

# Noblehill Primary School

## January 2020 Newsletter



# HAPPY NEW YEAR

### Welcome Back

I would just like to welcome everyone back to our third term of the school year. I hope that everyone has had a lovely holiday and that we are back fully refreshed and raring to go!

It is lovely to see our children returning ready for school and wearing the school uniform with pride. They all look so smart and ready for the year ahead. With it being warm in school and cold outside we often at this time of year acquire lots of lost pieces of school uniform. Please ensure that all clothes have your child's name written clearly on them somewhere to enable us to successfully return it, should any be accidently misplaced.



### Christmas Nativity Concerts

Many thanks to all of the parents, pupils and staff for both of our amazing Nativity shows at the end of last term. We have a truly talented cohort of young people and our amazing staff are skilled at enabling the whole school to shine.

I am pleased to announce that we raised a grand total of £800 for the school and £384 for Early Years funds.

### Primary 1 Enrolment

The Primary 1 enrolment this year has been organised across the authority for:

- Monday 13th January 9:00am—3:00pm and
- Tuesday 14th January 9:00am—3:00pm

Please remember to bring with you:

- ◆ Your child's Birth Certificate
- ◆ Proof of address ( Council Tax Bill, Child Benefit Letter, Bank Statement or Utility Bill)

## Nursery Enrolment

Our enrolment for Nursery is planned for start of February



Please remember to bring:

- ◆ Your child's Birth Certificate
- ◆ Proof of address ( Council Tax Bill, Child Benefit Letter, Bank Statement or Utility Bill)

## Diary Dates Term 3

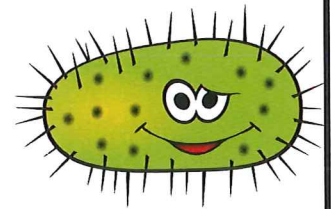
- ◆ Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th January
- P1 Enrolment
- ◆ Tuesday 21st January
- Speech Making competition at St Andrew's Primary 6:30pm
- ◆ Thursday 23rd January
- Primary 1 Height and Weight Screening
- ◆ Wednesday 5th February
- Primary 7 Assembly
- ◆ Wednesday 12th February
- Primary 7 Theatre trip to see Lion King
- Primary 3 Assembly
- ◆ Monday 17th February to Wednesday 19th February.
- Mid Term Holiday
- ◆ Thursday 20th and Friday 21st February
- Inset Days—School Closed to Pupils
- ◆ Tuesday 3rd March—Friday 6th March
- Primary 6 & 7 Residential to Dukeshouse Wood
- ◆ Wednesday 4th March
- Primary 3/2 Assembly
- ◆ Wednesday 11th March
- Primary 4 Assembly
- ◆ Friday 13th March
- Theatre show for Primary 1 and Nursery
- ◆ Wednesday 18th March
- Primary 7/6 Assembly
- ◆ Thursday 19th March
- Parent Council Bunny Drive Event 6:30pm
- ◆ Friday 20th March
- Theatre Show for Primary 2-Primary 7
- ◆ Friday 27th March
- Reports due out
- ◆ Wednesday 1st April
- Primary 2/1 Assembly
- ◆ Friday 3rd April
- End of Term
- ◆ Monday 20th April
- Term 4 begins :)

Dates for  
the Diary:

We will of course keep  
you up to date with  
dates and events as we  
get them across the  
course of the term.

## Norovirus (Winter Vomiting Bug)

NHS Health Scotland would like to advise that if your child catches the vomiting bug then it is necessary for them to be absent from school for at least 48 hours after the symptoms stop.



To find out more about the winter vomiting bug, visit [nhsinform.scot/norovirus](http://nhsinform.scot/norovirus) or call 0800 22 44 88 (free call)

There is no 100% effective way to avoid catching bugs however there are things that we can do to reduce the chances of catching it:

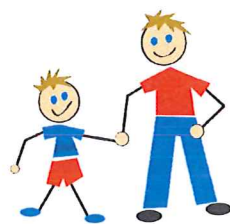
- ◇ Keep our hands clean—encourage your child to regularly wash their hands
- ◇ Rinse fruit and vegetables before eating them
- ◇ Don't share toothbrushes, towels or flannels
- ◇ Keep house surfaces clean

By working together I am sure that we can keep viruses at bay.

## Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council Meeting is planned for Monday 13th January at 6:30pm—7:30pm.

Please feel free to come along



## Numeracy Support Booklet

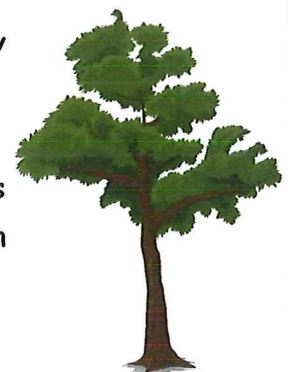
We have had a number of parents/ carers asking us for advice on how they can best support their children in Numeracy. As a result, we have put together a support booklet which highlights the key strategies used throughout the school as well as a glossary of terms and some pages for working. The booklet has been sent home to all families today and we would appreciate your feedback on this by completing the slip enclosed and returning it to the school.



