



Whitelees Primary News

April 2016

Whitelees Road, Abronhill, Cumbernauld G67 3NJ
Tel: 01236 794814 Email: enquiries@whitelees.n-lanark.sch.uk
www.whitelees.n-lanark.sch.uk



WhiteleesPS

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely long weekend and didn't eat too many chocolate eggs! Our love of chocolate will continue next term as we prepare for our 40th Anniversary Summer Show Charlie and the Chocolate Factory! Auditions complete and today we are sending home hundreds of excited cast members, script in hand and ready for rehearsals when we return! I wish you all a very relaxing and enjoyable Spring Break and look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 18th April.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Bernadette Hunter



Power Off and Learn Outdoors

Our Power Off and Learn Outdoors days were a HUGE success! Thankfully the weather was kind to us and the rain stayed away. The children had great fun learning outdoors with activities such as making magic potions, cycling, obstacle courses, a scavenger hunt and Easter egg decorating to name but a few. Check out our website for some brilliant photographs.

Check out our class blogs for more photos!



If you wish to contact the school and feel that an email is appropriate please use our enquiries email address which is checked on a daily basis. Our address is enquiries@whitelees.n-lanark.sch.uk.



Kilbowie April 2016

As you know our Primary 7 pupils are off on their annual outing to Kilbowie Outdoor Centre directly after the Spring break. All final information for the trip was distributed on 11th March 2016. Please also ensure the full amount is paid by Friday 31st March 2016.



P7 Activity Week

The activity week has now been finalised and booked. Unfortunately we had to make one change to our timetable due to availability. This will not change the cost of the week as this new activity is more costly than the previous. Our new timetable is now:

Monday: Airspace, Pizza Hut, Cinema, East Kilbride
Tuesday: Skypark, Sledging, Buffet Kitchen, Braehead
Wednesday: Our Dynamic Earth, the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh
Thursday: M & D's and Cosmic Bowl at Strathclyde Park
Friday: Future X and afternoon party

You can make payments towards the activity week when you wish. We will be sending out a letter in due course with full details.



Spring Break

School will close for the Spring Break from Monday 4th April until Friday 15th April inclusive. School re-opens on Monday 18th April at 9.00am. We hope you all have a relaxing break.



Parent/Teacher Meetings

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Parent/Teacher Meetings. It was a great turnout and we hope that you were pleased with your child's report.

Thank you also to everyone who took the time to complete our survey, you can find the results on our blog www.whitelees.n-lanark.sch.uk.



Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success and we thank you for your continued support. We sold a phenomenal number of books! We also raised over £800 worth of vouchers for the school to spend with Scholastic enabling us to buy much needed resources.



Family Fun Night

Don't forget our Family Fun Night organised by the Parent Council to help celebrate our 40th year. This will be held on 29th April 2016.



High School Transition Visits

The proposed dates for Primary 7 transition visits to Cumbernauld Academy are Monday 16th May and Tuesday 17th May and half day Wednesday 18th May. These are currently only provisional and we will let you know if there is any change to this.

Transition visits for Greenfaulds High School are Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June 2016 and for Our Lady's High School are Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th June 2016.

Again further information will be given when we have received it from the high schools.



School Attendance

Increasingly children are absent from school for reasons other than sickness or appointments. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that every parent or guardian of a child of school age has a duty to ensure that the child receives education suitable to his/her age, aptitude and ability. This duty is fulfilled by the parent or guardian making sure that the child attends school regularly. Any child who is absent from school for anything other than sickness or an appointment will be marked as unauthorised.



Victorian School

Primary 2/3 and Primary 3 completed their Victorians topic with a Victorian School day. Children and Teachers came to school in Victorian dress, sat in a Victorian class set up with two pupils to a table with blacked out walls, wrote on "blackboards" with chalk and did Victorian school work! The children all had a fantastic day at our Victorian School! Obviously we had to use modern technology to capture the day!

Victorian Children



Victorian Teachers



Victorian Classroom





Sport Relief 2016

We are pleased to announce our Sport Relief 2016 efforts raised an amazing £426.20! This is a fantastic achievement! Well done to everyone! This money will help children and adults who are much less fortunate than ourselves. It will help provide children with a school education and life-saving vaccinations amongst other vital services. Thank you so much for your continued support.



If you're ordering anything online please remember you can help raise funds for the school when using the internet. All you have to do is log onto www.easyfundraising.org.uk, look up Whitelees Primary School and look for the shop you want to purchase from. If you open the website using the link from easyfundraising a percentage of what you spend will be credited to Whitelees Primary School. Some people have used it already and we thank you for this support.

