



Head Teacher's Message

What a quick term it has been! We are almost at the end of a long term and have been extremely busy. We thank all parents/carers for your continued support, especially as we continue to navigate through the changing procedures linked to Covid. We hope all families enjoy a relaxing break and have a lovely Christmas! We look forward to seeing our pupils back in school on Monday 10th January at the allocated times.

WINTER NEWSLETTER



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Primary One

Literacy - We have almost learned every sound in the alphabet now and after Christmas will start learning about two letters together making one sound eg. 'sh, ch, th.' We are using technology where possible to enhance the children's learning experience and ensure they remain actively engaged. Pupils have especially enjoyed using Touchtronic, which supports their learning of phonics and encourages them to listen to individual sounds in a word. The children are becoming more fluent in their reading, as I am sure you will have noticed at home. They are developing strategies to help them decode more tricky words and can discuss their stories with more confidence now. In writing we have been working on creating our own sentences and will continue to do so after Christmas.

Maths - We have spent lots of time developing a deep understanding of numbers to 10. As part of this we have been learning to read, write, order and count within 10. In mental maths we are developing our addition strategies and learning to count by grouping. We have enjoyed lots of games to enhance these skills and have used Numbertronic on our ipads. After Christmas we will start to look at written addition.

Health & Wellbeing - We have continued to work on our SHANNARI wellbeing indicators. We learned how to keep our teeth healthy and talked about healthy and unhealthy snacks. We also looked at mental health and during Anti-Bullying Week talked about kindness and what makes a good friend. In PE we have completed a fitness block and recently learned some new team games – 'Cups and Saucers,' was a firm favourite.

Drama - The children love their weekly drama session. It's a great time for them to express themselves. We have recently completed a winter themed block which involved dance, movement and mindfulness.

Christmas - We enjoyed learning our songs for the school performance and even got a chance to dress up! This caused much hilarity in the class! We have had an art extravaganza this month making lots of sparkly creations for our beautiful Christmas display.



Primary One / Two

Primary One / Two have been working on their teamwork skills through games and challenges in Health and Wellbeing. This is part of our focus on 'Developing the Young Workforce.' We have also been focusing on 'Feelings and Emotions,' talking openly about the way we feel on a daily basis. Through class discussion and using our 'Feelings Monsters,' we are able to communicate vocally and via our monsters. This gives every pupil the chance to share what is on their mind in a way that is comfortable to them.



As part of our Christmas Enterprise topic, we baked Christmas Tree cupcakes. The children practised measuring out ingredients as well as reading and following instructions. We hope that you managed to catch a taste, that's if the cupcakes survived the whole journey home!



Primary Three/Four

P3/4 spent time discussing what it meant to be a kind friend during Anti-Bullying week. Through different workshops, we looked at the impact words can have on someone whether positive or negative and discussed ways in which we can help celebrate each others' qualities and talents. P3/4 also discussed the importance of always being kind and helping others around us. We created a letter to someone special to us, just to let them know how special they are.

During PE, P3/4 have been developing their ball skills using different ball games such as football, tennis and hockey. The class have enjoyed different drill games and opportunities to develop motor skills and fitness as well as having some experiences in the particular sport and playing as part of a team.

During music, we compared music from different cultures and discussed the similarities and differences. P3/4 explored common themes in different musical pieces from the same genre and picked out common instruments as well as counting the beats of the music and even had a chance to sing and play an instrument alongside a piece of music.

Since the school received our Silver Rights' Respecting Award, the class have continued to explore themes within the UNCRC. This term, the class paid particular attention to treating everyone equally and giving fair and equal opportunities to all children. We explored disabilities and how schools and wider communities can support, to ensure everyone has equal opportunities.

Our class topic allowed us to explore clean water and sanitation. We researched the importance of clean water and all of the ways that we use water in everyday life. We looked at the charity called 'Water Aid' and explored the work that they do in other countries to ensure people have access to clean water. We then made our own water filtration systems to explore how water is filtrated and 'Tippy Taps' which are used by Water Aid to provide people without running water with a way to wash their hands.

