



Braehead School September Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer holiday and are now settled back into the school / work routine. It has been a busy start to the term and we have lots to look forward to in the coming weeks.

Staffing

Welcome back to Miss Sheena Morris - Primary 4 class teacher - who returns to Braehead after a 2 year break abroad.

Welcome to Miss Magda Swiatowska who teaches P3 on a Monday and Nursery Tuesday - Friday. Ms Baxter continues in her role as Acting Depute Head Teacher - the post is currently advertised and interviews will follow.

Validated Self Evaluation (VSE)

As you know we had a VSE at the end of last week when a team of local authority officers spent quality time in the school talking to children, staff and parents about the work of the school. The visit was very informative and will help us shape up a clear plan for improvement priorities for the coming session. A report will be compiled based on the findings of the visit and this will be shared with all parents in due course.

School Lunches

Since the beginning of term we have been trialling a new way of working at lunch time. The children from P1-3 come straight into the hall to have their lunch while the P4-7 Children head outside for a play. They are then called in on a rota basis.



To help ensure that all children get their first choice of lunch we ask that the children choose what they want first thing in the morning and write their choice on the back of their dinner ticket. This has been very successful so far and we hope it continues.

Playground

Following focus groups with children during the VSE, it was highlighted that the junior/senior children would like more to do at lunch times. This is something that we have already begun to work on through our Pupil Council.

With the help of some of our senior pupils we have set up a scooter area in the playground. All children are permitted to take their scooter into school on a Tuesday and Thursday to play with at lunch time. We ask that all children wear a helmet and ask the permission of their parents.

Please complete the permission tear off slip if you allow your child to take part.

We are in the process of setting up an Art Club, Glow Club, Homework Club and Construction Club which we hope to get running before the end of this term.

We would also like to set up a gardening club so we can begin to plant our own vegetables and flowers. If any parents would be willing to help us get this up and running please get in touch.

Young Leaders

Our P6 children are currently being trained by Mark Pain (Active Schools Co-ordinator) as Young Leaders. By the end of the training the children will have a bank of games and strategies that they can use in the playground to organise games and activities for the younger children. This will be up and running for the start of next term.

Pupil Voice

Each class have selected one pupil to be their class representative. These children will come along to meetings with a member of the management team and will share ideas and views from their class.

P1 - Fiona Lim

P2 - Lilly Banerman

P1/2 - Logan Scally

P3 - Joe Murray

P4 - Beth Cormack

P5 - Aiden Alexander

P6 - Sophie Stewart

P7 - Ben Taylor



Diving

All P2 - P5 children will participate in a FUTURE CHAMPIONS Talent Identification (TID) programme that Aberdeen Sports Village are launching for the sport of Diving. It is a unique sporting initiative that could unearth a future champion from our school, delivered in a fun and supportive environment.

Children selected through the FUTURE CHAMPIONS - DIVING programme will start a land based training programme that will teach them all the basic skills required to allow them to spring into action when the diving facility opens at Aberdeen Sports Village, Aquatics Centre .

The children will be assessed throughout the session as they perform a variety of physical skills. You will be informed if your child has been selected for the diving team.

Nursery Stay and Play Fridays

Nursery parents/carers will have the opportunity to stay and play with their child on a Friday.

This term's dates are - Fri 13th Sept Fri 27th Sept Fri 1st Nov Fri 15th Nov
Fri 29th Nov 9.00am - 10.00am 12.45pm- 1.45pm

All classes will participate in the SSPCA's 'Prevention Through Education Programme' on Friday 13th September. Workshops will include -

- Scottish SSPCA Animal Friendly Citizens
- Wildlife Welfare
- You and Your Pet
- Food and Farm Animal Welfare

School Car Park

A plea to all parents! Please use the drop off lane for dropping off only! There are an increasing number of cars parking in this lane and leaving their car unattended for a prolonged period of time. We have taxis and buses arriving at school on a regular basis who need this space to be clear to allow the safe pick up and drop off of our pupils.

Curriculum Meetings

Following the introduction of our 'Meet the Teacher', we asked for your feedback about the format of these meetings and if you would like this to be an annual event. The feedback received was very positive. Some comments included -

"It was very informative about what will be happening in the year ahead."

"A good way of keeping the parents updated and gives us a better understanding of what our children are doing in school."

We will also take on board suggestions for future meetings. We have dates in the diary for Individual Consultations with your child's teacher on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th October - more details to follow.

Nursery will have their 'Meet the Nursery Team' on **Thursday 26th September.**

AM Parents/Carers 6.00pm

PM Parents/Carers 6.30pm

An attendance letter will be issued with these dates.

Disco - Thursday 31st October

P1 - P3 6.00 - 7.15 p.m.

P4 - P7 7.30 - 8.45 p.m.

Details will follow from the Parent Group.



