

August
2016

BURNSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Update

You may have seen or heard a number of announcements in the newspapers and television about developments in Scottish Education. This relates to a document "Delivering Equality & Equity in Scottish Education" which has generated lots of discussions about the next steps for Scottish Education. This will be delivered through the "National Improvement Framework. This framework is really a plan which details the targets and deadlines the Scottish government would like to see happen in schools. You can access the document electronically and we shall keep a copy in the reception area if you have no internet access. One of the major developments has been schools receiving new standards for literacy and numeracy. As an authority we already had standards in place which only require us as a school to make a few minor adjustments. We already have pathways in our school (or next steps in learning) which allow teachers to plan to move children from one level of achievement to another.

Cluster (Carnoustie Schools, Newbigging and Monikie)

We have decided to focus on the transition from Primary Seven to Secondary First Year. The focus area will be "How we can improve feedback to children in maths to move their learning forward?" This is based on research which suggests feedback doubles the rate of learning and is something we can collaborate on as primary and secondary schools.

Our school

We are focussed on developing our approach to teaching reading by developing a detailed step by step approach from Nursery to P7. This will be shared with parents through our blog by the end of the year. We are also focussed on developing conceptual understanding in number so children develop a deep understanding of number concepts which they can take with them into secondary school. This will also be shared with you through our blog by the end of the year. Both of our approaches will support our cold/hot tasking in writing which will enable you to see a measurable improvement in your child's work and provide a progression narrative for every child in maths, reading and writing.

Nicky Murray—Head Teacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—QUICK REMINDERS

06.09.16	P7s to Safe Angus Event
06.09.16	Parent Council AGM 700 pm
08.09.16	Meet the Teacher (P2-7 and Nursery) 7.00 pm
30.09.16	Church Service St Anne's Church 10.00 am
30.09.16	School closes for Autumn Holiday
17.10.16	School resumes for Winter Term

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please ensure that school lunches are paid on or before they are taken. All P1-3 pupils are entitled to a free lunch and if parents are in receipt of certain benefits you may be entitled to free lunches for older children. Contact the ACCESS office to find out if you are eligible.

PUPIL RECORDS

The school is currently updating all pupil records and a copy of the current information held for your child was sent home at the beginning of this session. Please read this carefully and update it as necessary. Please also remember to update contact nos etc during the session as it is VITAL that we have up-to-date emergency contact details and medical information to ensure your child's welfare.

PLEASE RETURN THE FORMS TO THE SCHOOL – WHETHER OR NOT CHANGES ARE REQUIRED – AS SOON AS POSSIBLE .

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

Nursery

We have harvested our potatoes and have enjoyed eating them at snack time, making potato print patterns at the painting table and we have used some in our vegetable shop to explore maths concepts such as counting, sizing and weighing.

P1A, P1B and P1C

We have had an exciting start to our new school term and are settling in nicely to our new routines. When out exploring our outdoor area, we found a bear who was lost in our forest! We are thinking of lots of ways we can make him feel welcomed and included. Our interest in bears will be explored throughout our forthcoming topic. This term we are having a language focus on rhyme. We have been enjoying joining in with lots of rhyming songs and stories.

P2A and P2B

Primary 2 have settled well into their new classes. We have been exploring the topic of friends by reading some friendship stories and using the school flower to discuss what makes a good friend.

P3A and P3B

The children have all settled well into their new classes and routines. We have been using our school aims flower to explore feelings and have enjoyed reading the story of the Rainbow fish, making connections to the text and the lessons we can learn from it.

P3/4C, P4A and P4B

This term we will be learning all about Farming in our local area of Angus. We will receive a visit from Mrs Sim, a farmer's wife, who will tell us all about daily life for a farmer and also about the crops which are grown locally. We will also be organising a Harvest Festival in St Anne's Church. We need to learn songs from the play of 'The Enormous Turnip' and help collect food for Angus Foodbank. We would love to see as many of our family and friends as possible so save the date—Friday 30 September at 10.00 am.

P5A and P5B

This term P5 will be developing reading and writing skills through a novel study of the 'Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We will link this to our science topic 'Electricity' and all pupils will have the opportunity to plan and create their own robots with movement and lights! Any items of interest are greatly welcomed for our learning areas—i.e. robot toys, electric toys, battery operated movement toys, books about electricity or robots.

P6A and P6B

This term, Primary 6 will be researching European countries and culture and producing their own wall displays. As well as this, we are running daily to reach our first European country (Germany) and will be tasting food from this country when we have completed 1098 km (so far we have run over 200 km!!) P6A/P6B will be starting French with Mrs Ching.

P7A and P7B

Primary 7 have made a great start to the year and have already planned and started working on their topic about Natural Disasters. We have started our peer mediation training and are hopeful that when fully trained some of our pupils will take on this extra responsibility role in the playground. This term we have been invited to take part in a Safe Angus event where we will be learning about safety in lots of different environments. We will also be welcoming the Carnoustie High School transition teacher for her first meeting with this year's classes.

The Den

The Den have been busy doing lots of glueing and sticking to make a Magical Castle for Rango our Dragon. We have also enjoyed playing some of our new games. We are very good at taking turns and using our imagination.

BURNSIDE PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

All welcome to join us on Wednesday/Thursday/Friday mornings from 9.00—11.30 am.

We are selling Spree Books for funds—£20.00 per book—contact Catriona on 07708689799 if you would like one.

KAREN BALL (07510644222) FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES



Kinloch Kids Club



During the summer holidays, Kids Club were on trips and the children were involved in daily activities—all children had great fun. We also held a Fun Day which was a great success—there was a bouncy castle, face painting, tombola and cake & candy sale. Kinloch Kids Club would also like to say a BIG welcome to all our new starts. The children have settled in very well.

If you would like your child to join us either for holidays or before/after school, then please contact the club on 01241 858337.

