



Blacklaw Primary Newsletter February 2017

www.blacklaw-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk tel 01355 232064



Dear Parents/Carers

Scottish Assembly



We hope you enjoyed our recent Scottish Assembly. Congratulations to all of the pupils who participated. A great achievement! Grateful thanks to Mr. Roddy Shanks our piper. Thank you to Ruth and Kiera from our pupil council who worked alongside Mrs Speirs, their peers and school staff, in organising such a fantastic event. The fantastic sum of £70.51 was raised for Comfort and Joyce from the sale of 'cuppas'. Many thanks to Karen at the Co-op Petrol Station, St. Leonards for the kind donation of shortbread.

We were overwhelmed again with the number of family and friends who attended. Based on the number of slips that were returned to the school we had planned to accommodate 220 adults/guests, however an additional 150 guests attended. This resulted in a delayed start and the doors between the gym and lunch hall having to be removed to accommodate the additional numbers. I am aware that some parents who had indicated their attendance had to stand throughout the assembly, and that our school staff did try to arrange additional seating/space where possible. We do intend to look at limiting the number of guests per family to ensure that all guests can be seated in the space available.

I would also ask that guests respect the 'reserved' seating areas and refrain from sitting in these seats unless permitted by a member of staff.

Thank you

Many thanks to Shona and her team at Morrisons, Lindsayfield for their kind donation of mince pies served to our visitors at Christmas.

Communication

It has been brought to my attention that some parents are not receiving whole school letters when they have been issued to pupils. Whole school letters are distributed to the 'eldest' and 'only' pupils in the school. In order to ensure that parents receive letters on time we will now send all 'whole school letters', which do not include a 'tear-off' response slip via email to all parents who receive our newsletters by email. Class newsletters will also be sent by email. Permission letters for school trips, after school clubs etc will still be sent by 'hard copy'.



We will also highlight on our school website whenever a whole school or class trip/class event letter is issued. I hope that this will assist in ensuring that parents receive information about events happening within the school more readily.

Learning Showcase

We look forward to welcoming you to our Learning Showcase (open afternoon) event on Friday 17 February 2017.

More details regarding this event will follow in a separate letter.



School Improvement Plan

To support our action plan to raise attainment in literacy we have purchased a new version of Nelson Grammar for pupils in Primary 3-7. Our writing working will be devising a progressive skills planner linked to this resource.

Due to the commission we received from our book fayres we have been able to purchase novels to support guided reading in Primary 4-7.



We will also be purchasing some new TeeJay maths textbooks to support teaching and learning at First and Second Level in Numeracy/Maths.

Pupil Absence/Appointments



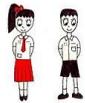
Please be reminded that any absences should be reported by telephone **each day before 9.30 a.m.** and explained by letter to the class teacher on your child's return to school. Hospital/Doctor/Dental appointments or holidays taken during term time should be notified by **letter to the class teacher.**

Stamps

Just to remind you that one of our parents is still saving stamps for Macmillan Cancer Support. We would appreciate if you could save stamps from envelopes and send them into the school and we will pass them on. Thank you.



School Uniform



We will be contacting our uniform suppliers to request that they attend our Parent Evenings in March. We will keep you informed.

After School Clubs

Please be reminded that if your child cannot attend an after school club we **must** have notification from the parent either by telephone to the school office or by a note in their homework diary. **It is not sufficient for the child to come and tell the office staff.** If your child decides to leave a club please notify the school by letter. Thank you.



Supervision - Doors Open



Please be aware that there is no supervision in the school before **8.50 a.m.** Please refrain from sending your child/children in to school before this time. Thank you.

Gym Shoes

Pupils in Primary 2 to Primary 7 may bring 'clean white soled' trainers to school for P.E. These trainers should be kept in school and only be used for P.E. or indoor after school activities. All pupils will still be expected to change from their outdoor shoes into black plimsoles, before they enter their classroom.



Being Ready for School



Please can you ensure that your child comes prepared for school with the correct equipment. All pupils should bring a sharp pencil, rubber, ruler, homework diary and reading book each day.

Homework

We would value your support in ensuring that your child completes all homework on a regular basis. This includes practising reading.



Hand Washing



Recently a lot of children have been off school with sickness bugs. Please remind you child/children to wash their hands after visiting the toilet to avoid transfer of germs.

Thank you.

Dogs in Playground

I would like to remind you that all dogs should be kept outside the school gates when collecting your children. Thank you.



Head Lice

All our pupils have been reminded of the importance of regular Bugbusting. Please support us by regularly checking your child's hair.



