Our school cares for all its pupils and encourages, supports and challenges them to be the best they can be. High Mill is a school that works to give children best learning opportunities now and for the future.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Term Three is off to a very good start. The days are passing quickly. The children have full and interesting timetables and the staff are working hard to deliver engaging and effective teaching and learning. The children are enjoying their studies about Scotland and are looking forward to some new arrivals.

Talking about new arrivals, we would all like to send our congratulations to Miss Ross. She and her partner are now the proud parents of Mia Jane, who arrived on January 14th weighing in at over nine pounds.

**Teaching and Learning**
All children are following their programmes for Numeracy, Literacy, Health and Well Being. The Health and Well Being topics include anti smoking and drug awareness. Every class has also been involved in studying aspects of Scotland and we hope you can come along to the Scottish Showcase on Friday February 5th at 1.30pm.

Here is more about what our classes will be are learning:-

**Primary 1**  Spanish; The Farm; Chinese New Year  
**Primary 2/3**  Spanish; Weather; Clyde in the Classroom  
**Primary 3/4**  Spanish; The Vikings; Clyde in the Classroom  
**Primary 5/6**  Spanish; The Jacobites; Fairtrade Enterprise; Chinese New Year  
**Primary 6/7**  Spanish; Scottish Parliament; World War1; Chinese New Year

Our children with ASPs (Additional Support Plan) and SMART targets are being regularly supported and evaluate their targets. Children also regularly consider their Personal Learning Plans.

**New Arrivals**
Mrs Mutch and all of P3 are involved in leading a project named Clyde In the Classroom. The children visited the Science Centre in Glasgow in January and found out about the life cycle and habitat of brown trout. They also learned about The Clyde and how to care for brown trout eggs rearing them ready for release into the river.

We now have a hatchery in the main entrance where it is cool as this is necessary for the health of the eggs and young fish. The fish eggs are due to arrive mid February. P3 will be responsible for the fish. They will be learning with the rest of the school and children from Victoria Park. Hopefully the children will give a presentation to parents/carers about their project.

**Euro Quiz**
The children of P6/7 are studying for the first round eliminator of the Euro Quiz to be held at the end of February. There is a lot of studying to do and the whole class are involved. Those children who have intimated that they would like to represent the school are currently involved in a lunch
time and after school study group. The final team has still to be selected. We wish them well.

**Rugby**
The children of P3 and P4 all took part in a rugby taster session. They had a fantastic time and we are now running an after school club for 3 weeks to further build their skills. This club is free. The School Funds will pay the £20 for each session. The last session is on Tuesday 2nd February.

**Pupil Survey 2015-16**
The HT has worked with all classes over the past weeks to give pupils the opportunity to talk about issues such as friendship, feeling safe and bullying. The children's response to the question - "Do you feel safe at school?" was very positive. All but two children said they do feel safe at the school and the problems of the two children have been addressed.

A small number of children felt that over the session they had had a friendship problem, but that all of these issues had been sorted. The same was true of the 11 pupils who said they had felt bullied. They felt their problems had been dealt with. We have a small number of children who have the support of senior pupils who are Buddies and have regular meetings with myself. Children seem more able to appreciate the difference between a friendship “fall out” and bullying and we all shared that we always have to tell someone we trust if we have any worries. It is important to appreciate that what would mean nothing to most children can make someone else feel unhappy or worried. Each situation needs to be dealt with looking at the whole child and their circumstances.

An area we will look at further this term is Social Networking and how children access and use the Internet. This was an area our older pupils, in particular, had lots to say about. While there are the obvious and well publicised dangers of who you share information with on-line, it is also important that children and parents/carers appreciate the impact of fall outs with friends while on-line. Classes will discuss these issues further.

**Scottish Schools Of Co-operation**
We have been working with CETS - Co-operative Education Trust Scotland. We are working to achieve an award marking us as a School of Co-operation. We can achieve it by ensuring we meet certain criteria, e.g. demonstrating evidence of having a positive school ethos, our pupils having a voice that is listened to and taken into account, that we operate in a democratic, co-operative and inclusive way with each other, we involve ourselves in understanding Fair trade and we look after others both at home and abroad.

These things are nothing new. We have many in place and these are on-going parts of school life. Working with CETS simply helps us bring these various things together, see how they support each other and build on good practice. We will let you know how things are going.

