Dear Parent/Carer,

We are now into our second month of the year already and as always there a number of pieces of information to pass on to you.

**FEBRUARY BREAK**
Just a reminder that Noss Primary School will be closed to pupils on Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd February with the Wednesday being an in-service day for staff.

There will be a slight change to the school lunch menu when the school re-opens after the February break (Week 4). On Thursday 23rd February the lunch choices will be sausage dog on a roll or filled wrap and on Friday 24th February the choices will be pizza or tomato saucy pasta.

**PRIMARY 7 FUNDRAISING**
Primary 7 pupils have done an excellent job of fundraising for their trip to Loch Insh. The Non Uniform day raised £753 and the Bring and Buy sale raised £610. Thank you also to the School Parent Council for their donation of £500 towards the trip.

**MUSIC FESTIVAL VERSE SPEAKING**
The Caithness Music Festival takes place from Monday 12th to Friday 16th June 2017. We have received copies of the poems for each of the verse speaking categories.

Pupils must ask the school office for a copy of the poem if they are interested in participating. Due to the small numbers of pupils in each class who perform a poem, the learning and recital of the poem must be done at home. Parents must also undertake the transport of pupils for individual entries to and from the venue.

Please inform the school office by Friday 3rd March, enclosing a £3.00 entry fee, if your child wishes to enter the festival for the verse speaking class.

**ROAD SAFETY POSTER**
Thanks to the many pupils who took part in our road safety poster competition. It was very difficult to choose winning pictures from the many entries but after much deliberation the posters of the following pupils were chosen.

**PRIMARY 1:** 1st Jolee Statham, RUNNERS UP: Amelija Bradauskaite and Ryan Mackenzie
**PRIMARY 2 and 3:** 1st Nebi Senguler, RUNNERS UP: Sophie Budge and Emily Webster
**PRIMARY 4 and 5:** 1st Amy Groat, RUNNERS UP Emily Anderson and Glyn Steven
**PRIMARY 6 and 7:** 1st Isla Farquhar, RUNNERS UP: Keira Gunn and Erin McNeill

All the pupils’ posters will be displayed in the school. A picture of the prizewinners will also appear on the school blog.

**ROAD SAFETY ISSUES**
Could I once again ask parents who transport their children to and from school by car to think carefully about where they park their car – this is particularly the case at pick up time at the end of the school day. It is **NOT** appropriate or sensible to park

a) on or near road crossings for pupils  
b) on corners  
c) over driveways or entrances to houses.  
This appears to be a particular problem in Ackergill Street.

**PENCIL CASE DESIGN CHALLENGE**
Well done to all the pupils who returned a model made with items you would find in a child’s pencil case. The pupils have managed to come up with some very interesting designs and these are now on show in the display cabinet in the school. Pupils and staff are enjoying looking at all the different models. We are still happy to accept any further models for display in the cabinet.
**WIZARD OF NOZZ**
We hope that you are all proceeding with the Wizard of Nozz scheme. Reading books independently or being read to, is a vital part of improving and being able to read. Research has shown that books contain 50% more rare words than prime time television. Well done if you are keeping up to date with the Wizard of Nozz scheme.

**HEAD LICE**
Please continue to be vigilant for any visitors which may lurk in your child’s hair. Head lice are small (adult lice are the size of a sesame seed) grey-brown insects that live only on human scalps. They can affect anyone, with long or short hair, no matter how clean the hair is. Parents should check their child’s hair regularly – once a week. The most likely evidence of lice infestation is the small white eggs which can be found close to the scalp particularly around the ears and on the back of the neck. However they may be anywhere on the head. A pharmacist will advise on treatments available if you do discover any of these signs.

**PARENT/CARER MEETINGS**
Parent/carer meetings take place on Tuesday 14th February between 3.30 pm and 6.00 pm and Wednesday 15th February between 6.00 pm and 9.00 pm. Parent meeting times have been sent home with your child. Please check your child’s schoolbag for this information.

**PARENT COUNCIL FUNDRAISER**
The Parent Council have made up a Noss Primary School Anagram Quiz sheet. The sheets are £1.00 and are available from the school office. Completed forms should be returned to the school office, FAO-Mrs F Thain, by Friday 10th March and one winning entry will receive £20. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to Parent Council Funds.

**NURSERY ENROLMENT**
Nursery enrolment takes place in the week beginning Monday 13th February. The enrolment process can be done online at [www.highland.gov.uk/schoolenrolment](http://www.highland.gov.uk/schoolenrolment) or paper copies can be obtained from the school or Nursery office during enrolment week.

**WORLD BOOK DAY**
World Book Day takes place on March the 2nd 2017. We are hopeful that all pupils will receive a £1 World Book Day token. A School Book Fair will be held around this date and pupils will be able to use their token at the fair. Further details about the fair will be sent to parents separately.

**CAITHNESS SCIENCE FESTIVAL WEEK**
The Caithness Science Festival takes place in the week beginning Monday 13th March. Further information about this will be sent home when we receive it. A number of classes in the infant department have already been involved in taking photographs for a Science Festival competition.

**CLASS PHOTOS**
Tempest Photography will be in school to take whole class photos on Tuesday 28th March 2017. If you do not wish your child to be photographed in the class picture then please put this in writing to the class teacher.

**ADVERSE WEATHER**
The Highland Council website, local radio, the school telephone message line and Facebook page will all be used as means of communication to parents during difficult weather periods. The final decision on whether it is appropriate for a child to attend school remains with the parent/carer.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**
**Monday 20th February, Tuesday 21st February and Wednesday 22nd February:** School closed with Wednesday being an In-Service day for staff.
**Monday 20th March-Friday 24th March:** Primary 7 trip to Loch Insh Outdoor Activity Centre.
**Wednesday 5th April:** Last day at school before the Easter holidays.
**Monday 24th April:** School re-opens after Easter holidays.
**Monday 1st May:** School closed for May Day holiday.
**Thursday 4th May:** School closed to pupils for staff in-service day.

Yours faithfully,

A J BUDGE, Headteacher