

June
2016

BURNSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Update

You may recall in earlier newsletters we informed you we had set the ambitious target of raising whole school attainment from 81.3% to 85% in literacy. Our results this year across the whole school are 91% of our children attaining in literacy (language) and 92% of our children attaining in numeracy (maths). This is well above the national average and impressive considering we have almost 500 children in our school. These are our best results to date and are the result of a huge effort on the part of our staff, your children and, of course, all of you. We invented and are the home of GRIT (Get Really Into Trying) and have shared the ideas we have introduced this year with other schools around the World. The school aims flower has also attracted a huge amount of interest and we have embedded the use of the flower in everything we do. This is possibly one of the most important features of our improvement and we thank you for your continued support around the flower, the fridge magnets and more importantly having a shared language of learning in our community. We continue to use our school aims to guide us in every aspect of your child's experience here and more importantly to support one another as a community.

This new session will have a focus on continuing to develop maths so the impressive performance in Primary School travels into the later stages of Carnoustie High and beyond. This would involve further work to improve your child's ability to apply maths in any situation from a deep understanding of number concepts as opposed to remembering "off by heart" or the same week as the topic is taught. This will involve all of us learning new ways to connect learning through conceptual understanding. We are in a strong position to begin this work as we have a high level of technical expertise within our staff team this year. We are also focussed on reading and developing a pathway which enables each step of reading to be taught and understood. These approaches will be shared with you throughout the year. We would also like you to become involved in developing skills for life, learning and work in and across the school and this will form the basis of our new assembly programme. We will be contacting you after the summer regarding this partnership and are excited at the prospect of some of you sharing your experiences of work and learning in school so we can all benefit. Thank you for helping us to have such a successful year this year and to continue to help us make Burnside one of the best schools in the country.

Nicky Murray—Head Teacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—QUICK REMINDERS

01.07.16	School closes for Summer Holiday—usual closure time
15.08.16	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
16.08.16	School resumes for Autumn Term
24.08.16	Trial Lunch for new P1A class (parents and children)/Meet the Teacher
25.08.16	Trial Lunch for new P1B class (parents and children) /Meet the Teacher
26.08.16	Trial Lunch for new P1C class (parents and children)/Meet the Teacher
29.08.16	New P1's in full-time from today
06.09.16	Parent Council AGM 7.00 pm
08.09.16	Meet the Teacher Evening
30.09.16	School closes for Autumn Holiday—usual closure time
17.10.16	School restarts for Winter Term
21.10.16	P1-7 Flu Immunisation
31.10.16	Tempest Photographer in school (Class Groups only)
28.11.16	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
29.11.16	INSET Day—school closed to pupils
30.11.16	St Andrews Day Holiday—school closed to pupils and staff
21.12.16	School closes for Christmas Holiday—usual closure time
07.01.17	School restarts for Spring Term



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.



**On behalf of all the staff at Burnside,
we wish you all a happy and healthy
summer holiday!**

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