



Blacklaw Primary Newsletter January 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

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



A very Happy New Year to you all from everyone here at Blacklaw. We hope 2017 will be a year of peace, prosperity, health and happiness. At Blacklaw we will continue to place the needs of our pupils and their families at the heart of our work. We look forward to your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions/queries or concerns.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported all of our Christmas activities and events. December is always a busy month, as everyone begins to prepare for Christmas. Our events were very well supported by the school community. Your support and attendance at our events was very much appreciated. Thank you also for your contributions to our Let us Shine project and Cash for Kids at our Christmas Enterprise activities.



P.T.A. Thank You



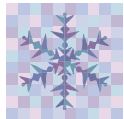
We wish to thank our P.T.A. for their support and hard work over our Christmas activities. The Christmas Fayre was a huge success. Their fundraising work helped fund the pupils Pantomime treat.

Wintry Weather Conditions

Although the weather at present is mild, except for the heavy rain and wind, communication is the key. If you wish to be included in our school communication network please provide your e-mail address and mobile phone number on the slip included in this newsletter. This term we will endeavour to update our school website and this will enable us to give you notice of any exceptional closures and special events.



Gritting - Ice/Snow



During freezing weather, a programme of gritting will be initiated by the school janitor in consultation with myself and support services. This will be sufficient to enable operations to be carried out safely within the school grounds and particular attention will be paid to pedestrian walkways and areas where vehicle risk may be present due to reasons of speed adverse slope/camber, cornering requirements or stopping areas. When significant snowfall occurs an assessment of snow clearance will be made and appropriate action will be taken bearing in mind the above risk factors and any others that may arise.

Mobile Phones

It is not necessary for pupils to bring mobile phones to school, as our office staff are happy to contact you if required or take important messages on your behalf. **Please keep all mobile phones at home.** Any child who brings a mobile phone to school shall be instructed to switch it off throughout the school day and hand it into the school office until 3.00 p.m. We would greatly appreciate your support with this necessary request.



Parking



May I remind parent/carers who are dropping off or picking up children to only park in the designated parking bays and not the parking spaces reserved for staff only. Please note that the parking bays at the front entrance of the school building are often used for buses/ coaches to pick up or drop off pupils on school excursions. We would ask that parents refrain from parking in these bays when bus/coach access is required. This is to ensure that pupils embark/disembark safely.

Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council Meeting is on Tuesday 17 January at 7pm. Meetings are open to all members of the Parent Forum. Please contact the school by telephone if you wish to attend.



Ardentinny

Our Primary 7 pupils will attend Ardentinny Residential Centre from Monday 18 September until Thursday 21 September 2017. The cost of this visit will be £186 (including £6 tuck money) which includes coach and ferry crossing costs. The initial deposit of £30.00 to secure a place was payable by Friday 16 June. The remainder can then be paid in instalments and completed by Friday 1 September 2017.



Enrolment of New Beginners

Registration of infant beginners starting in August will take place from **9.30 - 11.30 a.m.** on **Monday 16, Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 January 2017**. Children who attain the age of 5 between 1 March 2017 and 28 February 2018 should be registered. **Parents** should register their child and present the child's **full** birth certificate (abbreviated certificate not accepted), along with 2 items of proof of residency (e.g. utility bill, council tax statement, housing rent card).



Transfer to High School

For those whose children are transferring to High School, transition paperwork will be issued this week. Please ensure that completed forms are returned to the school by Friday 13 January 2017.



Request to Remain



During the school year some families move house in the local area. If you move house, please can you inform the school of your new address with two proofs of residency as soon as possible. Please also check if your new home address is still within the catchment area for Blacklaw Primary School. If the address is not within the catchment area, then a 'Request to Remain' form will need to be completed. These can be obtained from the school office.

Parent Consultation Evenings

We have organised parent teacher interviews to take place on Wednesday 15 March from 6.00 - 7.30 p.m. and Thursday 16 March from 3.30 - 5.30 p.m. There will be further information sent out by letter towards the end of the month.



Supporting Outdoor Learning

Can you help? Our plastic greenhouse has now been erected, however we are still in need of 2 litre sized plastic bottles to fill in the gaps in the greenhouse frame. If you have any clear plastic bottles please can you wash them out, remove the label and bottle lid and bring them into the school. We require about 200 additional bottles. Thank you for your support.



Gym Shoes

Please check your child's gym shoes. We have noticed some shoes are quite worn or getting tight for children. Please replace where necessary. Thank you.



Charities/Citizenship



As part of our global citizenship commitment over the course of the school year the school community supports various charities. Your generosity has benefited many causes. The children not only gain an awareness of the needs of others but also the knowledge that they can help them. This can be done by small individual donations. To enable us to continue to support a variety of causes please be assured we would ask only that a small offering is donated. Thank you.

Our Christmas stamps collection was forwarded to Cash for Kids to the benefit of £7.40.

Our 'Let Us Shine' and 'Cash for Kids' charities benefited by £72.24 each from our enterprising Coffee

Mornings on 13th and 15th December when the Pupil Council and Primary 4 Room 6 pupils hosted the event organising and serving at tables. Funds were also raised from the collection taken at the Christmas service. It was lovely to see so many friends and family members staying behind for a mince pie and tea/coffee after our Nativity performances.

Diary

Monday 9 January 2017	School re-opens 9.00 a.m.
Tuesday 10 January	P4 to Dollan Aqua Centre
Friday 13 January	Sports Hall Athletics - John Wrights Sports Centre
Monday 16 January	Infant Registration 9.30- 11.30 a.m. Lunchtime Choir Scripture Union - 3.00 p.m. Athletics Club - 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 17 January	Infant Registration 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. P4 to Dollan Aqua Centre Knitting Club - 3.00 p.m. Homework Club - 3.00 p.m. Parent Council Meeting - 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 18 January	Infant Registration 9.30- 11.30 a.m. YMi Music Performance for P5 parents/carers - 11.30 a.m. Badminton Club - 3.00 p.m. Gardening Club - 3.00 p.m.
Thursday 19 January	Netball Festival - Stewartfield Netball Club - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 20 January	R.O. Assembly - 9.15 a.m. Football Club - 3.00 p.m.
Monday 23 January	P1 & P7 Dental Inspections Lunchtime Choir Scripture Union - 3.00 p.m. Athletics Club - 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 24 January	P4 to Dollan Aqua Centre Knitting Club - 3.00 p.m. Homework Club - 3.00 p.m. P.T.A. Meeting - 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 25 January	Badminton Club - 3.00 p.m. Gardening Club - 3.00 p.m.
Thursday 26 January	Netball Club - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 27 January	Scottish Assembly - 9.30 a.m. Football Club - 3.00 p.m.
Monday 30 January	Lunchtime Choir Scripture Union - 3.00 p.m. Athletics Club - 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday 31 January	P4 to Dollan Aqua Centre Knitting Club - 3.00 p.m. Homework Club - 3.00 p.m.
Wednesday 1 February	Badminton Club - 3.00 p.m. Gardening Club - 3.00 p.m. Badminton League - Ally McCoist Centre - 4.00 - 6.00 p.m.
Thursday 2 February	Netball Club - 3.00 p.m.
Friday 3 February	Awards Assembly - 9.30 a.m. Football Club - 3.00 p.m.

Yours sincerely

Noreen Black
Head Teacher