Dear Parents/Carers

What a busy term we’re having with lots and lots going on. We’ve had author, Mary Turner Thomson, to help the children write their own book, we had a restful February break, one of our children won a voucher for a bike, the P6s & P7s are off to Lockerbie to mention but a few.

**STAFFING**

Mrs McLaren has secured a new part-time job at the Gypsy Traveller Education Group for half of the week, she is still teaching P5/6 for the other half, we all wish her well in her new job. We welcomed Miss O’Brien to join our Craigbank family to teach P5/6 for the rest of the time.

**CREDIT UNION**

Lanarkshire Credit Union project works with school to have our own Credit Union, on a Friday morning, this helps to teach children valuable employment and communication skills and building their confidence. We are able to do this thanks to parent helper, Mrs Orr who helps the children. This also encourages children and young people to be more financially aware helps give our young people a healthier attitude towards money and savings. If you would like to open a Credit Union account for your child please let us know and we will send home the form.

**PARENT COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Parent Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 26th March @ 6pm. Any parents who would like to come along are very welcome. We are looking to recruit new members to the parent council so that we can organise fun days and fundraising activities for the children.

**TASTE TUCKER TRIAL WINNER**

Last month the school meals service had a taste tucker trial tasting sessions every day to encourage the children to try different fruit and vegetables. The children who tried them every day were entered into a prize draw for a bike. We were very fortunate when Rebecca Dunsmore was selected as a prize-winner. She was presented with her voucher from the cook-in-charge Laura at a school assembly. Well done Rebecca.

**PARENT COUNCIL EASTER DISCOS**

The Parent Council are having two Easter Discos on Tuesday 16th April. P1-P3 are 6.15pm-7.15pm and P4-P7 are 7.30pm-8.30pm. The cost is £2 and the children will get a drink, a snack and an Easter treat.

**PARENTS’ NIGHTS**

Parents Nights is Thursday 21st March, your child has had a letter home about booking an appointment time, please return it to school as soon as possible. If you are unable to find the letter please let the school know. We look forward to seeing you on 21st March.

**AUTISM WORKSHOPS**

Autism Consultant Anne Love will be running four Parent Workshops. These workshops are a great way to find out all about autism, whether you have or know an autistic child or if you want to know how to help your child understand autism in others. The workshop dates are: Monday 25th March, Tuesday 23rd April, Tuesday 21st May and Tuesday 4th June.
Albert Einstein was a man considered to be a genius not only in his time but even now, as his name is often used to describe someone who has done something well. Here’s what you might not know about him though:

- He was a late speaker – so late his parents spoke to doctors!
- He was a late reader.
- He failed his college entrance exams first time around.

So how did he do what he did – let’s face it, he really was a genius in the fields of maths and physics. Well, to put it in his own words, Einstein often said it was not that he had a ‘natural intelligence’ but he had an **unceasing determination** to discover things! This determination would now be known as ‘growth mindset’. When faced with failure he tried again and again and again! I think he is my new hero!

> “Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.”
> Albert Einstein

The only guarantee you have with your children is that they will make mistakes – both in their learning and their actions. It is incredibly important that we teach our pupils that mistakes are a part of this learning process by doing 3 things:

- **Normalising mistakes:** remind your child that mistakes are all a part of learning and that they should not be afraid to make them. Even as adults, we make mistakes every day: it is what we do NEXT that really counts!
- **Value mistakes as learning opportunities:** talk to your child about how they made the mistake, what went wrong, what would they do differently next time? Einstein said that the true definition of insanity was “**doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result**”. Help your child to see something a different way and try again!
- **Coach them through the mistakes:** above all, please don’t tell your child why it is wrong, but help them to figure it out by themselves through discussion, questioning, reviewing what they did – whatever works best! Telling them why they are wrong and then moving on limits any kind of learning opportunity and prevents any kind of resilience in our children, who will now think they are always wrong but don’t know why or how they can fix it!

Our children need to know mistakes are natural and nothing to fear, but something to embrace!

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**Spotlight on Improvement**

**GROWTH MINDSET MANTRA FOR MARCH: MISTAKES ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING**

> “The most valuable thing you can make is a mistake. You don’t learn anything from being perfect.”
> Adam Osborne

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### Dates for Your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15th March - 18th March</td>
<td>P6 &amp; P7 Lockerbie</td>
<td>Leaving 1.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>Parents’ Appointments</td>
<td>3.30pm - 8.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th March</td>
<td>Autism Workshop with Anne Love</td>
<td>6.30pm-8.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th March</td>
<td>Parent Council Meeting</td>
<td>6.00pm - 8.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th March</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>School closes 2.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th April</td>
<td>School Re-opens after holiday</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th April</td>
<td>Parent Council Easter Discos</td>
<td>P1-P3 6.15-7.15 P4-P7 7.30-8.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th April - 22nd April</td>
<td>School closed for Easter</td>
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PARENT'S GUIDE TO A GROWTH MINDSET

Your brain is like a muscle. When you learn, your brain grows. The feeling of it being hard is the feeling of your brain growing!

PRAISE

* FOR:
  - EFFORT
  - STRATEGIES
  - PROGRESS
  - HARD WORK
  - PERSISTENCE
  - RISING TO A CHALLENGE
  - LEARNING FROM A MISTAKE

NOT FOR:

- TALENT
- BEING SMART
- BORN GIFTED
- FIXED ABILITIES
- NOT MAKING MISTAKES

THE POWER OF "YET"

SAY

"YOU CAN'T DO IT YET."
"YOU DON'T KNOW IT YET."
"IF YOU LEARN AND PRACTICE, YOU WILL!"

BRAINS can GROW

MY INTELLIGENCE, TALENTS, and ABILITIES are FIXED.

I CAN DEVELOP MY INTELLIGENCE, TALENTS, and ABILITIES

VS

GROWTH MINDSET

FAILURES AND MISTAKES - LEARNING

SAY

"MISTAKES HELP YOU IMPROVE."
"YOU CAN LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES."
"LET'S SEE WHAT OTHER STRATEGIES YOU CAN TRY."

RECOGNIZE YOUR OWN MINDSET

BE MINDFUL OF YOUR OWN THINKING AND THE MESSAGES YOU SEND WITH YOUR WORDS AND ACTIONS.

ASK

"WHAT DID YOU DO TODAY THAT MADE YOU THINK HARD?"
"WHAT NEW STRATEGIES DID YOU TRY?"
"WHAT MISTAKE DID YOU MAKE THAT TAUGHT YOU SOMETHING?"
"WHAT DID YOU TRY THAT WAS HARD TODAY?"

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