Primary Four

Primary 4 enjoyed sessions of P.E. from S6 pupils from Coatbridge High School, who are undertaking their Leadership Qualification. The Leaders had prepared different sessions for us to try every week, including Football Rounders, different Team Games and Rugby. We all very much enjoyed these sessions and hope that the S6 Leaders come back next term!



We have been learning all about the Rainforest. We learned about the different layers of the rainforest and what animals live in each area. We also learned about deforestation and the impact that deforestation is having on the environment. We worked together to think of different ways that we could try to protect the rainforest. Everyone enjoyed learning about this topic.

We are continuing to learn about Rights' Respecting Schools and the various different articles every two weeks. We have been learning about the different rights and how they affect us. The Rights' Respecting Schools Committee have been sharing their knowledge of the rights with the whole school and they worked together to create our Playground Charter. The RRS Committee also created PowerPoints about the Playground Charter, which they confidently delivered at assemblies.



Primary Five/Six

P5/6 have been working to ensure that we are all aware of children's rights by linking learning to the UNCRC. We have looked at how to ensure that children all have the same rights and what we must do to ensure our rights are met. In doing this we have taken part in some outdoor learning and drama lessons. We have also been working very hard to develop a growth mindset, which will ensure we have a positive outlook towards what we can achieve. We have discussed ways to create 'action plans' to overcome barriers, which may prevent us from pushing ourselves forward to reach our full potential.

During our topic earlier this term we learned about the benefits of switching from non-renewable energy sources to renewable energy. We created Power Point presentations and handmade posters detailing what we can do to help in the battle with climate change. We also learned about the types of renewable energy, especially hydro and wind, which would be suitable sources for many parts of Scotland. Wind energy was a particularly interesting part of the topic, so we even decided to create our own wind turbine by using recyclable materials.

Most recently during our Christmas Enterprise topic we created some Christmas cards for the children in P1, which they all loved, and we had fun presenting them to the class. We also ran a toy drive. We decided when we needed the toys to be delivered to school so that we could ensure that they were sanitised and then we sorted them into categories e.g. by age, price etc. We sold some and managed to raise some funds for our school and now we are going to carefully choose a local charity that would be able to distribute the remaining toys to children who would benefit from them.



Primary Six/Seven

As part of our 'Christmas around the World,' topic, P6/7 worked with a partner to research and present information on a country of their choice. Learners chose a great range of countries to find out about, these included Spain, Romania, Ukraine, India and Australia. As well as sharing how people in these countries enjoy the festive period, we also learned interesting facts about each one, including population statistics, flags and languages spoken. At the end of each presentation, learners shared feedback with each other to help improve. Brilliant work by everyone! You can see more of this by visiting our class page on our school website.



Developing the Young Workforce

P6/7 have been developing skills in working with others as part of 'Developing the Young Workforce.' Keeping with the Christmas theme, learners worked in teams to plan, design, build, test and improve catapults to help the elves launch snowballs. Excellent collaboration skills were demonstrated and we had a lot of fun too! You can see more of this by visiting the 'Developing the Young Workforce' section under 'Empowering Pupils' on our website.



Digital Learning

Over the last term the infant classes have been developing their independence when using laptop computers. The pupils have been becoming more able to login and navigate to the internet. They have used an online paint tool to create images based around the Climate Change conference – COP 26.

The junior classes explored 'Stop Motion' videos and looked at ways they could create their own. The pupils wrote a story based around reusable plastics and how they could help save the planet. They used playdough to create their characters, designed their own backgrounds and wrote a script for their stories. They used 'Stop Motion' software to film their videos to make it look like the characters were moving.

The senior classes have been researching Climate Change and the importance of highlighting this issue. They used their research to create their own videos detailing the information they discovered. They then used laptops to film their videos and edit them, using video editing software.



Outdoor Learning

The infant and junior classes have been really enjoying learning outdoors this term. The pupils have been using items that they could find from the playground to make their own Pudsey for Children in Need, have been drawing Saltire flags and the boat that Regulus sailed to St Andrews in for St Andrews Day and have even been making leaf mandalas.