Head lice are well camouflaged and hide when disturbed by combing. They do not always cause itching, particularly when recently arrived on the head. They may also be few in number and a quick inspection is unlikely to detect them. The following method of detection is effective:

- Wash the hair using ordinary shampoo, then use a wide toothed comb to straighten and untangle the hair. It is easier to do this with wet hair, and using hair conditioner.
- Once the comb moves freely through the hair, without dragging, switch to a fine tooth comb. Make sure the teeth of the comb slot into the hair at the roots and draw down to the ends of the hair with every stroke. The comb must be fine enough to catch the lice -size indicated below -do not confuse lice or their eggs with clumps of dandruff or other debris.
- Check the comb for lice after each stroke as you work through the hair section by section, so that the whole head of hair is combed through, then rinse out the conditioner and repeat the combing procedure in the wet hair.
- This can be undertaken on a regular basis -eg at routine hair washing sessions -to detect the presence of lice before they can spread. Check all family members at the same time and arrange treatment when lice are found. If you find lice, then there are two options. Whichever option you choose it is important to recognise that neither will protect against re-infection if head to head contact is made with someone with head lice at a later date. You may therefore wish to undertake occasional checks during hair washing sessions.

Option 1: Lotions and creme rinses using insecticides

Do not use lotions or rinses unless you find a living moving louse. Check all close family/friends by the "wet combing" method, as described, and treat anyone who is found to have lice at the same time, to prevent re-infection.

Option 2: The "Bug Busting" treatment method

This aims at systematic removal of live lice by combing through the hair and physically removing any lice found. Success depends largely upon adopting a painstaking approach.

Bug Buster: Help Line: 020 7686 4321

Internet: www.chc.org/bugbusting www.nits.net

Responsible Citizens



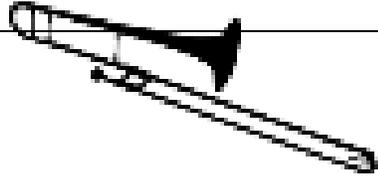
Brass Tuition

I play the French horn which I like because it makes a really loud sound and you can make lots of different noises. I like brass instruments!

By Adam Primary 5 Room 7

I play the trombone, I think it is cool because you can blow into it and make funny noises!

By Calum Primary 5 Room 7



P5 YMI Music

As you know Mrs. Dolan has been teaching us about music like pulse and rhythm. We practised lots of songs and learned new notes. We even learned 'Star Wars' which we played at our show along with lots of other great songs. During our class time with Mrs. Dolan we were asked to do some 'note sums' which was hard but fun. We came second out of 28 schools in this competition and got 64%.

By Robyn and Olivia Primary 5 Room 7



Confident Individuals

Diary

Wednesday 1 February	Gardening Club - 3.00 p.m. Badminton League - Ally McCoist Centre - 4.00 p.m.
Thursday 2 February	Netball Club - 3.00 p.m. Euroquiz Club - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 3 February	Awards Assembly - 9.30 a.m. Football Club - 3.00 p.m.
Monday 6 February	Lunchtime Choir Scripture Union - 3.00 p.m. Athletics - 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 7 February	P4 to Dollan Aqua Centre Knitting Club - 3.00 p.m. Homework Club - 3.00 p.m. Dance Club - 3.00 p.m.
Wednesday 8 February	Badminton Club - 3.00 p.m. Gardening Club - 3.00 p.m.
Thursday 9 February	Netball Club - 3.00 p.m. Euroquiz Club - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 10 February	Football Club - 3.00 p.m.
Monday 13 February	School Holiday
Tuesday 14 February	School Holiday
Wednesday 15 February	In Service
Thursday 16 February	Netball Club - 3.00 p.m. Euroquiz Club - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 17 February	Learning Showcase (open afternoon) Football Club - 3.00 p.m.
Monday 20 February	Lunchtime Choir Scripture Union - 3.00 p.m. Athletics - 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 21 February	P4 to Dollan Aqua Centre Knitting Club - 3.00 p.m. Homework Club - 3.00 p.m. Dance Club - 3.00 p.m.
Wednesday 22 February	Football Festival - Ballerup - 12.15 p.m. Badminton Club - 3.00 p.m. Gardening Club - 3.00 p.m.
Thursday 23 February	Euroquiz Heat - 9.30 a.m. Netball Festival - Stewartfield - 12.15 p.m. Netball Club - 3.00 p.m. Euroquiz Club - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 24 February	R.O. Assembly - 9.15 a.m. Football Club - 3.00 p.m.
Monday 27 February	Lunchtime Choir Scripture Union - 3.00 p.m. Athletics - 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 28 February	P4 to Dollan Aqua Centre Knitting Club - 3.00 p.m. Homework Club - 3.00 p.m. Dance Club - 3.00 p.m.
Wednesday 1 March	Badminton Club - 3.00 p.m. Gardening Club - 3.00 p.m. Parent Council Meeting - 7.00 p.m.

Yours sincerely

Noreen Black
Head Teacher