

THE FURNACE PRESS

Lochfyneside community newsletter



The Furnace Press is a collection of news, views and announcements submitted by members of the community and is published by Furnace Amenity Assoc which also owns and runs Furnace Village Hall as well as staging community events throughout the year.



*There is no set charge for **The Furnace Press** but your **donation** helps meet the cost of production.*

June 2017

LAURA, GEMMA AND NEIL TAKING PART IN THE GRUELLING 26 MILE LOCH LOMOND HIKE IN AID OF MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT.



Following the very sad loss of dad, Robert (Snowball) Young, Laura, Gemma and husband Neil wanted to do something to help fight the terrible disease that took him from them at such an early age. So they went into training to take part in the Macmillan Loch Lomond 26 mile Hike. So far, they have raised over £4,000 on their Just Giving page, which is a mark of the enormous respect and fondness felt for Snowball by those that knew him.

Donations are still coming in and anyone that wants to contribute can use the sponsor form in shop or go to Gemma's Just Giving page www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Gemma-Campbell19



*Don't miss the next
Furnace Bingo session
Friday June 30th 7.00
pm in the hall.*

FURNACE GALA 2017 FRI-SUN AUGUST 18-20th

Plans are well under way for this year's Gala Weekend. All your favourite events will be there and a few surprises too! So save the date and make sure you're around to enjoy the fun.

**Furnace Community
Council & Amenity
Association meeting
Thursday June 22nd
7.30 pm in Furnace Hall.
All are welcome to
attend and take part in
the meeting.**



Hello from Furnace Primary!

We can't quite believe that we have only three short weeks left until the end of this school session.

In early May our two P6 pupils spent the week at Benmore Outdoor Centre having a lot of fun, learning new skills and meeting new friends. Our topic this term is 'Under the Sea' and pupils have been visiting our local seashore and had a great day out at Loch Lomond Shores Sealife Centre. The ability to take our pupils on excursions to deepen their learning in different contexts is one of the many advantages of being a pupil in a small school.

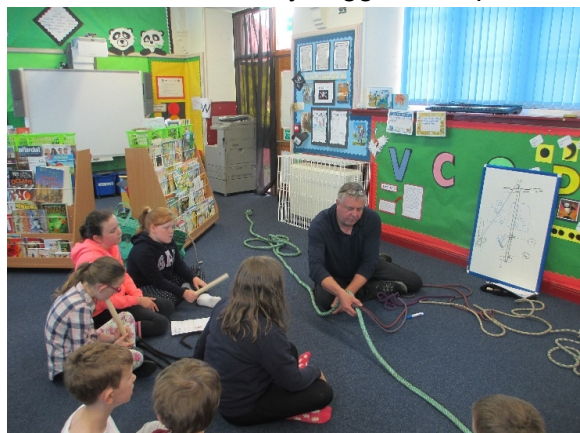
This month saw success for our pupils in the Mid Argyll Pupil Quiz. Marie and Jessica were part of the joint team which reached the semi-final before being 'pipped at the post' by Tayvallich Primary. It's not all about the winning and we were really proud that our pupils displayed great team work, enthusiasm and perfect manners throughout the competition.

Promoting outdoor learning and real life skills is important to us so we have been working with outdoor learning specialist Andy Craven this term. Last week pupils learned how to tie different knots and made a rope swing in the grounds of Minard Primary.

At the beginning of June a group of staff and parents all pitched in to run the children's activity tent at *Fyne Fest* to boost our school funds. Thanks to all who helped us out and to Elaine Polanski for involving us. Thanks to *Fyne Fest* our school trip at the end of term is now paid!



Our parent and child 'play and stay' group on Thursday afternoons "Furnace Under Fives" is still ongoing but sadly our numbers have really dropped over the past few months. As we have no funding for the group, we'll have to review whether we can keep the group going after the holidays. If any parent or carer would like us to continue or has any suggestions please do contact me at school any time.



Right now pupils are busy rehearsing for our upcoming summer play "Pantomime Pandemonium" which will be performed at Furnace Primary on Wednesday 21st June at 7pm – everybody welcome. Watch out for the ugly sisters 'Apple White' and 'Magnolia'!

This week we had a French visitor: Noemie, came along to teach our pupils a little bit about school in France. We had 'un petit déjeuner' of croissants and pain au chocolat to say thank you to Noemie for visiting. She was impressed by our pupils' knowledge of French and their accents.

