



Blacklaw Primary Newsletter January 2018



Dear Parents/Carers

www.blacklaw-primary-lanark.sch.uk tel 01355 232064



A very Happy New Year to you all from everyone here at Blacklaw. We hope 2018 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.



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 'Cash for Kids' charity benefited by £140.00 from our enterprising coffee mornings on 12 and 14 December and from our Christmas Stamp collection and from our dress down 'Christmas jumper' day.

Our 'Let Us Shine' charity benefited by £61.50 from our coffee mornings and Room 9 enterprise 'North Pole Rock & Roll'. Kilbryde Hospice also benefited by £29.00 also from our Room 9 enterprise. 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.

'Smarties Challenge'

The Pupil Council would like to say a huge thank you to everyone (mums, dads, grans, granddads, friends of the family and school) who took part in our 'Smarties Challenge' to raise funds for Comfort and Joyce to continue their education at Kpandai School in Ghana. A cheque for a fantastic £1,000 was accepted by a delighted Dr. Mary Higgins, representative of the 'Let Us Shine' charity at our Christmas service. She will be visiting the school in Ghana in February with a small additional gift of 'Soap & Glory' products for the girls in her suitcase. What a super result!



P.T.A. Thank You



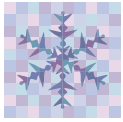
We wish to thank our P.T.A. for their support and hard work over our Christmas activities. The Christmas Fayre was a huge success raising a fantastic £1,200. Their fundraising work helped fund the pupils Pantomime treat, and will be used to support/fund other activities later on in this session.

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 be using our school website to 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. Please also remember to switch off your engines in line with our 'engine idling' guidelines.

Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council Meeting is on Tuesday 16 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 Ardentinn Residential Centre from Monday 17 September until Thursday 20 September 2018. The cost of this visit will be £207 (including £6 tuck money) which includes coach and ferry crossing costs. The initial deposit of £30.00 to secure a place is payable by Monday 14 May. The remainder can then be paid in instalments and completed by Friday 7 September 2018.

Enrolment of New Beginners

Registration of infant beginners starting in August will take place from **9.30 - 11.30 a.m.** on **Monday 15, Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 January 2018.** Children who attain the age of 5 between 1 March 2018 and 28 February 2019 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 have been issued. Please ensure that completed forms should now have been returned.

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.



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.

Diary

Monday 8 January 2018 School re-opens 9.00 a.m.
Wednesday 10 January Credit Union - pm
Friday 12 January Sports Hall Athletics - John Wrights
Monday 15 January Infant Enrolment 9.30 - 11.30 am
Athletics Club - 3.00 pm
Scripture Union - 3.00 pm
Tuesday 16 January Infant Enrolment 9.30 - 11.30 am
P4 & P5 Knitting Club - 3.00 pm
Parent Council Meeting - 7.00 pm
Wednesday 17 January Infant Enrolment 9.30 - 11.30 am
YMI Music (P5) Presentation to parents - 11.30 am
Lunchtime Choir
Credit Union - pm
P6/7 Badminton Club - 3.00 pm
Gardening Club - 3.00 pm
Thursday 18 January Netball Festival - Stewartfield
P1 Health Checks
P1 & P2 Toothbrushing
Netball Club - 3.00 pm
Friday 19 January Football Club - 3.00 pm
Monday 22 January Athletics Club - 3.00 pm
Scripture Union - 3.00 pm
Tuesday 23 January P4 & P5 Knitting Club - 3.00 pm
PTA Meeting - 7.00 pm
Wednesday 24 January Lunchtime Choir
Credit Union - pm
P6/7 Badminton Club - 3.00 pm
Gardening Club - 3.00 pm
Thursday 25 January Netball Club - 3.00 pm
Friday 26 January Football Club - 3.00 pm
Monday 29 January Athletics Club - 3.00 pm
Scripture Union - 3.00 pm
Tuesday 30 January P4 & P5 Knitting Club - 3.00 pm
Homework Club restarts - 3.00 pm
Wednesday 31 January Gymnastics Club to Blantyre Leisure Centre - 9.00 am
Lunchtime Choir
Credit Union - pm
P6/7 Badminton Club - 3.00 pm
Gardening Club - 3.00 pm

Yours sincerely

Noreen Black
Head Teacher