Health and Wellbeing

Pupils across our school have been undertaking monthly blocks of work to enable them to keep safe and healthy and ensure that they are achieving and nurtured. In addition to this programme of work based on the Wellbeing Indicators and the Healthy Schools Scotland resource (which is available online), pupils have engaged in a range of other activities. During Anti-Bullying week all classes utilised the website Respect Me and were involved in lessons linked to the theme of, 'One Kind Word.' Each year we focus on the message of anti-bullying and reinforce and consolidate previous learning. This is further strengthened during assemblies, Circle Time in classes and via other lessons linked to personal and social development. We believe work in this area and our work linked to Rights' Respecting Schools has made a positive impact on school life and has contributed to our Silver Award. Pupils continue to focus on a new Children's Right every fortnight and we are currently beginning to implement our Gold Action Plan.



We would like to remind all parents / carers of our Tootoot, Anti- Bullying reporting tool. We pay an annual subscription for this resource to help ensure that our pupils feel safe whilst in school and can report any worries quickly and easily. This online tool can be accessed from any digital device, including mobile phones, so concerns can be reported at any time, even out with school hours. Staff will be alerted to the issue and then will be able to resolve it at an early stage. All pupils have been issued with access details and individual passwords.

COVID 19

We would like to say a huge 'Thank you,' to all parents/ carers for helping to keep our school safe, during the Covid pandemic. Our pupils have been a fabulous support in helping to keep our school Covid free too. They have abided by the various mitigations in place and have been sanitising hands regularly. With the new Omicron strain prevalent at this time, it remains crucially important that we all continue to socially distance and wear face coverings in the vicinity of the school, even outdoors. We have attempted to continue close working relations via telephone calls and although not ideal, this has worked well especially for Parents' Meeting updates and also for pupil individual Gifted Plan discussions. Online meetings with other agencies have now become the norm. We appreciate your continued support in overcoming obstacles and helping us to make the best of a difficult situation.

Absences

Pupils who are absent from school for extended periods of time, perhaps as a result of self-isolation can continue to access their school work at home via Glow and Microsoft Teams, providing they feel well enough to undertake some work. On the Teams site several tiles have been uploaded to allow for easy access to key programmes such as Sumdog, IDL, and the Virtual Classroom. The Virtual Classroom is an excellent site which has been populated with a wide range of differentiated work. Each year group has been allocated a specific colour as noted below. We ask that pupils make good use of these sites both when absent long term from school but also to consolidate class learning on a regular basis.

Primary One	Red
Primary Two	Orange
Primary Three	Yellow
Primary Four	Green
Primary Five	Blue
Primary Six	Indigo
Primary Seven	Violet

Communication

Over the last term Mrs Millar, who was self-isolating, awaiting the birth of her baby, worked extremely hard behind the scenes to remodel our school website. Our website can be accessed by searching 'Bargeddie Glow Blogs.'

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/bargeddiepsblog/>

We are all delighted with the overall layout and format and have attempted to include many useful sections, which cover a range of different aspects of school life. We have also included many useful links for parents and carers, to allow easy access to important information. On our website you will also find weekly homework and links to related activities. Our website is an important tool for communication, to provide you with information relating to school life and also to provide you with a range of other links which you may find useful. Please access this regularly, as it will be continually updated. If you have any suggestions for further improvements then we would love to hear them – just give the school a call!

Please note, if you wish to send any information to our school by email, then please use our new email address which is-

enquiries-at-bargeddie@northlan.org.uk

Twitter@Bargeddie

We also have our school Twitter account which provides parents / carers with an insight into school life, via photographs and posts relating to the work of our classes and special events taking place in school. Furthermore, through this site information such as posters and leaflets can be easily displayed, thereby conveying important messages to parents/carers quickly and efficiently. Therefore we ask that you regularly access this to keep abreast of developments in school. @bargeddieps



Light Lab Workshop

This exciting and inspiring workshop looked at the creative science of light. The pupils learned all about the wonderful nature of light and the way colour exists through a series of guided experiments designed for scientific learning and visual exploration. The hands on experiments included:

- splitting white light into rainbow colours
- making white light from red, green and blue torches
- creating colour shadows with yellow, magenta and cyan light
- drawing with ultra-violet light
- bending light using lenses

And not forgetting, we got the chance to see upside down!

We look forward to welcoming Kenny back for more science fun.