Before the end of this session we are also going to have a school trip to Inveraray Castle and walk a part of the Leacainn Walk to promote knowledge and understanding of our local history and community. Our end of term treat will be a day of activities at Hunters' Quay Holiday Village. Prize giving will be at school on Friday 30th June at 9.30am when we will recognise our pupils' successes and achievements throughout the year.

On behalf of all of our pupils, staff and parents I'd like to record our thanks to the wider Furnace community for supporting our happy wee school this session and we look forward to working closely with the community in the Autumn 2017 term.

Have a great summer.

Robyn McIlroy
Head Teacher
Furnace Primary
8th June 2017



THE GREAT (FOREST) FIRE OF FURNACE



Around 6000 trees were destroyed in the forest fire that took hold within a few hundred yards of Bridge Terrace on Sat May 6th. Amazingly, the Leacainn Walk survived unscathed as a swathe of green amidst the charred forest.

Nature is already making a swift recovery with much of the black now hidden beneath the bright green of young ferns and bracken.

THE FURNACE MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT RAISES £1,120 FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



1 night, 3 murders and 24 seriously suspicious suspects.

The suspects all met in the Furnace bar to compare costumes before retiring to the 3 host houses to play the whodunnit game. Everyone had a hugely enjoyable evening and the total grew as fines were handed out for various misdemeanours.



KEEPING WELL IN FURNACE

Belly Dancing, Tai Chi, Badminton and Boccia are just a few of the activities tested for the fun factor by the Keep Well Furnace Group.

Arising out of discussions about health and how to keep well, the Group was originally intended to run for just six weeks, but members have agreed unanimously that they would like to keep it running indefinitely.

Helped out by a grant from the Windfarm microfund, we meet every Monday in the Furnace Village Hall. We start off with a half hour of gentle warm up exercises using therabands, aimed at improving flexibility and balance, and end with a cuppa, a well earned biscuit and a blether. In between are the taster sessions and the keynote is having fun whilst keeping well.



We don't plan too far in advance, but there will be a Tai Chi session on 19 June and there is no meeting on 26 June, as the Hall has a previous booking. There is the offer of a massage session on 7 August and most folk would like a return of the Belly Dance and the Boccia. We are looking into inviting other dance based exercise teachers, but any ideas will be taken up.

Everyone is welcome, just turn up on the day. 11.00 – 12.00 (approx.)

And no, that's not us, but it could be.....

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday Services

There will be a special service in Inveraray Parish church on **Sunday 18th June** for the Kirking of the Council. Representatives of Argyll and Bute Council will be taking part in the service which begins at 11 am. The church choir will be singing at the service.

On **Sunday 25th June** the morning service will be in Cumloddan Church at 10 am.

On **Sunday 2nd July**, being the first Sunday in the month, the service will be in Lochgair Church at 10 am.

On **Sunday 9th July** the morning service will be in Cumloddan Church at 10 am.

At 3 pm the monthly Gaelic service will take place in Lochgair Church at 3 pm. There will be tea following the service. Learners of Gaelic always welcome.

The morning service on **Sunday 16th July** will again be in Cumloddan Church at 10 am.

The service on **Sunday 23rd July** the service at 10 am will be in Cumloddan Church.

As there are five Sundays in the month the service on **Sunday 30th July** will be in Lochgair Church.

Presentation

Since they came to live at Firtree in Furnace, Charlie and Helen Brown have made an important contribution to the life of the church and the community. They have now moved to Dunoon. At a morning service in Cumloddan they were presented with gifts on behalf of the congregation. Helen was congregational treasurer and her place has been taken as treasurer by Wilf Stout. We are grateful for their support for the community and we wish them well in their new home.

GRANTS FOR HOME INSULATION FROM ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

Argyll and Bute Council can help with home insulation through a scheme called the Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland: Area Based Scheme (HEEPS: ABS) – which utilises Scottish Government funding to install insulation measures such as:

- Internal Wall Insulation
- External Wall Insulation
- Cavity Wall Insulation
- Loft Insulation
- Underfloor Insulation

The scheme is eligible for owner occupiers and private rented properties in Council Tax Band A-C (and D with an income of less than £20,000) – and is open throughout Argyll and Bute. Entry to the scheme is through Home Energy Scotland on **0808 808 2282**. The scheme can offer grants of up to £6,500 for flats, £7,000 for terraced properties and £7,500 for detached/semi-detached properties. The council are currently going out to tender for a contractor to deliver the scheme.

If you think you qualify and want to find out more then please contact

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