

April
2016

BURNSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Update

Charles Darwin once said "It is not the strongest which survives nor the most intelligent. It is the one who is most adaptable to change." This term will mark the end of my first full school year as your Head Teacher and during these next few weeks we will be reflecting upon our progress against the improvement priorities we set in August 2015. We will be reporting our findings in a Standards and Quality report which you will receive shortly. You have played a huge part in our continued success and we thank you for taking the time to share in your children's learning through the cold/hot tasks in the work wallets. As a result of this feedback, we will continue with cold/hot tasking next year and ensure every child can share their story of progress around their learning at least three times a year. These stories will be relevant to their own particular learning journey and you have commented on how clearly the progress your child has made can be seen between the start (cold) and end (hot) of the task. The positive feedback around the language of learning and our school aims has been tremendous and has enabled us to share this work both nationally and internationally. With your support we have taken a word GRIT (Get Really Into Trying) and made it a standard which can be applied to any task or activity. The children have responded to this across the whole school and this resilience and determination is now part of "who we are" as a school community. We look forward to your continued support as our dedicated and highly talented team of professionals work hard to prepare reports on your child's learning journey across the year. These reports will be snapshots in time and will complement the story of progression we have shared already through the cold/hot tasks and World Book Day this year. You should receive these reports on Friday 3 June. Thank you for continuing to support the school and our wider community.

Nicky Murray—Head Teacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—QUICK REMINDERS

21.04.16	Burnside Parent Council Beetle Drive 6.30 pm
26.04.16	Dalguise Week (Tuesday—Friday)
26.04.16	P7 Activity Week (Tuesday—Friday)
02.05.16	May Day Holiday—school closed
04.05.16	CyberBully Theatre Presentation
05.05.16	General Election— school open as usual
23.05.16	Parent Council Meeting 7.00 pm Staff Room
30.05.16	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
03.06.16	Pupil reports sent home today
08.06.16	Sports Day
23.06.16	Referendum Day—school open as usual
01.07.16	School closes for Summer Holiday
15.08.16	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
16.08.16	School resumes for Autumn Term

ELECTION DATES

Our dining hall will be used for elections to be held on Thursday 5 May and Thursday 23 June.

The school will be open as usual on these dates.

There will be no cooked meals served these days, however pupils will be offered a packed lunch option which should be ordered on the day as usual.

Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

SCHOOL CAR PARK - SAFE USE

As you know, a decision was taken recently to vastly restrict the use of the school car park to the following **ONLY** :

- * Staff, parent volunteers and students.
- * Contract and service vehicles (including contract taxis bringing pupils to and from school).
- * Blue badge holders (to use the accessible spaces) – badges **MUST** be displayed.
- * Other pre-arranged visitor parking, e.g. parent appointment evenings; open sessions; parents picking children up for medical appointments or due to illness; groups taking lets on school premises.

No other users should enter the car park for any reason.

These measures have been taken to ensure children and adults can access the area safely. Thank you

PUPIL ABSENCE - REMINDER

If your child is unable to attend school through illness please **telephone the school between 8.30 am and 9.30 am on each day of his/her absence. Tel 01241 803472. Or if you prefer, you could email the school with this information. burnside@burnside.angus.sch.uk.** Many thanks.

HEAD LICE

Every now and again head lice becomes an issue in school. In the past a letter was issued to all the parents of the children in the class alerting them to this. On quite clear and direct advice from our colleagues in the NHS this will no longer happen. Their advice is simply to check hair regularly. Further information on this can be obtained from your local Health Centre. They will provide you with detailed, accurate and up to date information.

Classroom News

Early Learning and Childcare Children who are due to start school in August have met their P6 buddies and are building important links with school through visits to the classroom. We are consulting with our parents and children regarding which vegetable / flowers seeds they wish to plant this term and we will be learning what they need to grow.

P1A, P1B and P1C We have had a busy start to the term. We have started our new topic all about toys and look forward to comparing some toys from the past with our favourite toys. In maths, we have started looking at money. We are enjoying exploring all the different coins and finding out their value.

P2A and P2B We have been looking at the signs and sounds of Spring in the forest. We have been discussing different sounds we like and dislike and we've been talking about high and low pitch. We are hoping to make our own musical instruments. Now the good weather is coming, we will look at safe places to play when we are outside.

P2/3C, P3A and P3B Our new topic for this term will be Our Senses. We look forward to taking our learning outdoors and using our senses to explore and find out about our environment. We will also be looking at how we can use our senses to keep ourselves safe.

P4A and P4B This term we shall be learning about the Rainforest. We will be studying its eco-system, the layers of the rainforest and how to classify animals. The focus of our Big Writing sessions will be on imaginative writing.

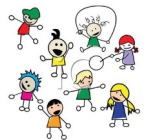
P5A and P5B Primary 5A and 5B had a fantastic time visiting the Botanic Gardens in Dundee in the last week before the Easter holidays. We took lots of previous learning with us and our visit helped to deepen our knowledge of the plants living in a Rain-forest system. We now look forward to our new mini topics 'Human Body Systems' and 'Light and Sound'.

P6A and P6B This term, Primary 6 will be working on a range of mini topics. We are starting the term off with a 'Super Science' topic looking at micro-organisms, burning, friction and floating and sinking. Our cold and hot literacy tasks will be based on a scientific report. In addition, we will be studying the effects of smoking and alcohol on the body in line with our health and wellbeing programme. Primary 6 will shortly begin the peer mediation training programme and will continue to visit their nursery buddies!

P7A and P7B We are excited and all looking forward to a very full last term in Primary 7. Our Dalguise Trip and Activity Week is fast approaching. Transition events are continuing with Carnoustie High School, including a day visit in May and our 3 days visit during June. In class this term we are learning about bio-diversity. We will be investigating a variety of eco-systems and the animals and plants that live there.

The Den We really enjoyed exploring emotions and feelings through the topic of Disney's 'Inside Out', and working on our special awareness using a 'bubbles' theme. We learned a lot through our outdoor experiences and plan to extend these this term to growing plants and flowers. Fingers crossed for lots of sunshine.

BURNSIDE PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP



The group will be closed due to Polling Days on Thursday 5 May and Thursday 23 June 2016. Sorry for any inconvenience.

KAREN BALL (07510644222) FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES



BEEBLE DRIVE—THURSDAY 21 APRIL—6.15 PM—GYM HALL

THE NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN SCHOOL ON MONDAY 23 MAY AT 7.00 PM—ALL WELCOME.