.....

Please remember to phone into the school office before 9.30am if your child is absent. This is mainly for the safety of all children but also ensures your child receives the correct absence mark. Parents who have not called in for their child will receive a text from the school requesting a phone call. If we don't receive a call in reply to this text your child will be marked as unauthorised.

.....

Could you please ensure your child has their gym kit on their gym days? Increasingly children are coming to school without it. If you are unsure of your child's gym days please call the office and they will be able to help.

.....

For children who come to Breakfast Club can you please ensure they have sufficient funds on their card to cover breakfast and lunch (if they go to school dinners)? Increasingly children don't seem to have sufficient funds on their card and the money is having to be covered by the office. Unfortunately, this cannot be sustained. Your co-operation is appreciated.

.....

If your child has an appointment during school hours the school should be informed of the appointment in writing with a copy of the appointment letter/slip included. This will ensure children are given the correct absence mark.

Parent Council

20.4.16	7.00-9.00
1.6.16	7.00-9.00

Julie McQuade - Chairperson
Angela Mason - Vice Chairperson
Donna Waddell - Secretary
Natalie Quinn - Treasurer
Michelle Chambers

Debbie Welsford
Alexandra Merrick
Ishah Imran
Davina Duffy
Alan Carroll - Co-opted Member

Some dates for your diary...

4.4.16 - 15.4.16 Easter Break	18.4.16 - 22.4.16 P7 Kilbowie	28.4.16 Open Afternoon	29.4.16 Family Fun Night
2.5.16 Bank Holiday	5.5.16 In Service Day	9.5.16 - 13.5.16 P7 Activity Week	14.5.16 Dig In Day
16th/17th May Cumbernauld Academy Transition Visits	27.5.16 - 30.5.16 May Holiday		



Infant Induction Programme

Tuesday 3rd May 2016 11.00am to 12.00pm

I will visit my primary 1 classroom for a Language session

Wednesday 18th May 2016 11.00am to 12.00pm

I will enjoy a purposeful play activity and visit the dinner school

16th 17th or 18th May 2016 (Date to be confirmed) 1.30pm to 2.30pm

Induction visit - parents and child can visit

Wednesday 8th June 2016 11.30am to 12.10pm

I will visit the dinner school and have lunch with my new school friends.

Wednesday 15th June 2016 1.00pm

I will visit my new school to see their School Show.



Whitelees Website

You can keep up-to-date with everything that is going on in Whitelees and see what your child's class is up to on our website. Our Twitter account will also allow you to link with updates provided through the website. As already mentioned our email alert system is also now up and running. We are doing all we can to keep you in the loop and the children love to check our web counter!



Email

As you will know our email alert system is now up and running. We are now using the system regularly and it is our intention to communicate with parents in this way in the future as we are an Eco school and keen to maintain our Eco status by continuing to find ways to be environmentally friendly. If you haven't already done so you can sign up at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKNLC/subscriber/new?topic_id=UKNLC_107 to receive correspondence via email.



Whitelees is 40!!!

As you already know this year we celebrate our schools 40th year this year and we are hoping that some of you would help us by sharing your memories and photos of years gone by! We have received some fabulous old school photographs so far but would love to have many more. Any memories you could share with us would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the school via the office or our email address enquiries@whitelees.n-lanark.sch.uk.



Primary 1 Showcase

Primary 1 had their showcase afternoon on Thursday 13st March. It was a great turnout and the pupils were fantastic showing parents, grandparent, Aunts, Uncles and friends what they have been learning in Primary 1. Thank you once again for your support and we hope you enjoyed seeing all our work!