## Nursery Staffing

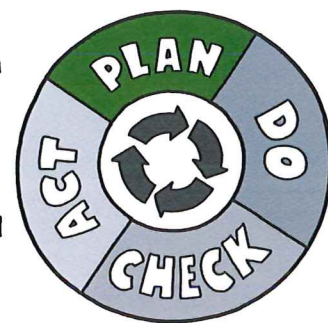
After 24 years at Noblehill Nursery, Mrs Munro retired from our Nursery Team at the end of last term. We were very sorry to lose her but wish her well for the future. As part of her leaving gift, Mrs Munro and the ECO group planted a tree in our ECO field which has been named 'Maggie's Tree'. A huge thankyou to Mrs Munro for all her hard work and dedication to the whole school throughout the years.

We are very pleased to welcome Miss Rachel Clark and Miss Molly Gardiner to our Nursery Team from January this year.



## School Improvement Plan (SIP) Update

As part of the school reporting process I like to provide parents / carers with an update as to where we are in achieving our school improvement priorities.



### Priority 1

- ◆ Continue to focus on increasing attainment levels for literacy and numeracy across the whole school.

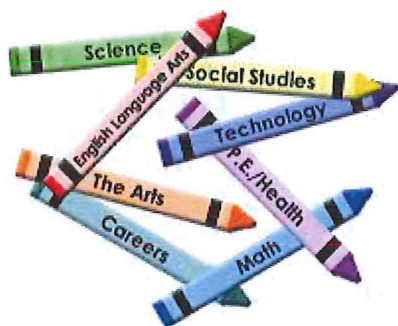
### Priority 2

- ◆ Increase learner participation in learning.
- ◆ Develop the use of self evaluation and interpretation of data to inform decision making.

We have all been very focused and working hard to stay on track with the SIP. I am pleased to inform you that as you can see, we are well on our way to achieving our objectives as identified above for this academic year. Below are some of the main areas which we have been developing:

#### **Attainment Tracking**

I am pleased to inform you that we have created a tracking overview which will help us to monitor your child's CfE (Curriculum for Excellence) attainment progress easily from Primary 1 through to Primary 7 for all curricular areas.



#### **Whole School Curriculum Planning**

We are working hard to redesign teacher planning to ensure that we not only have coverage of all the Experiences and Outcomes as identified by CfE but to ensure that our planning also clearly identifies progressive key skills and knowledge for every curriculum area and which links with the Benchmarks for Assessment as created by Education Scotland. This new planning format will ensure that children are taken forward in their learning from where our assessments evidence they are rather than according to their primary stage. The creation of this new format is well underway and should be ready to be implemented fully from August 2020.

#### **Writing Programme of Work**

We now have a clear and concise writing programme which ensures that all writing genres are progressively covered with clear guidelines created to support progression and challenge as our children progress up through the CfE levels.



#### **Moderation**

To support a greater understanding of CfE levels nationally across Scotland teachers have been working closely with each other, our cluster schools as well as in national groups to ensure a consistent levelling approach (Moderation). This will support us in making accurate and robust judgements when assigning CfE levels.

## School Improvement Plan Update

### Learning & Teaching

All children now have clear, progressive CfE learning targets for the core areas of literacy and numeracy. These are reviewed with children each term. Our learning intentions and success criteria are shared also to support the assessment of progress.



A learning intention should focus on what we want the children to learn as opposed to what we want them to do (i.e. the task). Success Criteria are clear, relevant and measurable definitions of success.

Teachers are now familiar with the authority Learning and Teaching Policy and the approaches identified within this are being implemented across the all classes.



### Rights Respecting School Award

All staff have received training from the national coordinator for Rights Respecting Schools. This approach is now being developed across the school to promote pupil involvement, self worth and respect for all. All classes have created their own class charter and we are just finalising our Respect Behaviour Policy which will be sent out to all of you in due course. We hope to know if we have achieved the Silver Award by the end of the school year.

### #Nobleskillz

Our #Nobleskillz programme is being developed to include a progressive Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths (STEAM) skills development programme. We are working closely with the authority STEM Development Officers to ensure that we have a high quality, innovative programme which promotes a wide range of learning through a variety of contexts.

