



## Braehead School Newsletter



The term has got off to a great start with already many exciting things happening in school.

### Staffing

Following her return from maternity Ms Legge has decided that she would like to spend more time with her young family and as such will leave us at the end of this week. She has taught PE at Braehead for a number of years and will be missed by both the staff and pupils. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work and wish her all the very best for the future.



### Parent Group AGM

Thanks to all who attended last week's Annual General Meeting of the Parent Group. It was a very positive meeting and we are delighted that Fiona Little will remain as Chair person for the next year (at least!!) Thanks to Rachael Pieske and Claire Glancey for taking on the role of vice chair, to Hazel Gault who is our new treasurer and to Alison Edwards who will continue as Secretary. Our next meeting will be on the 30th September at 6.30 pm in the staffroom.

### Mobile Phones

If you have any old mobile phones that you no longer need then we have a recycling facility in school. They will be sent off and in return the school will receive cash back. There is a container in the entrance area at the front of the school.



### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Following the success of the P4 café last session each class will have the opportunity to set up, organise and run a café throughout this session. The first café, ran by P2/3 will be on Friday 26th September from 10:30—12 in the school hall and will be a fundraising event for Macmillan Cancer Support. More details will follow in a separate letter.



### P1 Reminder

Please can you remember to return the P1 Induction evaluation forms by Monday 21 September. Thanks.



## Improvement Priorities



### Education Scotland Support Visit

Last Thursday, 4th September, Alasdair Eadie HM Inspector carried out a planned support visit to the school. He undertook visits to all classes including the Nursery, spoke to pupils and all staff. He summarised that his visit was very positive and noted that there was evidence of significant progress in relation to all areas for improvement identified in the original inspection. The staff are working exceptionally hard to ensure that this progress continues.

### Improvement Plan

Since the last newsletter all classes have had discussions as to how we can take forward our main points for action this session. Teachers have also asked parents at the 'meet the teacher' events for your input too. We are now in the process of collating all this information and will share this with you soon.

In order to develop Reading we have organised an author visit for the whole school on Wednesday 1st October.



**Award Winning Author Visit** - We will be hosting a book reading session by the

award winning Scottish author Stuart Reid on Wednesday 1st October 2014. Stuart's first book *Gorgeous George and the Giant Geriatric Generator* (RRP £7.99) won the Silver Medal at the Forward National Literature Awards. His next two books *Gorgeous George and the Zigzag Zit-faced Zombies* (RRP £6.99) and *Gorgeous George and the Unidentified Unsinkable Underpants* (RRP £6.99) were written to inspire children to read for pleasure.

All books purchased on the day will be signed by the author, with a personal dedication to each pupil. Books will be available individually as priced, two for £12 or all three for school special price of £17.

### **In-Service Day - Thursday 18th September**

As part of our Numeracy developments teaching staff will spend the day being trained on a new teaching programme called 'Big Maths'. As we learn more about this approach and begin to implement in school we will share more information with you.



Our Nursery team will spend the day in school developing some home/school games and packs that will help us to promote the love of reading and numbers in the early stages.

## Scottish Country Dancing



We would like to offer Scottish Country Dancing Club after school on Tuesdays 3.20 - 4.05pm (TBC). This is open to our P4-7 children. If you would like your child to attend please let Alison at the office know. If we have enough children wanting to go the club it will go ahead.

## Dolphin Challenge

We are delighted with the amount of effort that has been put into our whole school Dolphin Challenge - it has been extremely difficult to choose winners! Thank you to Alison who chose the winning designs.

Our winners for Nursery to P3 section are -

1st prize: **Lilly Bannerman** P3 (Cuddly dolphin toy and bookmark)

2nd prize: **Mia Fleming** Nursery AM (Dolphin bookmark and bubble wand)

3rd prize: **Ritvik Mohan** P2 (Dolphin bookmark and car)

1st Prize



2nd Prize



3rd Prize



Our winners for P4 to P7 section are -

1st prize: **Ellie Cahoon** P7 (Dolphin USB pendrive and bookmark)

2nd prize: **Valerie Prendel** P4 (Dolphin bookmark and colouring pencils)

3rd prize: **Dhani Walker** P5 (Dolphin bookmark and colouring pencils)

1st Prize



2nd Prize



3rd Prize



## School Website

We are currently in the process of developing a new school website. Once this is up and running we are seeking any parent volunteers that can help with the upkeep of the site - please get in touch if this is something you could help with!

Our school blog <http://www.braehead.aberdeen.sch.uk/> is regularly updated with current events and news. You can also access class blogs through this link to find out what has been happening in class.

## Family Photographs



Please remember the Family Portrait People will be in school on the evening of Tuesday 7th October. For further information regarding this please contact Alison in the school office as we have limited appointment times left.

## Book Fair

We are delighted to have the Book Fair again on the last week of term. Each class will have the opportunity to look at the books and note their favourite books.



## John Lewis

At the end of last session we were fortunate enough to secure John Lewis as our official business partners! There are many different ways in which we can use this partnership to further the children's learning experiences. The Nursery have already had a visit from 2 'partners' to read them the story of the Stick Man which they thoroughly enjoyed.

**John Lewis**

Bringing Skills to Life is a primary education programme from John Lewis, written in partnership with teachers. Many of the resources are designed to be used in the classroom but it's not just about schools - there are lots of ways you can bring key skills to life at home with our activity cards.

Parents can log in to register at:

<http://www.bringingskillstolife.co.uk/>

In our Nursery we are beginning to develop our outdoor mud kitchen. There are many bushes that still need to be taken out to give the children more space to play in - this is a very big task! We are appealing for any helpers to come along and help dig out the bushes - please get in touch if this is something you or a family member could help with.



## 2014 PE Kit Colouring Competition

Well done to Millie Black (P1/2) for winning this competition.  
She won a set of Zoggy Dive Sticks!



### Term and Holiday Dates Session 2014– 2015

#### Term 1

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014 (September Holiday Weekend)

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 - Last day of Term

#### Term 2

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 - Start of Term

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 - Last day of Term

#### Term 3

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 - Start of Term

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 - Mid Term Holiday

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2015 - Last day Term Ends

#### Term 4

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 - Start of Term

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 - May Day Holiday

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2015 - Term Ends

### In-Service days for session 2014–2015 - School closed to pupils

Monday 18th August 2014

Thursday 18th September 2014 (also school being used for Referendum Voting)

Monday 17th November 2014

Tuesday 17th February 2015

Wednesday 18th February 2015

Friday 1st May 2015

These dates are correct as at date of print