**Going For Green**
Our Going for Green Assembly was very successful. Thank you to all parents/carers and friends who attended. Going for Green is based on the principles of Better Behaviour, Better Learning. This aims to see children behave well and give themselves and others best learning opportunities. We are having a short break and using our Credit Shop to reward Green behaviour. We start back on Going for Green on 15th February and this will last till mid June. Stay on Green and you achieve GOLD, up to five times off Green SILVER and up to seven times BRONZE. We have high expectations of pupils' behaviour and to achieve GOLD is fantastic. Teachers have a responsibility to ensure children are given encouragement and best chances to succeed and parents and carers can check how their child has done by looking at their Homework Diary. Please find attached a reminder of Going for Green colours.

**In The News**
The Education Newsletter is a publication that goes out to schools. Part of it is dedicated to celebrating successes in our schools. Schools submit articles for consideration. We appear in this week's Newsletter and this is to celebrate the excellent work done by Mrs Welsh and P6/7 on the subject of Remembrance. You can see the article at the Main Entrance.
**Bikeability**
P5 children have been given the opportunity to be involved in Cycling Safety. The first session is on 12th February at 2pm. Children should bring their bikes to school that day. It is advisable to have a cycle helmet. Mrs Girdwood will deliver this training.

**P7 Transition**
P7 will have two mornings of Science delivered by Amber Gracie, CHS Science Teacher. (12th and 19th February). This will take place in school.

Christine Hope, Languages Teacher from CHS, will be delivering Spanish to our Senior pupils in March.

**Parent Council**
The Parent Council are currently getting information together about the Gala Day and will be contacting all parents/carers with details.

**Scottish Recitations**
Children will be reciting their poems this week. Winners will perform at the Scottish Showcase on Friday 5th February. Doors open at 1.30pm.

**Pupils In Pinnies**
We are in the throes of organising a fundraising day on 22nd February. This will be to raise money for "Team Erin" and Cancer Research. Our P6 boys will play an essential role. They will be our Pupils in Pinnies and will help serve a Big Boys Breakfast running from 9.15am -10.30am, Brunch for pupils 10am -10.30 and an afternoon Bistro running from 1.45pm -2.30pm. The menus will be simple and still have to be finalised. All parents, carers and friends from the community are welcome.

**Rag Bag Collection**
There will be a collection on Tuesday 16th February. If you have items for this collection, please bring them in to the school by Monday 15th February. Clothes, paired shoes, handbags, etc

**Credit Union**
This successful saving scheme runs on a Wednesday morning and pupils can bring money to add to their savings account then. Any new savers very welcome.

**Headlice**
Please check your child's head regularly and if you need any advice contact the Health Centre.

**Treat Me Well**
Staff have also been refreshing their understanding of ‘Treat Me Well’, South Lanarkshire Council’s Anti Bullying guidelines. This is available on South Lanarkshire’s website, school website and hard copies are available in school.

There is also ‘National Approach to anti Bullying’ from the Scottish Government.

Marion Girdwood
Head Teacher
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 3rd</td>
<td>After school football club. Same children as before. 3pm-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 5th</td>
<td>Scottish Showcase. All parents and families welcome. Doors open 1.30pm</td>
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<td>Dental Checks-Ups for P1 and P7</td>
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<td>CREDIT SHOP – last day.</td>
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<td>Feb 8th</td>
<td>HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>Feb 9th</td>
<td>HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>Feb 10th</td>
<td>DEVELOPMENT DAY. Children should not attend.</td>
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<td>NO AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL</td>
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<td>Feb 12th</td>
<td>Bikeability P5 - must have returned permission slip and have bike in</td>
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<td>No assembly</td>
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<td>Feb 15th</td>
<td>Going for Green begins.</td>
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<td>Feb 16th</td>
<td>Rag Bag Collection</td>
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<td>P1 – P4 Fluoride Varnish     am</td>
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<td>Euro Quiz afterschool club - last week 3pm-4pm</td>
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<td>Feb 17th</td>
<td>Netball Festival – 10am – 12 noon - Leisure Centre</td>
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<td>Afterschool Football Club - 3pm-4pm</td>
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<td>Feb 18th</td>
<td>Football John Cumming Stadium - Early lunch - 12.30pm – 2.15pm</td>
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<td>Feb 22nd</td>
<td>PUPILS IN PINNIES - MORE INFO TO FOLLOW</td>
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<td>Feb 26th</td>
<td>Rota Kids - RotaKids Convention Livingston</td>
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<td>Bikeability</td>
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