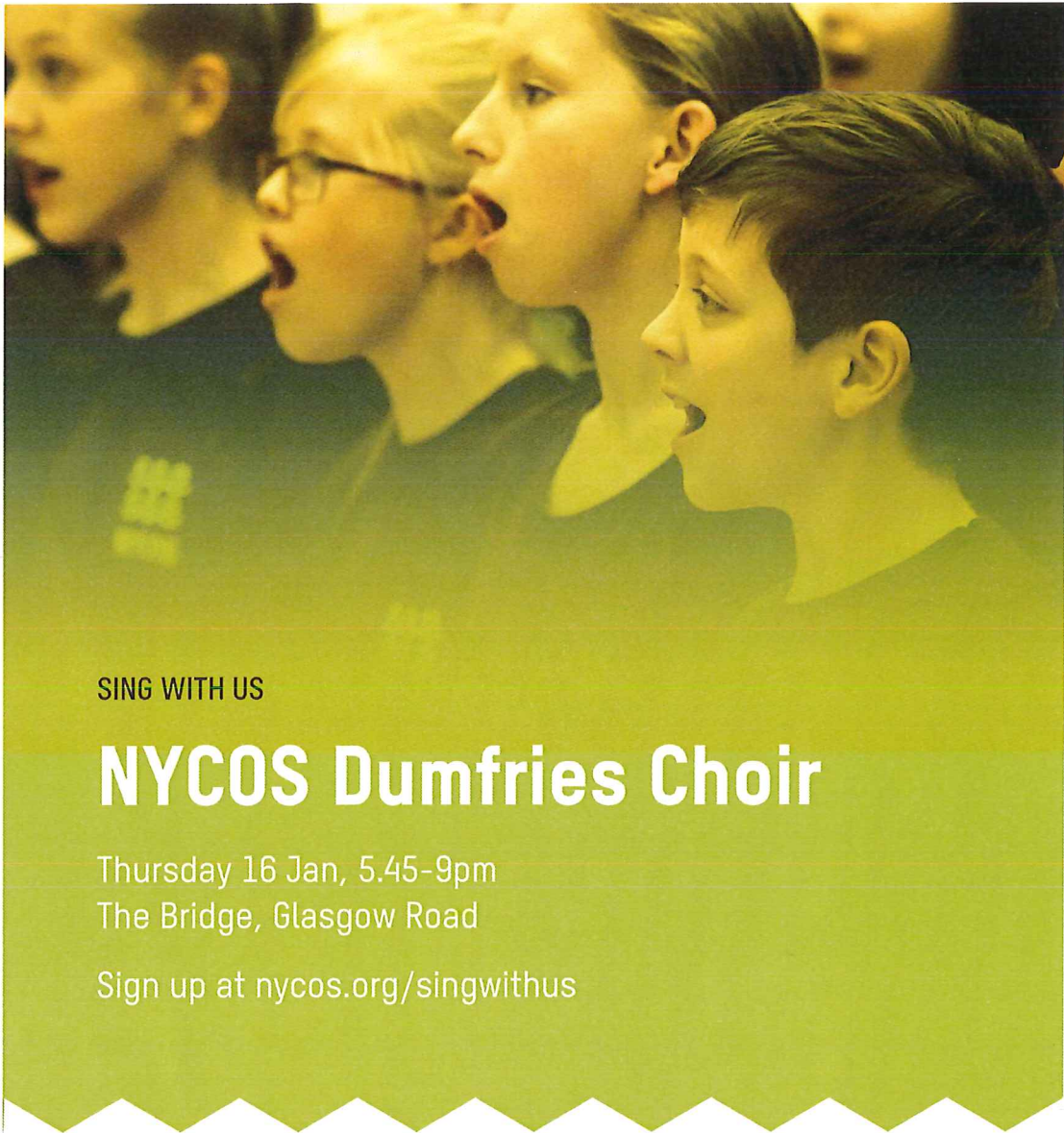
### Understanding and Using our School Data

All teaching staff will be receiving training to support us to better understand and make more effective use of our SNSA (Scottish National Standardised Assessments) data from assessments undertaken nationally in Primary 1, Primary 4 and Primary 7. Staff have already had training in the types of data we can access from Sumdog and are now using this data to inform how we are using this tool.

### Many Thanks

As you can see we have had a really productive two first terms. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their dedication and commitment to our school in ensuring that our challenging set of SIP targets have been either already successfully achieved or are well underway to being achieved.

thank  
you!



SING WITH US

## NYCOS Dumfries Choir

Thursday 16 Jan, 5.45-9pm  
The Bridge, Glasgow Road

Sign up at [nycos.org/singwithus](http://nycos.org/singwithus)

NYCOS Dumfries Choir invites P4-S6 pupils to come along and take part in a taster session of singing and musical activities. Led by experienced music teachers and choir leaders, the choir meets once a week during term time, where members learn and sing together with others their age.



National Youth Choir of Scotland (known as NYCOS) is a charity registered in Scotland, No: SC024899