to change in school for gym. This was a Covid change we simply must keep. It has meant that we are able to spend more time in the gym and less time getting sorted and changed. Win, win!

Please do make use of our free swap shop in the school foyer. All clothes are in great condition and freshly laundered. This amazing facility is managed by our

Parent Council (Laurencekirk Primary Partnership) and it makes so much sense to reduce, reuse and recycle uniform.

### **School evaluation**

We would be interested to hear your feedback on the work of our school. I have included a link for a short survey and would be grateful for any thoughts before the end of the school day on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022**. This can be accessed below:

[Parent Feedback Form](#)

This feedback form asks for your thoughts on what we are doing well, how we could be better and your parents consultation preferences amongst other things. Thank you in advance for your time with this.

### **Next year 2022/2023**

Although we still have lots to achieve in school and many things to look forward to, I know that attentions are beginning to turn to next year. No decisions have been reached around class teachers for next session whilst I await further staffing updates from the Local Authority. I will of course share this information in due course. We do hope to host a move up afternoon where our children can meet their new teachers subject to our staffing complement being in place. I can confirm that our school roll is continually increasing and we will be creating a new class for session 2022/2023. This will take us from 14 classes to 15 classes. We are looking forward to meeting our new Primary One pupils this term also and welcoming them to the start of their journey with us.

Kind Regards  
Jill Smith  
Head Teacher