E-Mails

As part of our ongoing Eco Schools work we would like to cut down on the amount of paper being used, e.g. Newsletters. To help us do this, we would like to email school information to parents/carers. If you are happy for this, please email to braehead@aberdeencity.gov.uk or add your name and email address on the tear off slip. Also check out our School Blog for up to date information just search for Braehead school blog on the Web.



Lates

Just a gentle reminder that the school day starts at 9am. There are an increasing number of children arriving after the bell and we do have to record instances of lateness.

World War 2

P7D have had the excellent opportunity to participate in a World War 2 exhibition and workshop. Alan Fraser's World War II Exhibition and Workshops gave the pupils an insight into home life, the life of children, schooling, technology and science through artefacts, role-play and experiences.

Assemblies

We have assemblies every Friday morning. These include our Celebration Assemblies where the children can share a special talent or achievement from in or outwith school. We invite members from the community to talk to the pupils and also Sharing the Learning Assemblies where each class has the opportunity to share what they have been learning about in school. We would welcome any ideas of organisations or people who you may know to come and talk to the children about a specific job/role.

Shopmobility are coming to talk to the children on Friday 4th October about their charity. We would like to donate miles to their Shopmobility Virtual Walk event which two of our pupils have already participated in, Maya Laird P4M and Ben Taylor P7D. The Pupil Council will discuss ways of how we can participate in this.

Freshnlo Pedal for Scotland Aberdeen Family Ride - Sunday 15th September, 2013

Taking place on September 15, the freshnlo Pedal for Scotland Aberdeen Family Ride, in partnership with Decathlon, will follow a four mile route along the Aberdeen Esplanade on closed roads. An exciting event expo will also be set up on Beach Boulevard including: a cycling skills track, face painting, stalls and catering, cycle road show with various bikes to try including tandems, trikes and hand bikes.



Start time 9.30 a.m. - Queens Links and entry is free. For more information please checkout the website at www.pedalforscotland.org

Jackets

Can you please remember to make sure your child takes an outdoor jacket to school as the weather can be so unsettled - thank you.

Pantomime HMT - Cinderella - Wednesday 18th December, 2013 -

We have reserved seats for all Primary One to Primary Seven to go to His Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday 18th December, 2013 to see the Pantomime.



The coaches to the theatre and back will be paid from funds raised by the Parent Group and the school has subsidised each ticket by £1 from the uniform sales. The cost of the tickets this year will be £7.50 taking into account subsidies already mentioned.

Please complete the slip below and return with £7.50 to the school office by Friday 27th September, 2013. We thought we would get payment early this year as we know how expensive Christmas can get!

Please also note a list of the holiday and in-service dates for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Duncan". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Diane Duncan
Head Teacher

Term and Holiday Dates Session 2013–2014

Term 1

Friday 11th October, 2013—Last day of Term 1

September Holiday

Friday 20th September—School closed to both pupils and staff.

Monday 23rd September—School closed to both pupils and staff.

Term 2

Monday 28th October 2013— Start of Term 2

Monday 11th November 2013 School closed to pupils - In-Service Day

Friday 20th December 2013— Last day of Term 2

Term 3

Monday 6th January 2014—Start of Term 3

Friday 14th February 2014 - School closed to pupils - In-Service Day

Monday 17th February 2014—Mid Term Holiday-School closed to pupils and staff.

Friday 4th April 2014—Last day of Term 3

Term 4

Tuesday 22nd April 2014—Start of Term 4

Friday 2nd May 2014 - School closed to pupils - In-Service Day

Monday 5th May 2014 - May Day Holiday School closed to Pupils and Staff

Friday 4th July 2014—Last day of Term 4

Term and Holiday Dates Session 2014- 2015

Term 1

Monday 18th August 2014—In Service Day—Staff Only

Tuesday 19th August 2014—Start of Term 1

In-Service days for session 2013-14

Monday 19th August 2013

Monday 11th November 2013

Friday 14th February 2014

Tuesday 18th February 2014

Friday 2nd May 2014

These dates are correct as at date of print.

Email address

Please detail one email address for your family below - *(please print email address clearly)*.

Email address _____

Child's Name _____ email address belongs to _____

Child's Class _____ Parent's Signature _____

Scooter Club

I give permission for my child to take their scooter and helmet along to school on a Tuesday and Thursday to take part in the scooter club at lunchtime.

Child's name _____

Child's Class _____

Parent's Signature _____ Parent's Name _____

Cinderella

Please find enclosed £_____ to cover cost of _____ tickets

Child's/Children's Name(s) _____ Child's Class _____

Child's/Children's Name(s) _____ Child's Class _____

Child's/Children's Name(s) _____ Child's Class _____

Parent's Signature _____

For Office Only

Amount Received _____

Paid in Full Date Paid _____

Any comments regarding Newsletter -