March 2016	Stage	What's going on in your child's class?
	P1a	Primary 1a have had a very busy term. We have been working very hard on our reading and are starting to write our own super sentences. We have been learning how to add and subtract and we now know 7 Learn Its! Through our topic we have found out about some of the people who can help us. We learned that dentists look after our teeth, doctors help us feel better when we are sick and firemen help to put out fires. We really enjoyed having two Police Officers come to visit us too! In gymnastics we have been perfecting our rolling, jumping and balancing skills.
	P1b	March has been a very busy month for Primary 1b. The children have all been working really hard to develop their reading and writing skills and gaining confidence every day! We have explored subtraction and have also been learning about number stories at Maths time. P.E. time has been fun and challenging as the children have developed their balancing, jumping and rolling. The boys and girls have also been investigating the local area and had great fun learning about the people who help them. One of the highlights was a visit from two local Police Officers. Thank you to everyone who came along to our showcase afternoon. The children did a great job of sharing all the things that they have learned with parents and friends.
	P2	Primary 2 have been busy completing our topic on "People Who Help To Keep Us Safe." One of our homework tasks was to make a model of an emergency vehicle. The children who have completed this task have done so to a very high standard. The models are proudly displayed in the classroom and we have commented on the great ideas used to complete each one. They look fabulous. Well done. We are busy in Maths multiplying by 2 and 3. We have also been learning to divide by 2, realising that this is like halving a number. We enjoyed running the mile for Sports Relief and P.O.L.O. Day very much. We are now going to try to complete the "Daily Mile" challenge. Everyone has worked very hard this term and we are looking forward to the Spring break very much.
	P2/3	Primary 2/3 enjoyed their P.O.L.O. Day, powering off and learning outdoors. They are now more aware of how they can use their natural environment to learn. Primary 2/3 have had a fantastic term learning all about Victorian children. They have learned about rich and poor children, work and school. They recently experienced what it would be like to attend a Victorian school. All children thoroughly enjoyed this experience and it was made even more realistic with their costumes, a huge thank you and well done to all of you who helped with this. Your support is greatly appreciated.
	P3	<p>Primary three have now finished their 'Victorian Child' topic. We have enjoyed learning about the types of jobs poor children had to do, such as a chimney sweep, factory worker or street seller. We also learned all about what it was like to go to school in Victorian times if you were a rich child.</p> <p>We ended the topic with a Role play day, giving the children an experience of what it would have been like in a Victorian school. The classroom was transformed. The children practised the 3 R's. They wrote on slates with chalk and tried their hand at cursive writing in their copy book. They learned facts about Queen Victoria, history of previous monarchs and named capital cities, as well as experiencing 'drill'. They also experienced how strict Victorian teachers would have been. The children were quite taken aback by this and many of them did not like this aspect of the day. However, at the end of the day we were all transported back to the present day and we all had had a great experience.</p>
	P4	Primary 4 have enjoyed learning about Fractions, and taken part in many active learning opportunities to ensure their understanding. Our Outdoor Learning is progressing well and we recently planted onions and leeks that will grow to allow us to create lovely salads and soup mixes in the fourth term. In term 4 we are excited to try to work more independently as we near the end of Primary 4, and we strive to meet our learning targets.
	P4/5	This month we started our new novel study 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. So far we have enjoyed learning about the different characters and we are looking forward to learning about Charlie's journey through the wonderful chocolate factory! We also started our new 'Wonka Wonders' theme in IDL and have been investigating some important inventions of our time - we can't wait to start creating some inventions of our own. In Maths we came to the end of our Fractions topic and rounded it off by creating some delicious fractions pizzas using thirds and sixths - check out our blog to see some of our pictures.
	P5	Primary 5 have been very busy this term learning all about fractions and percentages and discussing where we use them in our lives. We have also started a new topic about Inventions where we will be looking at some famous inventors and even have the chance to do some inventing ourselves. Keep an eye on the blog to see some of our inventions!
	P5/6	Primary 5/6 have been learning all about Substance Misuse. We know the impact that the misuse of substances has on families and friends. We can also identify the risks associated with the misuse of both legal and illegal drugs. We have made posters to let others know the risks involved with using drugs, smoking and alcohol and have displayed them in the school.
	P6	P.O.L.O. Day was a huge success for Primary 6! The children all rated the day as very good or a fantastic learning experience in their evaluations and particularly enjoyed the messy mud art and learning about nature through spending time outdoors. As buddies for the new P1s from August, the P6s were happy to meet and help their buddy at an induction day in March. The children produced some fantastic personal projects on various influential people ranging from Andy Murray and Nicola Sturgeon to John Logie Baird. Well done!

P7

Primary 7 have been busy learning all about bio diversity and working out and reflecting on their own carbon footprint. In Maths we have been learning names of angles and their properties as well as learning how to use protractors to calculate angles accurately. We have been creating our own dance routines in P.E, reflecting on seventies moves in keeping with Whitelees 40th Birthday. We enjoyed the recent P.O.L.O day which gave real meaning to our bio diversity topic. We are looking forward to our trip to Kilbowie, please ensure you have returned all necessary paperwork.

Let us know how we are doing...

We really value your feedback as it shows us what we are doing well and helps us to identify what we need to do better.



Just return the tear off slip below to our office and we will be delighted to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Date:

Please tick the relevant box:

Compliment ☐

Comment ☐

Please write your response below:
