

## Parents as Partners

- At Birkhill we encourage parents, staff and pupils to work together in a number of ways. In the first term we have a 'Meet the Teacher' evening where parents can come to an informal meeting with their child's teacher.
- Parents help with our Healthy Eating Tuck-shop. Every week they buy the snacks and come in every morning to prepare the fruit for sale.
- Parents are regular helpers in classrooms for Golden Time and on school trips. They are also responsible for checking and organising the 'Maths Bags' for Primary 5. We have a parent who comes in once a week to work with the Junior Road Safety Officers. Parents are also involved with the cycling proficiency in P7.
- A Celebrating Success evening was held for parents and children in June 2007. The staff tutor for enterprise gave the opening speech and then families took part in a challenge to design a poster to encourage healthy eating. There was also time in the evening for parents to look around the hall at all the displays of events that had taken place over the course of the year. Children took part in dancing and karate displays with other groups playing the cello and recorder.
- Parents are invited to our school assemblies giving them an opportunity to see their child perform with their class and to hear what has been going on within the school community.
- In the first term, the parents from Primary 1 are invited in to have a school lunch with their child.
- The views of parents and pupils are sought through questionnaires and evaluations of events that have taken place, such as Health Week and information evenings. These help inform our practice for the future.
- We use a range of ways to inform parents about the work of the school. Newsletters, invitations to events, school board, PTA and information leaflets are a few of these.
- In November 2005, we held a Sex Education workshop evening for parents. This was run by Priscilla Webster, Health Promotion worker and Margaret McBride, Health Staff Tutor. Parents were given the opportunity to find out what is being taught at each stage and took part in a few activities designed to show parents the influences from the media.
- In November 2006, we held a Drugs and Alcohol Awareness evening for parents. The Web Project, alcohol counsellors and the Police were involved in this. They presented workshops and spoke to the parents, as well as giving out information and advice leaflets. The school also made leaflets to hand out to parents detailing what is being taught at each stage of the primary.

- In November 2008 we had a Child Exploitation Online Prevention presentation for parents. This was led by Bruce Martin from Forfar Academy.
- We have held a 'Health Week' for the last three years running and parents have played an active role in these events. They have helped with classroom and outdoor activities, bought and prepared all the food for our Tuck Shop Taster days and come in to give talks to the classes.
- This term we have been taking part in the 'Walkwise' scheme with Tayside Police. Four parents have come in to take the Primary 3 children out over three afternoons.
- We have two parents who run after school clubs. One takes guitar and the other basketball.
- At the nursery, we have parents who come in to help with snack and to read stories to the children.